



## Gold Rush Days and THOMAS Tickets!

Happy August! This month, experience history in action during Gold Rush Days at the Colorado Railroad Museum, plus gear up for the return of everyone's favorite blue engine, Thomas the Tank Engine! Tickets for Day Out With Thomas™ at the Colorado Railroad Museum are on sale now! Here's a preview of what's heading our way as summer continues:

- **Gold Rush Days!** Celebrate Colorado's Gold Rush heritage, and ride behind one of the last coal-fired steam locomotives operating in Colorado! This event returns on Saturday and Sunday, August 9-10, featuring engaging and fun activities plus great photo opportunities!
- **Colorado Rails & Cocktails:** TONIGHT, August 1, our popular evening lecture series focuses on *Scenic Trips and Picnics: Train Tourism in the Rockies*. Join historian and professor Dr. Meg Frisbee as she explores how railroads helped turn the Rockies into a sought-after destination for adventure and relaxation.
- **THOMAS Tickets:** The popular event Day Out With Thomas™ returns to the Museum for three weekends in September (6-7, 13-14, 20-21). Tickets are now on sale! This event has sold out completely every year since 2020, so don't delay.
- **Sunday Goose Rides Return!** For a limited time, through Labor Day Weekend, and again in October, catch a ride on the Rio Grande Southern's iconic self-propelled "motor".
- **Volunteer Fair at the Museum:** Have you ever considered becoming part of the Museum's volunteer team? Saturday, August 16, join us for a Volunteer Fair where you can ask questions, meet other team members, and learn more about upcoming

volunteer opportunities including Day Out With Thomas™ and THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride.

- **Train Rides Thursday-Sunday:** Just two more weeks are left, with our expanded summer season soon ending for 2025. Enjoy a leisurely train ride and experience special activities every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday through August 10!

All this and more are covered in this issue of the *Telegrapher*. As you can see, we have an exciting lineup of events, programs and activities planned for the end of this summer and heading into fall. Thank you for your continued support of the Colorado Railroad Museum, and its mission of bringing Colorado's rich railroad heritage to life throughout the year. All Aboard!



Paul Hammond  
Executive Director

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## Gold Rush Days and Steamup Event!

*Saturday and Sunday,  
August 9-10, 2025*

As summer begins to wind down, join us at the Colorado Railroad Museum for an exciting **Gold Rush Days** and Steam Up event, featuring special programming

plus steam-powered train rides! Come learn about the intersection of precious metals mining with railroading here in the Centennial State, and enjoy a beautiful summer day with friends and family, too!

Celebrate Colorado's Gold Rush heritage, and ride behind one of the last coal-fired steam locomotives operating in Colorado. Activities will include pop-up exhibits, Gold Panning demonstrations, a blacksmith, steam train rides, turntable demonstrations and more happening around the Museum's 15-acre railyard. Plenty of photo opportunities will of course also be on hand—including Spike the Railroad Dog (the Museum's very own mascot!). Food and tasty treats will be available for purchase, too.

Grounds open 9 a.m.-5 p.m., with special programs and activities taking place both days between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Train Rides depart every half-hour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Steam-Up weekends feature inclusive pricing, with admission and a train ride included in every ticket. **Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$7 for children ages 2-17, and \$12 for seniors age 60 and up. Admission is free for Museum members and children under age 2.** All aboard!

Advance purchase of admission and train ride tickets recommended, especially if you have a specific Train Ride time in mind. Capacity is limited, so don't delay. Book your tickets online today for Gold Rush Days by [Clicking Here!](#)

# Colorado Rails & Cocktails: Scenic Trips and Picnics

*Tonight, August 1*

Enjoy an evening of Colorado history! Join historian and professor Dr. Meg Frisbee for her presentation, *Scenic Trips and Picnics: Train Tourism in the Rockies*. Dr. Frisbee will explore how railroads

helped turn the Rockies into a sought-after destination for adventure and relaxation. Through stories, images, and historical insights, she will reveal how train travel shaped the way people experienced Colorado and helped define the American West as a place for leisure and escape.

