

BYWAYS



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Great American Railroads

America's Oldest Continuously Operating Railroad

Railroading in the Tennessee Valley

4 Days Across America by Rail

Traveling Back in Time in Northern Nevada

Colorado's Georgetown Loop Railroad

Great American Railroads

Steam Engine #4501 rolls back into service. This iconic engine leads the way on the Summerville Steam Special round-trip from Chattanooga, TN to Summerville, GA and back. Photo courtesy Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum. See story page 16.





America's Oldest Continuously Operating Railroad





Engine #90 pulls passengers through the Pennsylvania Dutch Country aboard the Strasburg Rail Road. Photo courtesy Strasburg Rail Road.



Engine #475 winds through the trees on its 4.5 mile run.

The Strasburg Rail Road is the oldest continuously operating railroad in the western hemisphere and the oldest public utility in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Chartered in 1832, the Strasburg Rail Road continues to operate under its original charter and original name (Strasburg Rail Road Company).

Located just outside of the town of Strasburg, Pennsylvania, the railroad is a heritage railroad offering excursion trains, hauled by steam locomotives, through the heart of world-famous Pennsylvania Dutch Country.

Rolling Stock

Strasburg has five serviceable historic steam locomotives (Canadian National 7312, Canadian National 89, Great Western 90, N&W 475, and Brooklyn Eastern District Terminal 15 (rebuilt as Thomas the Tank Engine) on its roster and has the nation's largest fleet of historic wooden passenger coaches in operation.

The Strasburg Rail Road is also one of the few railroads in the United States to occasionally use steam locomotives to haul revenue freight trains. It hosts 300,000 visitors per year.

Strasburg Rail Road is a short line railroad whose construction in the 19th century was intended to connect the town of Strasburg with the main line. Today, the original

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Happy Customer

4½-mile line carries passengers on a 45-minute round-trip journey from Strasburg to Leaman Place Junction through nearly 2,000 acres in southeastern Lancaster County.

The train includes the United States' only operational wooden dining car on which visitors may dine while riding. Attractions at the station include the fully operational 15 in gauge Pint-Sized Pufferbelly (Cagney steam-powered rideable miniature railway), a vintage pump car and several c.1930s "cranky cars" along with

ment facilitates the carrying of goods to and from the main line for a number of local and regional clients. In 2016 it was announced that they are expanding their shop an extra 12,000 square feet due to the increase of jobs from other railroads.

All Aboard

When you visit Strasburg Rail Road, the first thing you can expect is an authentic experience of a real steam railroad. The locomotives and passenger cars, (known as



The Henry K. Long Lounge Car. Photos courtesy Strasburg Rail Road.

several gift shops and a cafe.

Across the street is the The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, which exhibits a world-class collection of more than 100 locomotives and rail cars and offers visitors the chance to sit in an engineer's seat, explore a caboose, experience a turn-of-the-century passenger station and partake in special events.

In addition to the excursion train rides, Strasburg Rail Road mechanical and car shops conduct contract work for a wide variety of public and private clients including fellow steam railroads, train museums, and attractions. Strasburg Rail Road's freight depart-



Lee E. Brenner Dining Car



Thomas the Tank Engine. Photo courtesy Joe Osciak and Strasburg Rail Road.

“rolling stock”) are not replicas, and staff members are not re-enactors. In addition to its five working steam locomotives, Strasburg Rail Road has 19 operating passenger cars, including the President’s Car, First-Class Parlor Car and Dining Car. All equipment is restored and maintained on-site in the Mechanical Shop.

Tickets include a 45-minute, round-trip ride through the tranquil Amish countryside to Paradise, PA and back (4.5 miles east and 4.5 miles returning west on the same track). The ride features an audio commentary providing interesting facts, history, and information about the railroad and surrounding area.

View from the Train

You will also see more than 1,000 acres of Lancaster County farmland visible from your window, much of which is farmed by the railroad’s Amish neighbors. During the growing season, this land supports livestock as well as crop such as corn, alfalfa, soybeans, and tobacco.

