

News Release

DATE: April 21, 2025
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alaska Railroad Open House Returns to Anchorage in May

Free, family-friendly event featuring complimentary train rides is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 3

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) invites the public to its community open house at the Historic Anchorage Depot, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 3. The event features free entrance, free parking, free train rides and other free family-friendly activities.

Eventgoers will have the opportunity to meet railroaders, ride aboard a train, and learn more about railroad safety and equipment. The highlight of the event provides open house guests the opportunity to enjoy a free train ride aboard a comfortable rail coach. The open house also features static displays of locomotives, railcars, rolling stock and track maintenance equipment. Knowledgeable employees will be on-site to talk about railroading careers, equipment, travel routes and rail safety.



Alaska Railroad Anchorage Historic Depot during the 2023 Centennial Open House. Photo Courtesy: Alaska Railroad

Meghan Clemens, ARRC External Affairs Director said, “We are excited to welcome the community to the Alaska Railroad’s Anchorage

Open House on May 3. This is a great opportunity for folks to meet our dedicated employees and learn all about railroading in Alaska. We have some incredible pieces of track maintenance equipment we will be sharing this year, along with a walk-on locomotive where the public can get inside the cab and see what powers our operations. And of course, we’re excited to get hundreds of Alaskans out on free train rides.”

At the open house, eventgoers will be able to pick up free tickets for scheduled departures of the roughly 20-minute round-trip ride through downtown Anchorage; the first of eight trains will depart at 10:00 a.m., with the last departure at 1:30 p.m.

The open house is an accessible community event with several activities geared towards families and children, including a magician, photo booth, temporary tattoos, and train safety giveaways. Snacks and beverages will be offered for purchase by the Government Hill Elementary PTA as a fundraiser. The railroad's depot gift shop will be open, along with employees available to answer questions about the Alaska Railroad, rail equipment and railroading careers.

To help the public plan their visit to the Anchorage Open House, ARRC's public events webpage includes helpful details like activity descriptions, parking map and train ride schedule. A link to the webpage can be found here: <https://www.alaskarailroad.com/corporate/community/public-events>. A detailed list of open house activities is also included on page 3 of this release.

The Alaska Railroad is state-owned corporation providing year-round freight and inter-city public rail transportation across Southcentral and Interior Alaska. More information about services including passenger train schedules, fares and depot locations is available at www.alaskarailroad.com.



Alaska Railroad Anchorage Historic Depot during the 2023 Centennial Open House.
Photo Courtesy: Judy Patrick

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Alaska Railroad 2025 Anchorage Open House Schedule

Saturday, May 3, 2025 • 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Anchorage Historic Depot ~ 411 West 1st Avenue

FREE to the attending public:

- 20-minute train rides offered between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (last train scheduled to board at 1:30 p.m.)
- Magician (in and around the depot and along the train boarding line)
- Inside the Depot (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.):
 - ✓ Temporary Tattoos (kid friendly and non-permanent)
 - ✓ Giveaways and Rail Travel Door Prizes
 - ✓ Historic Steam Engine 557 restoration project info
 - ✓ Photo Booth station
 - ✓ Buy-one Get-one rail travel coupons
- Locomotives, passenger and freight railcars, and railroad maintenance equipment on static display
- Operation Lifesaver train safety information and giveaways
- Drawing for round-trip rail travel during 2025 for:
 - Two (2) family packages, each with FOUR (4) tickets for travel between Anchorage and Spencer/Grandview
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Anchorage and Seward
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Anchorage and Denali
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Talkeetna - Hurricane (flag stop train)
 - Need NOT be present to win
- Free Parking (across the depot on 1st Avenue and on Ship Creek Avenue across from the Wingate by Wyndham).

For purchase:

- Alaska Railroad Gift Shop Open
- Snacks and beverages from the Government Hill Elementary PTA
- Coffee, hot drinks, bottled beverages from Polar Espresso in the depot

The ARRC is an Equal Opportunity Corporation. If you need special assistance (including language) in order to participate in any ARRC service, program, or activity, please contact the Alaska Railroad Corporation; P.O. Box 107500; Anchorage, AK 99510; Attention: Legal Department, zappasj@akrr.com, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere in Alaska, OR dial toll-free from anywhere outside the state 1-800-770-8255 (voice); 1-800 770-8973 (TTY). Upon request, printed materials can be made available in alternate format.

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