

# News Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Railtown 1897 Offers Behind-the-Scenes Shop Tours Three Days Only in 2012**

***Visitors Will See the Famous Sierra No. 3 Up-Close & Personal Plus  
Learn About Current Projects Underway***

**JAMESTOWN, Calif.** – Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (SHP) will offer special, behind-the-scenes Shop Tours of the historic site on three upcoming Fridays in 2012: January 13, February 10 and March 9 from 10 a.m. to noon each day. As part of this special opportunity, visitors will have the chance to get an up-close viewing of exciting projects currently underway plus learn about recently completed projects such as the amazing restoration effort of the famed Sierra No. 3, also known as the “Movie Star Locomotive.” The cost for the unique Shop Tours experience is included with Park admission.

Shop Tour guests will first watch a brief slide show that provides background of current projects to date. After the video, a knowledgeable volunteer host will guide visitors to the historic shops to meet skilled paid and volunteer staff who are actively working on projects and activities that keep the historic shops alive. Encouraged to ask questions, guests will see important work just completed and learn about other restoration projects that range from painting and cleaning cars to annual inspections of steam locomotives and much, much more. A few Shop Tour highlights include the recent and painstaking restoration efforts on the huge historic Roundhouse doors (that are opened routinely to bring the locomotives out), diagnostic testing on the Shay No. 2, and annual servicing of Sierra No. 3 with a boiler wash, overall inspection and minor equipment repairs for winter.

Widely known as “The Movie Railroad” due to the hundreds of films and movies that have been shot on-location at the historic site, Railtown 1897 SHP is home to the Historic Jamestown Shops and Roundhouse of the Sierra Railway. This one-of-a-kind attraction combines industrial heritage and railroad history with the lore of Hollywood’s film industry. The Railtown 1897 Interpretive Center, the authentic roundhouse and shops, and the Depot Store (a railroad specialty gift shop) are among the Park’s unique year-round offerings.

Railtown 1897 SHP admission costs are as follows: \$5 for adults, \$3 for youths ages 6-17 and free for children five and under. More information about the Shop Tours or Railtown 1897 SHP is available by calling 209-984-3953 or visiting [www.railtown1897.org](http://www.railtown1897.org).

**About Railtown 1897 State Historic Park**

*Operated by California State Parks with assistance from the nonprofit California State Railroad Museum Foundation, Railtown 1897 State Historic Park offers 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. The Park is located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Reservoir Road in Jamestown, reached by highways 49/108. As of 1/2/12, Railtown 1897 State Historic Park is open Thursdays through Mondays (except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day) and the Park’s operating hours vary by season: April-October, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; November-March, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, call Railtown 1897 State Historic Park at (209) 984-3953, or visit our Web site at [www.railtown1897.org](http://www.railtown1897.org)*

**For More, Visit [www.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict](http://www.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict)**

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