You will have the opportunity to disembark and enjoy old-fashioned fun at Groff’s Grove or Leaman Place Grove, convenient recreation areas along the railroad’s route for

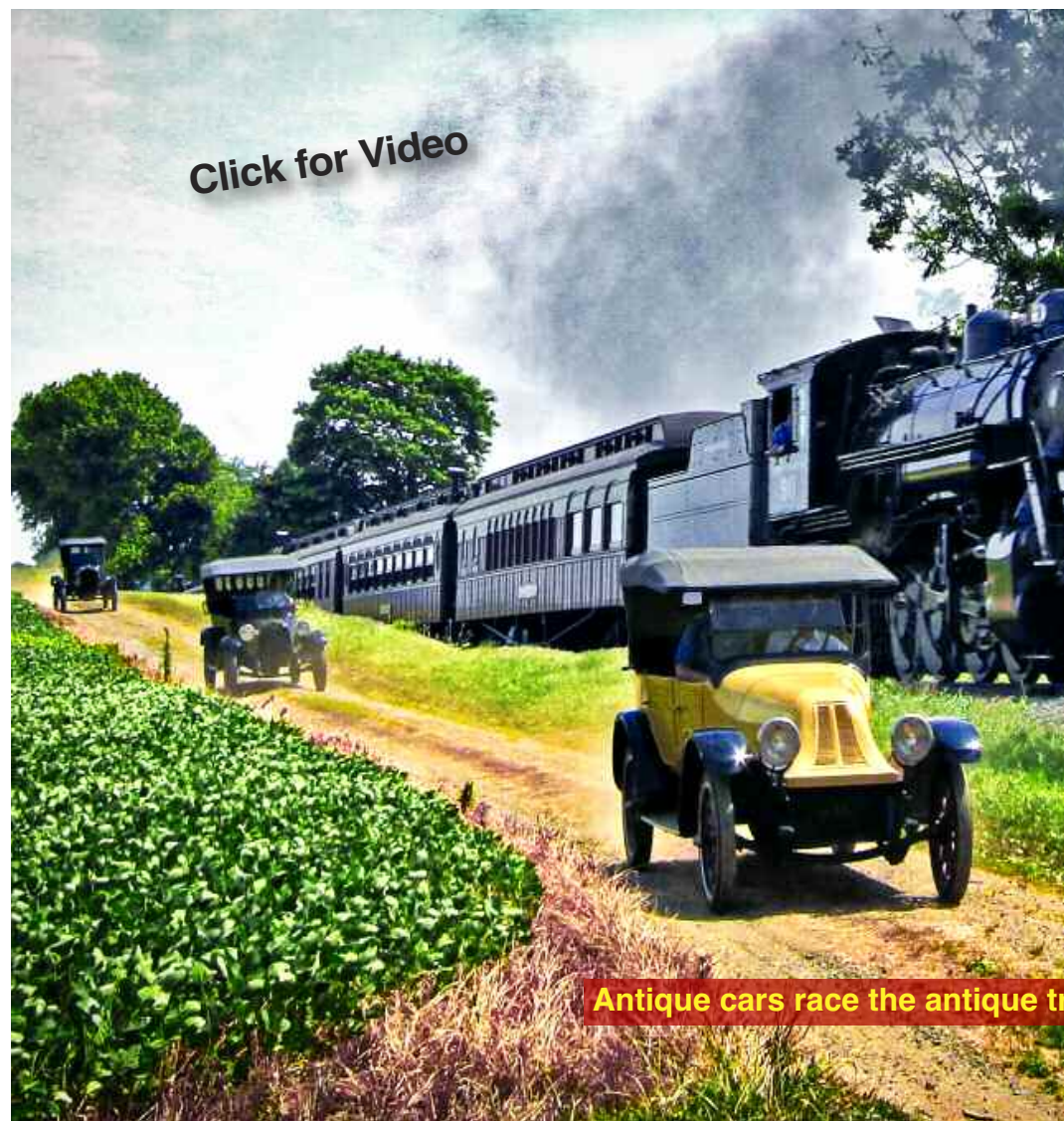
mid-way boarding or unloading.

Pennsylvania Dutch

Travel through some of the most beautiful, peaceful and productive Pennsylvania Dutch Countryside. From this unique vantage point, you’ll see Amish farmers working in their fields, Amish children playing nearby, livestock grazing and farm produce waiting to be harvested.

You’ll also take pride in the fact that a portion of your ticket will help preserve this landscape for centuries.

More than saving land, the Strasburg Rail Road wishes to preserve the beauty, productivity and way of



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Antique cars race the antique train



Amish Village. Photo courtesy Discover Lancaster.com.

life that this land provides for our Amish and English farming neighbors.

The Amish residents of Lancaster County practice a faith tradition that does not allow modern conveniences such as automobiles, televisions and phones in the home.

The two most visible differences of Amish life as compared to the rest of the world are the horse and buggy and the style of dress. The horse and buggy is one of the most obvious examples of restricted technology.

