

Vulcan XH558 set to howl again as engine runs return to Doncaster Airport in 2026

The Vulcan to the Sky Trust (VTST) is thrilled to announce that the iconic Avro Vulcan XH558 will once again howl as she performs public engine runs at Doncaster Sheffield Airport in 2026.

This marks an exciting return for one of Britain's most beloved aircraft and a significant milestone in the Trust's ongoing mission to preserve and celebrate aviation heritage.

Engine runs involve starting and operating XH558's four Rolls-Royce Olympus engines while the aircraft remains on the ground, allowing visitors to witness the legendary howl and vibration.



These events offer a rare opportunity to see and hear the Vulcan come to life, evoking memories of her flying days and showcasing the engineering excellence of her design.

VTST is planning a series of public events throughout 2026, specific dates will be released soon. These events will be held at Doncaster Sheffield Airport, where XH558 is based, and will raise vital funds for the aircraft's continued preservation.

Marc Walters, chief executive of VTST, said: "This is fantastic news for our supporters and for the charity. The return of engine runs will not only reconnect the public with XH558 but also will also help us to raise vital funds to support her ongoing preservation. We are deeply grateful to FlyDoncaster for working closely with us to enable this to happen."

The resumption of engine runs follows a challenging period for VTST, during which the charity has and continues to face significant financial pressures. With the support and collaboration from FlyDoncaster, the Trust is now able to move forward with plans to reintroduce these popular events.

"We remain optimistic that, with a strong response to our fundraising appeal, continued cost-saving efforts, a successful Christmas season in our online store, and the return of engine runs

in the new year, we can continue supporting XH558 for the foreseeable future,” added Marc. The Vulcan Experience, a long-term vision for a dedicated visitor centre and educational hub, remains a key goal for VTST. In the meantime, the return of engine runs represents a vital step in maintaining public engagement and generating the support needed to secure XH558’s future.

Christian Foster, programme director – SY Airport City, said on behalf of FlyDoncaster, “The agreed programme of Vulcan engine runs marks a truly memorable date in the history of Doncaster Sheffield Airport, we are extremely excited about this proposition and urge members of the public contact the Vulcan to the Sky Trust to support and visit this iconic aircraft.”

Further details, including event dates and ticketing information, will be released in the coming weeks.

To learn more or support the Vulcan to the Sky Trust, visit www.vulcantothesky.org