**Admission:** \$20 Adults. **Ages 21+ only.** Admission includes two beverages of your choice (beer, wine, or soda) and snacks. Presentation begins promptly at 7:00 p.m., doors open at 6:00 p.m. Come early and check out the Museum's exhibit on 100 years of Women in Railroading beforehand, if you haven't yet had the chance! The exhibit will remain on display through late August before being removed to make way for a new installation.

**[Click Here to Purchase Tickets](#)**





## Day Out With Thomas™ Returns to Golden!

**TICKETS Now ON SALE!**

All Aboard! Thomas the Tank Engine, everyone's favorite #1 blue engine, is coming back to town for a party you won't want to miss! This year, Day Out With Thomas™ is

bigger than ever with **The Party Tour**, celebrating 80 years of Thomas & Friends™. The Party Tour will be stopping at the Colorado Railroad Museum on the weekends of **September 6-7, 13-14, and 20-21, 2025**.

Day Out With Thomas™ offers families and friends the chance to celebrate with one of The Biggest Friends of All, Thomas the Tank Engine! Every ticket includes an interactive train ride with a life-sized Thomas. You'll also enjoy live entertainment, stage shows, lawn games, party-themed activities at Celebration Station, and plenty of photo opportunities!

Tickets for this Day Out With Thomas™ event are **NOW ON SALE!** Ticket prices are \$25 for ages 1 and up (service charges and fees may apply). Capacity is limited, and advanced tickets are required. **Walk-up sales will NOT be available.** This event has completely sold out well in advance for the past five years, so don't delay! For more information, and to purchase tickets, visit [www.ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org/day-out-with-thomas](http://www.ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org/day-out-with-thomas)



## Sunday Goose Rides Return

*Climb aboard for a ride on a Galloping Goose!*

**For six Sundays only** in late summer and fall— August 17, 24 and 31 as well as October 5, 12 and 26— the Museum will be offering Sunday Goose Rides! Catch a ride on the Rio Grande Southern's iconic self-propelled "motor" and experience the unique charm of the Galloping Goose during these special Sunday departures. This limited opportunity is perfect for families and rail fans alike. Don't miss your chance to ride aboard this unique piece of rail heritage,

**[CLICK HERE](#)** to reserve your tickets today!





## Become a Museum Volunteer

*Saturday, August 16 - Volunteer Fair!*

Have you ever wanted to help in your community and work with a diverse, interesting group of people? Do you enjoy sharing Colorado's rich railroad history with visitors from all over the world? The Colorado Railroad Museum is currently recruiting adults (18 or older) interested in volunteering to help share the Centennial State's fascinating heritage of railroading and its impact on Colorado.

Volunteers are especially needed to support two of the Museum's most popular events, Day Out With Thomas™ and THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride. These family-focused experiences draw thousands of visitors each year and rely on a dedicated team to bring the magic to life. Volunteers

play a vital role in these signature events, from helping with train rides, activities, and photo opportunities at Day Out With Thomas™ to serving hot chocolate and welcoming guests during THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride. Whether you prefer being hands-on or working behind the scenes, there's a place for every passion and skill level!

Beyond events, volunteers support exhibits, lead interpretive stations, run simulators and demonstrations, and inspire young minds during school tours and educational programs. If you're looking for a fun and meaningful way to get involved, consider attending the **Volunteer Fair on Saturday, August 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Museum in Golden.**

Each year, more than 300 volunteers support Museum programs including special events, educational tours, hands-on demonstrations, restoration, track construction, and clerical work. No prior railroad experience is required since orientation and on-the-job training are provided. Volunteers may take on additional responsibilities as they become more familiar with the programs. We are looking for outgoing individuals who enjoy working with the public, especially children and families, and who will adhere to volunteer safety standards and codes of conduct. Flexible hours and rewarding experiences are part of this opportunity.