In the minds of the Amish, automobiles, televisions and electricity tied to the power grid are temptations that weaken a close-knit community.

There are approximately 35,000 Amish people in Lancaster County today.

<https://www.strasburgtrainroad.com>



train.



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Visitor Center Hours

January-February: 9 am - 4 pm

March-December 9 am - 5 pm

Photo ID required, ages 18 and over



Railroading in the Tennessee Valley

Relive railroading's golden age aboard the Tennessee Valley Railroad's restored vintage trains. It's a trip into history on a rolling time machine!

The Tennessee Valley Railroad has been described as a moving museum, offering an interactive, historical experience.

Visit Chattanooga to find the only regularly scheduled, full-sized train rides in Tennessee. But it is so much more than just entertainment!

The mission of the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum is to collect for preservation, operation, interpretation, and display, railroad artifacts in an authentic setting to educate the public concerning the role of railroads in the history and development of the region.

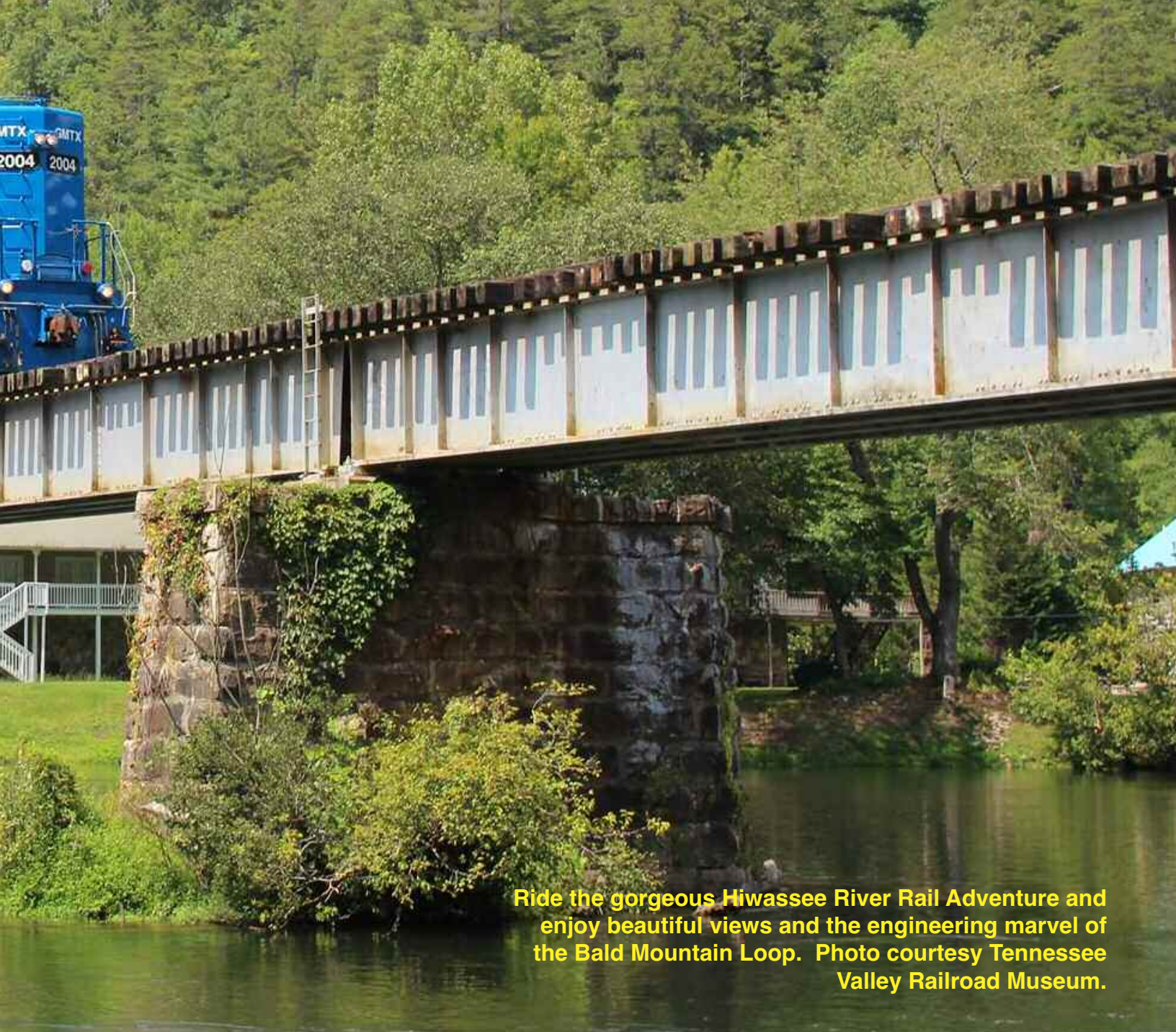
Mission Ridge

The 55-minute experience on the Missionary Ridge Local includes a 6-mile round trip, the most frequent trip on the railroad.

