

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kathy Daigle
(916) 445-0945



All Aboard the Wildflower Train! *Departures Scheduled for April 21 and May 5*

JAMESTOWN, CALIF. – In April and May, Railtown 1897 State Historic Park will provide guests with the unique opportunity to experience spring wildflowers from on board a train! On Saturday, April 21, and again on Saturday, May 5, 2007, special afternoon “Wildflower Trains” will depart from the Railtown Depot at 4:30 p.m. Wildflower Train tickets are \$10 adults, \$4 youths ages 6-17, ages 5 and under ride free. This special train’s capacity is limited, and reservations are suggested: to reserve or for more information, call (209) 984-3953.

Spring is a spectacular time of year in California’s scenic Gold Country. Hillside and meadows are awash in bright shades of green, dotted with a wide variety of flowers, brush and trees. The flowers in particular can cover entire hillsides and broad meadows in color. Railtown 1897’s Wildflower Trains take guests on a six-mile, one-hour roundtrip ride through the scenic, rolling landscapes of Gold Country. Along the way, trains encounter meadows and rolling hills, with such flora as “meadow foam,” “Indian paintbrush,” and other colorful wildflowers typically in bloom.

Railtown’s Wildflower Trains will feature Interpretive Park Rangers from the nearby New Melones Recreation Resource Center, answering questions and pointing out flower groupings along the way. A scheduled stop along the route will provide passengers with the opportunity to scatter wildflower seeds, too! Prior to boarding the special afternoon train, guests will have the opportunity to learn basic information about the wildflowers of California’s Sierra Nevada foothills.

Railtown’s regular steam-powered excursion trains this day depart on-the-hour 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For guests desiring an in-depth look at Railtown’s fascinating railroad heritage, guided tours of the Historic Jamestown Shops and Roundhouse (including trains and movie props) are also available. Roundhouse Tours are \$2 adults, \$1 youths ages 6-17, ages 5 and under tour free.

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Railtown 1897 State Historic Park's Depot Store, Interpretive Center, and grounds are open daily April-October from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Guided Roundhouse Tours are available daily. Railtown's regular steam trains operate every weekend April through October (plus selected special event dates November-December). Trains depart Saturdays and Sundays hourly 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; regular train tickets are \$8 adults, \$3 youths ages 6-17, ages 5 and under ride free. Step aboard for a six-mile, 40-minute roundtrip ride through scenic Gold Country.

Railtown 1897 State Historic Park is located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Reservoir Road in Jamestown, near Sonora. Railtown 1897 and Jamestown are located just minutes from Columbia State Historic Park, widely considered California's best-preserved Gold Rush town.

Operated by California State Parks with assistance from the nonprofit California State Railroad Museum Foundation, Railtown 1897 State Historic Park offers tours of year-round tours plus train rides weekends April-October (selected dates only November-December). Known as "The Movie Railroad," the Park and its trains have been featured in hundreds of feature films, TV shows, and commercials. Railtown 1897 State Historic Park is located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Reservoir Road in Jamestown, just off highways 49/108. For more information, call (209) 984-3953, or visit our Web site at www.railtown1897.org.

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