

## TEXAS HIGHWAYS--RAILROAD WWH--MALLORY

### REMEMBERING RAILROADS

Track the history of trains in Texas at the following railroad museums. Most have “rolling stock” (engines and cars), as well as memorabilia and exhibits. Many have gift shops; a few hold special events. Almost all are located on or near working rail lines. Call for details. (Note: Wheelchair accessibility is typically limited to exhibit areas, as most rail car aisles are too narrow for wheelchairs.)

#### **Dallas** *[NOTE: DATES NOT YET AVAILABLE ON EVENTS LISTED HERE]*

The **Age of Steam Railroad Museum** is in Fair Park at 1105 Washington St., Box 153259, Dallas 75315-3259 (214/428-0101; Web site:

<http://community.dallasnews.com/dmn/railroadmuseum>). Hours: Wed-Sun 10-5.

Fee: \$4 adults, \$2 children 12 and under, free 2 and under. Limited wheelchair access.

March XX, the museum presents **Dinner in the Diner**, an elegant meal in a restored dining car. (The event repeats Nov XX.) On June XX, the **Train Whistle Fair** features demonstrations of train, ship, and shop whistles. August XX, 2001 brings the annual **Festival of Trains** with special car tour and locomotives in action.

#### **Denison**

The **Red River Railroad Museum** is at 104 E. Main St. (across from the Katy Depot inside Katy Antique Station), Denison 75020 (903/463-6238). Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5:30 and Sun 1-5. Fee: free. Not wheelchair accessible.

#### **Ennis**

The **Ennis Railroad and Cultural Heritage Museum** is at 105 N.E. Main St., Ennis 75120 (972/875-1901 or 888/366-4748). Hours: Mon-Sat 10-4 and Sun 1-4. Fee: \$2, free under 12. Wheelchair accessible.

#### **Galveston**

The **Galveston Railroad Museum and Center for Transportation** is in the Strand Historical District at 123 Rosenberg (at 25th and Strand Sts.), Galveston 77550 (409/765-5700; Web site: [www.tamug.tamu.edu/rrmuseum](http://www.tamug.tamu.edu/rrmuseum)) Hours: daily 10-4 (may vary by season; call for exact times). Closed Feb 17-18 and Feb 24-25, 2001 for Mardi Gras. Fee: \$5, \$4.50 seniors 65 and over, \$2.50 children 4-12. Most areas are wheelchair accessible. Pullman Parties feature an overnight stay in a Pullman car, breakfast, and an island tour (minimum 30); call for details. Union Pacific children's mini-train rides are available most weekends; call for schedules. Near the museum, the Port of Galveston offers bus tours the third Wednesday of each month (Feb. 21, 2001) where you can watch grain being transferred from rail cars to ships. Call 409/766-6119.

### **Houston**

The **Gulf Coast Railroad Museum** (7390 Mesa, P.O. Box 457, Houston 77001-0457; 713/631-6612; Web site: [www.kingswayrc.com/gcst](http://www.kingswayrc.com/gcst)) features several rail cars and engines beside a simulated rail station, plus a gift shop and model train exhibit. Open Mar 24-Nov. 18, 2001. Hours: Sat 11-4, Sun 1-4. Fee: \$3 adults, \$1.50 children. Visitor center is wheelchair accessible.

### **Marshall**

The **Texas & Pacific Depot and Museum** is at 800 N. Washington St., Marshall 75670 (903/938-9495; Web site: [www.rypn.org/MDI](http://www.rypn.org/MDI)). Hours: Wed-Sat 10-4 and Sun 1-4. Fee (includes guided tour): \$3 adults, \$2 seniors, \$1 students. Discounts for group tours (call three days in advance). Wheelchair accessible.

### **Plano**

For a history of the early 1900s electric railway from Dallas to Denison, visit the **Interurban Railway Station Museum**, 901 E. 15th St., Plano 75074 (972/941-2117). Hours: Sat 1-5. Fee: free. **Wheelchair accessible.**

### **San Angelo**

The **Railway Museum of San Angelo** is in the restored 1910 Orient depot, 703 S. Chadbourne St., San Angelo 76903 (915/949-5888). Hours: Sat 10-4. Summer hours (Je-Aug): Th-Fri 11-3, Sat 10-4. Fee: \$2 adults, \$1 under 12, free under 2. Wheelchair accessible.

### **San Antonio**

The **Texas Transportation Museum** is at the northeast corner of the San Antonio International Airport, 1 mi. north of Loop 410 at 11731 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio, 78247 (210/490-3554; Web site: [www.txtransportationmuseum.org](http://www.txtransportationmuseum.org)). Hours: Thu, Sat, and Sun, 9-4. Short train rides are available Sat 12-3 (on the hour) and Sun 12:30, 1:15, 2:45, and 3. Fee (admission and train ride): \$4 adults, \$2 children 12 and under.