To learn more about volunteering and/or to sign up, visit [www.ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org/Volunteers](http://www.ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org/Volunteers), or contact Volunteer Manager Anna Holdeman at [Anna@crrm.org](mailto:Anna@crrm.org) or (720) 274-5141.

# Thursday-Sunday Train Rides

*Continuing Through August 10, with Activities!*

From mid-May through mid-August, Train Rides at the Colorado Railroad Museum aren't just on Saturdays anymore! Join us Thursday-Sunday through August 10 to enjoy not only a train ride but other activities! Trains depart every half-hour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a lunch break for the crew at 12:30 p.m. (no departure at that time). **Hurry, because our expanded summer operating season ends in just two weeks!**



In addition to Train Rides, enjoy **Thrilling Thursday** activities each Thursday through August 7th, with pop-up exhibits, re-enactors, and a variety of activities ongoing from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Every Friday, enjoy two separate **Friday Tours** with a different focus each week—[Click Here](#) to reserve your tour tickets in advance. And every Saturday and Sunday, enjoy **Touring the Rails** activities! Try your hand at pushing the Museum's "Armstrong"-powered turntable, for instance, or climb into the cab of a diesel-electric locomotive to experience a simulation of how it operates, or perhaps learn about the time-honored communication system of telegraphy and how it became a big part of railroading beginning in the mid-19th century.

The 2025 operating season features trains pulled by one of our trusty diesel-electric locomotives. We recommend advance ticket purchase, especially if you have a preferred time to ride; on busy days select departures often sell out. Members, don't forget that you can also book your tickets in advance, at no charge, for regular train rides!

Train Ride tickets (in addition to admission) are \$4 adults, \$2 ages 2-17 and seniors. Remember, **Museum Membership provides free admission and regular train rides year-round!** Not a member? Visit [ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org/membership](https://ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org/membership) to learn more, or call us at (303) 279-4591 during business hours. [Click Here](#) to Visit our Live Calendar and choose which days you'd like to visit. All Aboard!





## Looking Ahead: October-December 2025

*Harvest Haunt Express and THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Return!*

The Colorado Railroad Museum's annual Halloween-themed steam-up event will be coming back to "haunt the rails" in 2025! Enjoy the Olde Railroaders Silly Graveyard, "not-so-spooky" Haunted Railcars, a hay bale maze, and more. An authentic, coal burning Colorado steam locomotive will pull trains for the **Harvest Haunt Express** on Saturday and Sunday, **October 18-19**.

Saturday Train Rides continue throughout August, then resume again in October (regular admission and train rides are NOT available weekends in September during Day Out With Thomas™). The final Saturday of regular 2025 train rides is scheduled for October 25. After that date, Saturday train rides will not resume until mid-January 2026

The Colorado Railroad Museum's theatrical production of THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride will return to Golden, Colorado in November and December. Tickets will go on sale to the public in late September (as always, an advance purchase opportunity will be extended to Museum members one week before the public on-sale date). More updates coming soon — stay tuned!

## The Latest Online Content

*Entertaining and  
Educational  
Programs Available  
24/7!*

Check out the latest  
episodes of all our  
popular, ongoing



series, including the newest **Storytime & Craft** episode. Or, if you're craving some delicious food, you won't want to miss our most recent **Dining on the Rails** post, which highlights a commissary and culinary guide produced by the Pullman Company along with a recipe for a period delicacy—cold ox tongue. [Click Here](#) to search the latest content offerings on our website.

There's Lots More Content to Like, Share and Follow! Whether you're on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube, the Colorado Railroad Museum posts interesting tidbits, stories, and videos throughout each week. Come along as we visit a **"Railroad Attraction of the Month"** throughout the year (for July this was the Julesburg Depot Museum), a **"Highlight of the Collection"** (for July this was the Cornelius W. Hauck Restoration Center), and see what's going on with programs and exhibits, in the Museum Roundhouse, and more.

The Museum posts several times each week on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube.

[Click Here](#) to see a collected feed of all our Social Media channels and posts, and "find your follow!"



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