Daily in season, Missionary Ridge Local trips begin at the Grand Junction Station and take passengers along one of the original railroad lines in Chattanooga, crossing four bridges and passing through pre-Civil War Missionary Ridge Tunnel, which was completed in 1858.

The train stops at East Chattanooga, allowing riders to see the locomotive rotating on a turntable and participate in a tour of the railroad restoration shop before re-boarding for the return trip. Round trip time is slightly less than an hour — a great train ride for kids.

The term "Local" refers to short line trains that were at



Ride the gorgeous Hiwassee River Rail Adventure and enjoy beautiful views and the engineering marvel of the Bald Mountain Loop. Photo courtesy Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum.

one time a lifeline to the world from small towns around the nation. As the train rolls to a stop with the ground rumbling under your feet, you feel the mounting anticipation. The conductor calls the long-awaited signal: “All Aboard!” Excitement builds as passengers scurry to their seats. This was a regular occurrence 100 years ago...as it is today.

Mission Ridge schedules runs every month of the year.

Valentine Dinner Train

This train runs with frequent schedules during the first two weeks of February.

Trips include a four-course dining experience on board a restored 1924 dining car. The excursion trains typically depart from the Chattanooga Grand Junction Station (4119 Cromwell Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421) at 5:30pm

and again at 8:00pm, traveling at a leisurely pace through portions of urban Chattanooga, passing Warner Park Zoo and Chattanooga National Cemetery. The train travels about seven miles from the depot and then returns along the same route, taking about two hours overall.

Passengers are encouraged to choose their entrée as tickets are ordered. Patrons may select their entrée of carved English roast of beef topped with a Madeira sauce, roasted stuffed breast of chicken with a wild mushroom cream sauce or Cumberland sauce, or crusted fillet of salmon with a béarnaise sauce or red pepper butter.

For small groups, Presidential Office Car #98 (the Eden Isle) represents the ultimate in rail travel and is offered for private charter. The cost of \$800 allows a group of up to eight (8) persons to travel in this opulent

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Steam Excursion on the Tennessee Valley Railroad.
Photo courtesy Tennessee Valley Railroad.



car, which boasts a dining room, lounge area, and rear observation platform.

Bunny Train

Hop aboard The Bunny Train during the last two weeks in March. These Easter Bunny Train rides depart from Grand Junction and travel toward East Chattanooga where passengers disembark for special activities. Storytelling, temporary tattoos, coloring pages, an egg hunt...and a chance to meet a big bunny! Bring a camera and take your child's photo with the Easter Bunny.

Copperhill Special

Take an extended day-trip excursion through the lower Hiwassee River Gorge, over the Hiwassee Loop, and on to the joint cities of Copperhill, TN, and McCaysville, GA. It is a total 94-mile round trip, with lunch on your own during the 90-minute layover before returning to Etowah. Departure time is 9:30am. and return is generally around 5:45 pm.

The Copperhill route is the same as for "Loop" trips, but after traversing the river gorge and negotiating the spiral near Farner, the train continues a longer distance through Turtletown and Ducktown to the former mining town of Copperhill. Trains run late March through September.

Hiwassee River Gorge

Enjoy a 50-mile round trip up the beautiful lower Hiwassee River gorge. This 3-1/2 hour trip will take you to the top of the famous Hiwassee Loop where the tracks cross over themselves as they corkscrew up the mountain near Farner, Tennessee.

