



# News Release

**For Immediate Release**  
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## Railtown 1897 Celebrates Autumn With Special Apple Harvest Activities on October 3

**JAMESTOWN, Calif.** – California State Parks and Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (SHP) are proud to present special apple harvest-related activities on Saturday, October 3, 2015 that help to connect the history of local agriculture with the railroad. Special activities for the day include interpretive displays of fruit crate art throughout the Park; a slide presentation about the growth of the local apple industry and its roots to the railroad; live “original old-timey” music by the group Faux Renwah; hands-on arts and crafts for kids, and more.

Citing a climate and soils perfect for the production of apples, the Sierra Railway promoted the early development of apple orchards in the region through continuous advertising and even encouraged people to move to Tuolumne County and grow apples. As added incentives, the railroad offered a bonus to those planting new orchards of ten acres or more, free apple saplings, and also produced an informative booklet on apple cultivation. Eventually the railway’s efforts paid off and, at one point in time, the demand became so high that Tuolumne County apples weren’t even available for local residents to purchase.

The special apple harvest activities at Railtown 1897 SHP are free with regular Park admission: \$5 for adults; \$3 for youths ages 6-17; and free for children ages 5 and under. Also, steam train rides behind the “Movie Star Locomotive” Sierra No. 3 are available that day at 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. and cost \$15 for adults; \$10 for youths ages 6-17; and are free for children ages 5 and under (train ride tickets include Park admission).

For more information about the special apple harvest activities or Railtown 1897 SHP in general, please call 209-984-3953 or visit [www.railtown1897.org](http://www.railtown1897.org).

*Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at [SaveOurWater.com](http://SaveOurWater.com)*

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### **California State Parks Mission**

*To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state’s extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.*



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