#### **Limited wheelchair access.**

### **Temple**

The **Railroad & Heritage Museum** is at 315 W. Ave. B, Box 5126, Temple 76505 (254/298-5172). Hours: Tue-Sat 10-4, Sun 12-4. Fee: \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children. Guided group tours (min. 15) are available with two weeks notice. Sept. 15-16, 2001 the museum holds its annual **Texas Train Festival**, featuring tours of historic rail cars and modern trains from the Burlington, Northern and Santa Fe Railway Co. and AMTRAK-- plus a model train show, traditional crafts demonstrations, Civil War reenactments, food, and entertainment. **Wheelchair accessible, except for rolling stock.**

### **Teague**

\_\_\_\_\_Expected to re-open in the spring of 2001 after renovations, the **Burlington-Rock Island Railroad Museum** is at 208 S. 3rd Ave., Teague 75860 (Web site: [www.therailroadmuseum.com](http://www.therailroadmuseum.com)). For details, call the Teague Chamber of Commerce (254/739-2061) or email Ginny Folsom ([adlady@glade.net](mailto:adlady@glade.net)). Wheelchair accessible.

### **Wichita Falls**

The **Wichita Falls Railroad Museum** is at 501 8th St., Box 4242, Wichita Falls 76308 (940/761-7490; Web site: [www.wf.quik.com/wfrrm/wfrrm01.htm](http://www.wf.quik.com/wfrrm/wfrrm01.htm)). Hours: Sat,

noon-4 (except when below freezing or raining). Fee: free. The museum is available for group tours (\$1 per person, minimum 20) and birthday parties (\$50 per event); call at least 72 hours in advance. Not wheelchair accessible.

### **More Memorabilia**

Many cities display locomotives and rail cars. In Amarillo, the Texas Panhandle Railroad Historical Society displays the **Santa Fe steam locomotive #5000** at E. 3rd and Grant Sts. (Box 50422, Amarillo, 79159-0422). While the society raises funds for a permanent museum, it offers a virtual museum at [www.tprhs.org](http://www.tprhs.org). In Houston, the Texas Railroad Preservation Association (713/880-5595) displays the **Southern Pacific steam engine #982** near the zoo in Hermann Park. In Jefferson, the **Jay Gould Private Railroad Car** showcases railroad opulence across the street from the historic Excelsior House, 211 W. Austin St. (903/665-2513).

The **Pate Museum of Transportation** (US 377 between Fort Worth and Cresson; 817/396-4305) displays a luxury rail car and other modes of transportation. Lufkin's **Texas Forestry Museum** (1905 Atkinson Dr.; 936/632-9535) displays antique railroad and sawmill steam engines.

Many historic depots also feature railroad exhibits, including those at: **Baird** (100 Market St., 915/854-2003); **Bonham** (One Main St., 903/583-8042); **Brownsville** (641 E. Madison St., 956/548-1313); **Burton** (9755 FM 390 W, 979/289-4545); **Crockett** (303 So. First St., 936/544-2359); **Granbury** (109 Ewell St., 817/573-9246) **Grapevine** (707 S. Main St., 817/410-3185); **Henderson** (514 N. High St., 903/657-4303); **Hondo** (2202 18th St., **830/741-3896**); **DELETE MENARD Miami** (downtown on US 60, 806/868-3291); **New Braunfels** (302 W. San Antonio St., 830/627-2447); **Pittsburg** (903/856-0463); **Smithville** (100 First St., 512/237-2313); **Sierra Blanca** (US 80 at El Paso St., 915/764-3650); and **West** (308 N. Washington St., 254/826-3188).

Many local and regional museums offer railroad displays. A list of some is at the Texas Association of Museums' Web site: [www.io.com/~tam/search.html](http://www.io.com/~tam/search.html). (Enter

“railroad” under “word or phrase.”) Other interesting Texas railroading Web sites: [www.railterminal.com/txrr.html#567](http://www.railterminal.com/txrr.html#567) (general attractions), and [www.steamlocomotive.com/lists/TX.html](http://www.steamlocomotive.com/lists/TX.html) (displayed steam locomotives).

### **Ride the Rails**

With railroad history under your belt, take a real rail ride. Excursion rides include: the **Tarantula Train** from Fort Worth’s Stockyards to Grapevine (800/952-5717; Web site: [www.tarantulatrain.com/index.html](http://www.tarantulatrain.com/index.html)); the **Hill Country Flyer** from Cedar Park to Burnet (512/477-6377; Web site: [www.atcrr.com](http://www.atcrr.com)); and the **Texas State Railroad** from Rusk to Palestine (903/683-2561 or 800/442-8951; Web site: [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/railroad/railroad.html](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/railroad/railroad.html)). Ride the trolley rails along Dallas’ McKinney Ave. (**McKinney Avenue Transit Authority**, 214/855-0006), and in Galveston from the seawall to the Strand Historical District (**The Galveston Trolley**, 409/797-3900).

**Amtrak** passenger service offers 17 Texas stops on the Texas Eagle (going as far as north as Chicago and as far west as Los Angeles)--plus the Heartland Flyer (Oklahoma City to Fort Worth) with stops in Gainesville and Fort Worth. For schedules and rates, call 800/USA-RAIL; Web site: [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com).