



# Rail Yard Roundup

## Information from The Triangle's Train

### **2021 Season Begins March 27-28 with New Hop into Spring Train Rides**

*Ride event features socially distant photo opportunities with  
the Easter Bunny, visual egg hunt*

New Hope Valley Railway (NHVR), which is operated by the North Carolina Railway Museum, will begin its 2021 season on **Saturday, March 27**, and **Sunday, March 28**, with its new ***Hop into Spring*** train rides.

Individual tickets are available now online at [www.TriangleTrain.com](http://www.TriangleTrain.com) and cost \$14 for all ages. Children under 2 are free. Train capacity will be limited to less than 50 percent due to pandemic restrictions and to allow for socially distanced seating.

Tickets are expected to sell fast. Our Family Caboose, which enables up to 10 members of the same family to ride together for a single price, is already sold out on both days.

Currently, tickets are only being sold online and will not be available to purchase in-person from NHVR's ticket office on the day of the ride.

This new ride event was supposed to start our 2020 season but was canceled last year because of the pandemic. The inaugural event will feature train rides, socially distant photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny and a visual egg hunt along the train route, where riders can search for hidden eggs from their seats. Hop into Spring round-trip excursions depart from NHVR's rail yard in Bonsal at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on both days. Visitors are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to their departure time.



You can currently find dates, departure times and ticket prices, as well as purchase tickets on our website for all 2021 rides except Track or Treat Halloween Express rides and Santa's Reindeer Roundup Express rides, which will go on sale later this year.

NHVR has four rides planned for April—Slow Down Sunday on April 11, a Wednesday Train Ride at 10:30 a.m. on April 14, Spring Sunday on April 25 and a Friday Train Ride at 10:30 a.m. on April 30. Read the [safety measures](#) we'll be implementing during our 2021 ride season on our website.

### **Operate a Real Locomotive from the Engineer's Seat!**

Individuals age 18 and up with a valid driver's license are eligible to participate in a fun, unique opportunity at NHVR known as [Operate-a-LoCo \(OAL\)](#). The OAL program puts you in the engineer's seat and allows you to spend an hour at the throttle of a real diesel locomotive. OAL experiences are typically offered once a month during NHVR's ride season.

Some upcoming OAL dates are Saturdays April 17, May 8, June 12 and July 10. [See available time slots on our website.](#)



Donate

### Save the Ten and Preserve NC Railroad History

In addition to offering train rides, the all-volunteer staff at the North Carolina Railway Museum is dedicated to keeping the history and spirit of railroading alive in the Triangle and beyond. The Museum's latest fundraising project is **saving 10 historic railroad cars** parked at a disconnected railway siding on Duke Energy's Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant.

Nearly \$100,000 must be raised to save the 10 cars from the scrap yard and move them to NHVR's rail yard. With the railway's 2020 season mostly canceled due to the pandemic and the few rides that did happen limited to 30 percent capacity, this left us with a lot of lost income and a depleted rainy day fund.

You can help preserve North Carolina railroad history with a donation today.



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