



A Train Lover's Guide to Local Railroad Experiences

Museum, Model, Scale and Full-Size Trains in or Near California



Amtrak

For a great family day trip to the California State Railroad Museum, take the Capitol train to Sacramento. www.amtrak.com



Billy Jones Railroad

At Oak Meadow and Vasona Parks in Los Gatos, this miniature steam train (18" gauge) was built in the early 1900s for Venice, CA.

PO Box 234, Los Gatos 95031 www.bjwrr.org



Bay Area Electric Railroad Association

Publishes the monthly *Review*, operates the Western Railway Museum and owns the Sacramento Northern Railway in Solano County, California.

www.wrm.org

5848 State Highway 12, Suisun City 94585



Burlingame Historical Society

Instrumental in preserving the Burlingame Station on the SP/CalTrain mainline.

PO Box 144, Burlingame 94011.

www.best.com:80/~spectrum/history/historic.html



California Historical Society

Although not specifically directed toward railroad research, has extensive holdings in their North Baker library and is an excellent source of information for the area. *California History* magazine.

678 Mission Street, San Francisco 94105

(415) 357-1848 www.californiahistoricalsociety.org



Caltrain

Ride today's commercial passenger trains; great stops include the Santa Clara depot, Menlo Park and Burlingame (restored 1894 station, lovely park and good eats nearby). www.CalTrain.com



California State Railroad Museum

One of the premier museums in the country, their collection spans the mid-1800s to the present, they have extensive railroad historical holdings in the library, which is open to the public for research, and offer summer excursion trains.

111 "I" Street, Sacramento 95814-2265

(916) 322-8485 www.csrmf.org



California Trolley & Railroad Corp.

Ride historic San Jose streetcars from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Restoring SP steam locomotive 2479. Working toward a Santa Clara Co. railroad museum.

c/o Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI); 210 N. 4th Street, 4th Floor, San Jose 95112 www.ctrc.org



Central Coast Railway Club, NHRS

Since 1952, a railfan organization dedicated to the preservation of western railroad history with a special emphasis on the Bay Area and San Jose. Excursions, monthly meetings, members' library and artifacts.

PO Box 434, Santa Clara 95052-0434

www5.pair.com/rattenne/nrhs/nrhs.htm



Colma's Historic Train Depot

A museum on train, streetcar and BART travel.

1500 Hillside Blvd., Colma (650) 757-1676



Feather River Rail Society

Operates the Portola Railroad Museum; quarterly *Western Pacific Headlight*.

PO Box 608, Portola 96122 (530) 832-4131 www.wplives.org



Folsom, El Dorado & Sacramento Historical Railroad Association.

Preserves, maintains, restores, and records railroad history in all areas of the Mother Lode. The first turntable in the West (1856) is the centerpiece to the Folsom Railroad Block restoration.

PO Box 6404, Folsom 95763

(916) 985-6001 www.fedshra.org/feds1.htm



Golden Gate Railroad Museum

Formerly located at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in San Francisco, GGRM operates the SP2472 steam engine, other historic locomotives and a collection of passenger cars, and is now housed in Niles Canyon courtesy of the PLA (see below).

1755 East Bayshore Road, Suite 19A, Redwood City, CA 94063

(650) 365-2472 www.ggrm.org



Golden Gate Lionel Railroad Club

O gauge modular railroad runs monthly in Palo Alto, and at various Bay Area shows. Monthly business meeting in Santa Clara. www.gglrrc.org

PO Box 61145, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-1145



Golden State Model Railroad Museum

10,000 square feet of O, HO and N scale model railroading constructed and operated by the East Bay Model Engineers Society, and located in Pt.

Richmond (at the north end of the East Bay) www.gsmrm.org

GSMRM: 900 Dornan Drive, Point Richmond



Los Altos History Museum

All ages enjoy our historically accurate O gauge exhibit of 1932 Los Altos, a town "built" by SP executive Paul Shoup. Picnic grounds. Free.

Open Thurs-Sun, 12-4pm. 51 S. San Antonio Rd, Los Altos 94022

(650) 948.9427 www.LosAltosHistory.org

Market Street Railway Company

Members have been restoring historic streetcars for use on San Francisco Municipal Railway's new F-Line on Market Street. Periodic newsletter.

PO Box 425063, San Francisco 94142-5063
(415) 552-3055 www.sfmuseum.orghist1/msrr.html

Millbrae Train Museum

With everything from railroad china to caboose lanterns, it's located at California and Murchison drives, southwest of the BART/Caltrain station.