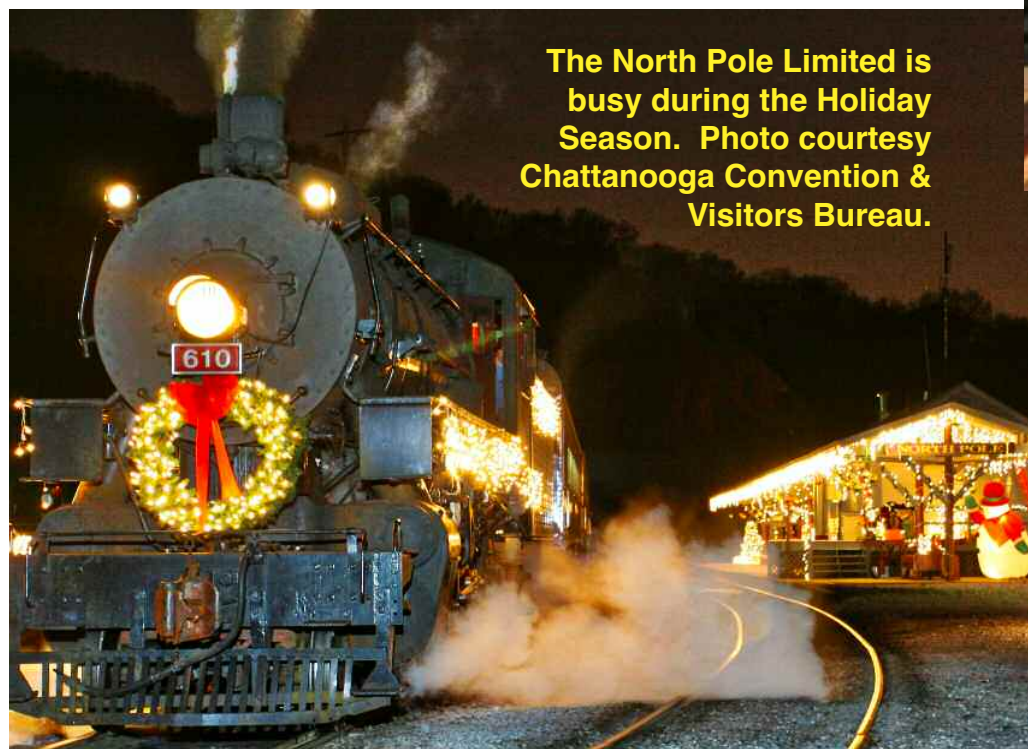
Special rates available for groups of 25 or more during the "non-peak" season, and charter trips can be arranged for groups of 80 or more. Trains run late March through November.

Chickamauga Turn

This trip lasts approximately 6-1/4 hours and includes a 1-1/4 hour layover in Chickamauga and a half-hour layover at Wilder Tower Monument in Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park during the return trip to Chattanooga.

Layover time allows passengers to stroll through the quaint downtown area, visit the Chickamauga Depot which houses a regional history museum or walk a block or two to view the Civil War-era Gordon-Lee Mansion and Crawfish Springs City Park. Watch out for the Civil War cannons that stand guard over the main intersection in town!

The North Pole Limited is busy during the Holiday Season. Photo courtesy Chattanooga Convention & Visitors Bureau.



A tour guide usually rides aboard the train to point out areas of interest and relay interesting historical information.

Summerville Steam Special

These vintage trains follow a historic route from Grand Junction Station in Chattanooga to Summerville, Georgia, crossing the state line in Rossville, traveling past Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park and through Chickamauga, Rock Spring, LaFayette, Trion, and into Summerville. Departure for the all-day trip is 9:00am with return approximately 6:00pm.

For Autumn trips, fall colors are usually a highlight outside the train, while a dining car luncheon, complete with china ware, is served inside dining car Travelers

The junior camp is geared toward late elementary and middle school students and will include instruction on all aspects of railroading, riding trains, craft projects, and games.

Dinner Trains

Dinner Trains run on select Saturdays of most months (late March through September.) The trips include a three-course dining experience usually onboard a restored 1924 dining car.

Special themed trains throughout the year include Thomas & Friends in April and May, Halloween Eerie Express in October, North Pole Limited in November and December, Nightcap with St. Nick in December, Santa's Hiwassee Holiday Adventure in December,

Dining in style on the Tennessee Valley Railroad. Photo courtesy Chattanooga Convention & Visitors Bureau.



Fare. Train operates from early March through November.

Summer Camps

Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum is hosting 2018 summer camps for railroaders of many ages. The standard camp is geared towards high school-aged students and will include instruction on all aspects of railroading, including railroad terms, signals, how steam and diesel engines work, and the history of trains.

There will also be a blacksmithing demonstration, field trips, and guest speakers.

Christmas dinner trains in November and December, and the New Year's Eve Dinner Train on December 31.

Special rates available for groups with minimum of 20 persons per group in season for the Missionary Ridge Local. Minimum is 50 per group in the off-season for the Missionary Ridge Local.

Group bookings are also available on other TVRM excursions. Call the group reservation department for additional information. 423.894.8028.

<http://www.tvrail.com>