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Central Coast Railroad Festival

October 6-8, 2023 (last updated 10/5/23)

Entire Area

Model Railroad Layout Tour 2023

- Thanks to Bob Chaparro and the Model Railroads of Southern California for organizing this tour again this year!
- Thursday through Sunday
- Each railroad has its own open day(s) and time(s)
- There are about 30 layouts at 20 locations
- From Paso Robles to Santa Maria
- Most are Free (see details for exceptions)
- Self-guided, see website for details

SLO County-Wide

Coloring Contest at all San Luis Obispo County Library Locations

- Win round-trip Amtrak tickets (Surfliner) for five from SLO to Santa Barbara (sponsored by To Shiny Rails)
- A rail-guide for the trip is available
- Coloring pages are available at SLO Library locations in September
- Turn in your colored page at any SLO Library location by the September 30th deadline to be entered in the drawing
- The drawing for the winner will take place at the SLO Railroad Museum on Saturday, October 7th, 2:15pm.
- For ages 0 through 12 years
- The artwork will be displayed at the Library branches
- Free
- SLOLibrary.org

North County SLO

Model Train Layouts at Public Locations:

- Central Coast Trains in Atascadero, Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm. Model train store with several operating layouts. 7600 El Camino Real Suite #3, Atascadero. October 7th is the Atascadero Colony Days Parade so access to Central Coast Trains will be closed/blocked until Noon-ish on Saturday.

Halter Ranch Railroad (New in '23):

- Shop Tours only (no rides)
- Friday and Saturday, 10am-4pm
- HalterRanch.com, Halter Ranch Railroad
- 8910 Adelaida Road, Paso Robles
- 805-226-9455

Pacific Coast Railroad Company (New in '23):

- Saturday only, 10am-3pm.
- Historic Santa Margarita Ranch, 9000 Yerba Buena, Santa Margarita, CA
- Our diesel locomotive with freight cars and caboose will be running as well as our Model A Speeder.
- Historic Santa Margarita Ranch was founded in 1774 and features numerous buildings listed on the National Register.
- Round trip for adults is \$10, children 3-12 are \$5, 2 and under are free.
- Other rail equipment on display and seen from the train.

Pioneer Museum:

- Thursday through Sunday, 1-4pm
- 2010 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles
- PasoRoblesPioneerMuseum.org
- October 14th is Pioneer Day in Paso Robles
- Free

SLO City Area

Model Train Layouts at Public Locations:

- Central Coast Model Railroad, part of the SLO Railroad Museum, Friday-Sunday, 10am-4pm. 2018 video by Jim Zimmerlin. Included with Museum admission.
- Orange County 'N' Gineers layouts at the downtown SLO Library, 995 Palm Street, SLO. Friday 10am-4pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, and Sunday 10am-3pm
- Central California Coast Garden Railroad Society outdoor layout/display at the SLO Railroad Museum, Saturday 10am-4pm. Included with Museum admission.

Happy Hour Fundraiser at House of Bread Café

- Friday, October 6th, 4pm-6pm
- Benefits the SLO Railroad Museum and its Model Railroad
- Music by "Dave, Brian & the 40 Hour Work Week" sponsored by West Coast Auto and Towing
- 1025 Farmhouse Lane, SLO
- Check out who's bartending! (at SLORRM.com)

San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum:

- Detailed schedule at SLORRM.com
- SATURDAY IS THE MAIN DAY (all special activities/exhibits): 10am-4pm. Highlights include: large HO-scale model railroad (CCMR), Railroad BBQ Co for lunch (1130am-2pm), swap meet, trains coming and going, displays and information, various presentations and demonstrations, music by Ted Waterhouse, and new exhibits.

- Friday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-4pm: Festival Info Headquarters only, no special activities or exhibits, the model railroad will be open
- 1940 Santa Barbara Ave, SLO
- Admission: Members free, Adult \$5, Child (4-15) \$3, Child (3 and under) free
- Photo Contest winners revealed (Saturday 10:25am)
- Pickup for Online Auction Winnings, 2pm-4pm on Saturday.
- SLORRM.com

Dallidet Adobe and Gardens

- Saturday (only), Noon-4pm
- 1185 Pacific Street, SLO
- SLO street railcar from the late 1800s

Jack House and Gardens

- 536 Marsh Street, SLO
- 805.781.7100
- Open 2nd and 4th Sundays, 1-4pm
- 1878 Victorian Home of the Jack Family
- R. E. Jack was instrumental in bringing the Southern Pacific Railroad to San Luis Obispo
- Free

History Center of SLO County:

- Wednesday through Monday, 11am-5pm
- 696 Monterey Street, SLO
- HistoryCenterSLO.org

South County SLO

Model Train Layouts at Public Locations:

- San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Association (SLOMRA) layouts in the Freighthouse portion of the Oceano Depot, 1650 Front Street, Oceano, Friday-Sunday 10am-4pm
- Rori's Artisanal Creamery, the new ice cream shop in the Arroyo Grande Village with a G-scale train running around the ceiling, 114 W. Branch, AG, Daily 12pm-9pm.

Oceano Depot:

- Saturday and Sunday, 11am-4pm, including tours
- 1650 Front Street, Oceano
- OceanoDepot.org
- Relocated and restored 1904 Southern Pacific Depot
- Displays, SP boxcar
- HO/N scale model layouts by SLO Model Railroad Assoc
- SMV Caboose #170 with HO model railroad inside
- Depot Office and Living Quarters
- Free, donations gratefully accepted

San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Association:

- Friday through Sunday, 10am-4pm
- 1650 Front Street, Oceano (Oceano Depot)
- HO and N gauge railroads filling the Depot Freighthouse
- SLOMRA.org

- HO and N gauge items for sale
- Free, donations gratefully accepted

Restaurants:

Rock-n-Roll Diner

- Located in two full-size passenger railcars on track
- 1300 Railroad Street, Oceano, CA 93445
- Sun-Thur: 8AM-8PM | Fri-Sat: 8AM-8:30PM

Grover Station Grill

- Rail-themed restaurant
- Directly across the tracks from the Grover Beach train station
- 170 W Grand Ave #101, Grover Beach, CA 93433
- Mon-Thu: 7AM-3PM | Fri-Sat: 7AM-8PM | Sun: 7AM-3PM
- Mention you're enjoying the Railroad Festival for a FREE non-alcoholic beverage with purchase of a meal

Dana Adobe & Cultural Center:

- Tours during the week are by appointment only
- Saturday & Sunday, 11am-3pm
- 671 S. Oakglen Ave, Nipomo CA 93444
- DanaAdobe.org
- Hike a portion of the Pacific Coast Railway right-of-way
- Admission: Free for members, \$8 per adult, ages 6-18 \$3, ages 0-5 free
- Special Event Oct. 7th: Nipomo High School Cross-Country Race

Northern Santa Barbara County

Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum:

- Friday and Saturday, 11am-4pm
- 616 S. Broadway, Santa Maria
- SantaMariaHistory.com
- Capt. Hancock and Santa Maria Valley Railroad displays/exhibits
- Free

Static Railroad EQ Display in Santa Maria:

- Behind the Transit Center at 708 S. Miller St., Santa Maria
- Union Sugar #1 locomotive
- 1930s Sacramento Northern boxcar
- SMVRR Caboose #180
- Free

October 14th Wine/Rail Excursion

- Hosted by the SLO Railroad Museum
- Details/Ticketing at SLORRM.com
- SOLD OUT

