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Background / Fast Facts

- As North Carolina's first theme park, Tweetsie Railroad has been creating memories and offering a family-friendly Wild West adventure since 1957.
- Tweetsie Railroad offers an interactive experience for all guests, including live shows, amusement rides, the Deer Park Zoo, an unforgettable three-mile adventure with historic steam locomotives and more!
- There's no summer heat or boredom at Tweetsie Railroad! Families will enjoy temperatures averaging 10 degrees cooler in the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains and let imaginations run wild as children become cowboys, sheriffs and engineers during a ride on a famous and historic steam locomotive.
- Tweetsie Railroad traditions are the best traditions. The park is more than just the sound of train whistles and the thrill of the three-mile ride aboard the steam locomotives, it's brimming with Wild West nostalgia and classic family fun that captures every family member's heart and creates lifelong memories.
- This year is the 100th anniversary of Locomotive No. 12's operation on the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad (ET&WNC), which ran service from Johnson City, Tennessee, to Boone, North Carolina, from 1919 to 1940. When Tweetsie Railroad first opened in 1957, No. 12 was its sole locomotive.



2019 Seasonal Events

April 5 – Opening Day

Tweetsie Railroad opens for daytime operations on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

April 19-21 – Visit from the Easter Bunny

Children and families can take pictures with the Easter Bunny in a frame designed by Twist the Balloon Man.

June 7-16 – Day Out With Thomas™

Take a ride with Thomas, the No. 1 blue engine, and enjoy a day of fun-filled Thomas & Friends™ themed activities. Rides depart every 30 minutes 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Advance tickets for a specific day and train ride time are required.

July 4 – Fireworks Extravaganza

Celebrate Independence Day with additional time in the park, which will be open until 9 p.m., and the most spectacular fireworks show in the High Country beginning at 9:30 p.m. An all-you-can-eat dinner buffet and VIP fireworks viewing are available in the Hacienda for \$25 for adults and \$20 for children in addition to admission fee.

July 6, 13, 20 and 27 – Cool Summer Nights

With the park staying open until 9 p.m., guests can enjoy more time at Tweetsie Railroad in the cool summer air. If guests arrive after 3 p.m., their next day is free!

July 12-14 – Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles™

Meet and get a photo with Leonardo, Raphael, Donatello and Michelangelo at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. with an extra appearance on Saturday at 7 p.m. Appearances are included with park admission.

July 20-28 – K-9s in Flight Frisbee® Dogs

These incredibly talented rescue dogs will perform shows at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. every day with an additional show on Saturdays at 7 p.m. Shows are included with park admission.

Aug. 17-18 – Riders In The Sky

The Grammy Award-winning cowboy quartet will sing and entertain audiences at noon and 3 p.m. Shows are included with park admission.

Aug. 24-25 – Railroad Heritage Weekend

Celebrate the golden age of steam locomotives with a full schedule of activities, including an insider's look at the train shop to see the equipment, tools and machines that keep Tweetsie Railroad's historic locomotives on track. Guests will also be entertained by performances and demonstrations by the Tsa-La-Gi Touring Program.

Sept. 20-21, 27-28 and Oct. 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26 – Ghost Train®

All aboard the eerie express featuring ghastly attractions, such as Ghost Train Ride, Haunted House, Halloween Shows on Main Street and more. Advance tickets for a specific night and train ride time are required, with a limited number of guests admitted nightly. Trains leave between 7:30 and 11 p.m., but guests should check the full schedule for exact times.

Nov. 22-23, 29-30 and Dec. 6-7, 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28 – Tweetsie Christmas®

Enjoy holiday attractions such as meeting Santa in his gingerbread house, a nighttime train ride with thousands of Christmas lights, a real-life snow globe experience, live Christmas show, sweet holiday treats and more. Advance tickets for a specific night and train ride time are required, with a limited number of guests admitted nightly. The train runs every half hour beginning at 5:30 p.m.