



Grand Canyon Railway to Run 1923 Steam Engine in 2015

Of More Than 100,000 Built, less than 200 Steam Engines Still Run Annually

WILLIAMS, ARIZ. (January 16, 2015) – The [Grand Canyon Railway](#) (GCR) will fire up its 1923 steam engine for regularly scheduled runs from Williams, Ariz. to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon in 2015. An endangered if not almost extinct species in the U.S., of more than 100,000 steam engines built, less than 200 still run in any given year.

The Grand Canyon Railway's 92-year-old Locomotive No. 4960 steam engine will run on the 65 miles from Williams to the Grand Canyon—a rare sight, sound and experience in today's high-tech world.

Locomotive No. 4960 is also unique and in many ways an antique modern marvel. The engine runs on waste vegetable oil collected from local restaurant kitchens. The oil is strained to remove water and remnants from french fries and chicken wings—a fuel alternative that reduces carbon emissions. Even the water for the engine's boiler is primarily captured from snowmelt and rainwater. CBS Morning Show featured the engine and experience in a major segment of [CBS This Morning](#) in September of 2013.

While the Grand Canyon Railway operates daily (excluding December 25) and is normally powered with diesel engines, Locomotive No. 4960 will pull the train on the first Saturday on every month from April through September 2015, as well as on Presidents Day (February 16), St. Patrick's Day (will run on March 21); Earth Day (April 25), and on the anniversary of the railway (September 19).

With rates the same as the daily train, passengers won't need to shell out more "green" to board this green machine. Tickets start at \$75 for adults and \$45 for children ages 15 and younger. Trips aboard the steam engine train depart from Williams Depot at 9:30 a.m. and arrive at South Rim at 11:45 a.m. The train departs Grand Canyon Depot at 3:30 p.m., returning to the Williams Depot at 5:45 p.m. The complete trip lasts 2 hours and 15 minutes each way.

[Xanterra](#) owns and operates the Grand Canyon Railway, as well as restaurants and lodges in several National Parks. For more information about the Grand Canyon Railway, visit www.thetrain.com or call 1-800-THE-TRAIN (843-8724).

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Grand Canyon Railway (GCR), established in 1989, is the first tourism railway in the U.S. to receive ISO 14001 third-party certification of its environmental management system.

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