Millbrae Historical Society, 21 E. Millbrae Ave., Millbrae (650) 333-1136
www.millbraehs.org

Napa Valley Wine Train

Daily gourmet rail excursions year round with three dining experiences to choose from.

1275 McKinstry Street, Napa 94559
(800) 427-4124 www.winetrain.com

Nevada State Railroad Museum

Though not in California, it is considered one of the finest regional railroad museums in the country.

2180 South Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89710
(702) 687-6953 www.nsrml-friends.org

Niles Depot Historical Foundation

Restored the Niles Depot in 1988, where it maintains a museum as well as sharing space with the Tri-City Society of Model Engineers (HO and N scale layouts).

PO Box 2716, Fremont 94536 www.nilesdepot.railfan.net/NDHFHome.html

Northwestern Pacific Railroad Historical Society

Publishes the *Northwesterner* on a semi-annual basis, and the newsletter *The Headlight*.

PO Box 667, Santa Rosa 95402-0667 www.nwprhs.org

Pacific Locomotive Association

Operates the NILES CANYON RAILWAY from Niles to Sunol. Monthly newsletter *The Club Car*. www.ncry.org

PO Box 2247, Niles Station, Fremont 94536-0247

Pacific Coast Chapter, Railway & Locomotive Historical Society.

Formed in 1937, publishes *Western Railroader*, a quarterly newsletter and two issues a year of *Railroad History*. Owns and operates the Milepost One Bookstore in historic Folsom.

912 Sutter Street, Boxcar 16, Folsom 95630
(916) 985-4777 www.rlhs.org

Redwood Valley Railway

Round-trip 1.25 mile scenic route through redwoods on a 15" gauge - dogs ride free. Located near the antique carousel at the top of Grizzly Peak Blvd.

Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley www.redwoodvalleyrailway.com

Roaring Camp Railroads

See California's towering redwood forests from two historic railroads; travel by steam train up a narrow-gauge track through the Big Trees to Bear Mountain or by beach train down the scenic San Lorenzo River to the sunny beaches of Santa Cruz.

PO Box G-1, Felton 95018 (831) 335-4484 www.roaringcamp.com

San Francisco Zoo Train

Nicknamed the "Little Puffer," this century-old mini steam train is one of three remaining 22" gauge engines in the world.

1 Zoo Road, San Francisco, CA 94132
(415) 753-7080 www.sfzoo.org/about/puffer.htm

San Leandro Historical Railway Society

Preserved the San Leandro Depot, which is open to the public, with a model railroad display. www.slhrs.org

Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society.

Operates the Fillmore and Western Railway and publishes a newsletter. Working on an interpretive center for display of railroad equipment in the city of Fillmore. www.scrvrhs.com

Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society

Located 35 miles northwest of Los Angeles; seven houses, an SP #1629 and an M-4 class locomotive undergoing restoration at Heritage Junction.

PO Box 221925, Newhall 91322 (805) 254-1275 www.scvhs.org

Sierra Railway Historical Society

Publishes the *Sierra Railway Journal* on a quarterly basis.

Railtown 1897 Docent Association; PO Box 1001, Jamestown 95327
www.nrhs.com/chapters/central_sierra.htm

Society for the Preservation of Carter Railroad

Resources. Free rides on a narrow gauge loop, a museum and restored cars. Located in a park with a beautiful Victorian house. www.spcrr.org

Ardenwood Historic Farm Regional Park
34600 Ardenwood Blvd/PO Box 783, Newark 94560
www.spcrr.org

South Bay Historical Railroad Society

Housed in a restored SP depot built 1863-1877, it has an impressive museum collection, archives and model layouts. Get there by CalTrain.

Santa Clara CalTrain Depot, 1005 Railroad Avenue, Santa Clara 95050
408-243-3969 www.sbhrs.org

Southern California Scenic Railway Assn.

Working in cooperation with the City of Los Angeles and the Travel Town Museum, its mission is the preservation, interpretive display, and operation of historic railroad equipment. www.scsra.org

Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society

Publishes *Trainline* on a quarterly basis.

PO Box 93697, Pasadena 91109-93697 www.sphts.org

Swanton Pacific Railroad

Located on a beautiful 3,200-acre ranch in Santa Cruz County, it operates three 1/3 scale Pacific-type SP steam locomotives built for the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition and a diesel switcher (19" gauge). Great picnic grounds.

www.calpoly.edu/~brael/swanton

West Bay Model Railroad Association

Operates three layouts in a restored SP freight depot.

1090 Merrill Street, Menlo Park 94025
(650) 322-0685 <http://home.earthlink.net/~pesce/westbay.htm>