

Frequently Asked Questions on Photo Shoots

- 1) What is a photo shoot? A photo shoot is an opportunity to photograph the original Nevada Northern Railway equipment as it was during the day. Our photo shoots have equipment operating on their original rails and in their original context, such as ore trains, passenger trains, the Steam Crane, Snow Equipment, and the Outfit Car. On a photo shoot, we load up at the station, head a few miles down the track and then everyone unloads. The train moves back, comes ahead, stops and the cycle is repeated two or three times. Then the train moves forward picks everyone up and we move down the tracks to the next photo opportunity. During the weekend we switch locomotives and train sets.
- 2) Do I have to get off at every photo stop? No, if you elect not to get off at a particular photo location, you're welcome to stay on the train. ***But you will need to stay on the train until the next photo location.***
- 3) Must I have a ticket watch? The grounds, buildings, yard, and the entire right-of-way will be for the exclusive use of those who have tickets for the event. Everyone will need a ticket, whether you are watching or taking pictures. The railroad is a non-profit foundation. The photo shoots are an important fund raiser for the museum. Funds raised from the photo shoots help keep the wheels rolling through the year.
- 4) Can I buy a ticket for one day? No, you must purchase a ticket for the full event.
- 5) Is my ticket refundable? No, there are no cash refunds. Your money will already have been spent or committed for preparing the equipment for the upcoming year. If you absolutely can't make it, we will give you a rain check that is good for two years.
- 6) What is included in the price? Two and a half days of some of the most outstanding rail photography opportunities in North America. Also we have a continental breakfast and a hot lunch for participants on both Saturday and Sunday. Transportation to Ely, lodging and others meals are on your own.
- 7) What is the schedule? We start Friday at 1:00 pm. Friday is also the day of the night photo shoot. Saturday and Sunday we start about 7:00 am and quit about 4:30 pm. The exact schedule for your weekend that includes which line we go out on, and when, is given to all participants Friday afternoon. It will be based on up-to-the minute weather and equipment positioning.

Award Winning Destination

Nevada State Treasure – 2012 & 2013
Best Event in Rural Nevada – The Polar Express – 2013, 2014
Best Preservation Effort in the West • Attraction of the Year - 2012
Best Place to Take the Kids in Rural Nevada – 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 & 2007
Best Museum in Rural Nevada – 2014, 2013, 2010, 2009, 2008
Best Museum - Special Recognition - 2010
Favorite Nevada Attraction – 2008

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- 9) Where are we going? The railroad has three branches, the mainline, the Hi-Line and Keystone about 28 miles of track. We will be out on all three branches.
- 10) Are there restrooms? There are restrooms at the depot, at the Master Mechanic's Office and sometimes on the train. Please plan according!
- 11) Where is Ely? Ely is located in east central Nevada, equal distance from either Salt Lake City or Las Vegas, either city is 240 miles away. Reno is 350 miles away, Boise 387 miles, Phoenix, San Francisco and Los Angeles are all about 550 miles away. There are no interstate highways, but very good, well-maintained two-lane roads. Nevada does a great job keeping the roads open.
- 12) What's the best way to get to Ely? If you're flying, I would recommend Las Vegas over Salt Lake City. Our storm patterns are west to east. So if you hit it right, you could be stuck driving through 240 miles of snow if you come from Salt Lake. But coming from Las Vegas you might only have 50-70 miles of snow. For more travel information see our web page at <http://www.nnry.com/pages/gethere.php>
- 13) Any special things I should know? Ely is at 6,500 feet above sea level and very dry, pace yourself and drink plenty of water. Our air is thinner and our UV rays are more intense. Yes, you can get a nasty sun burn in February.
- 14) What's the weather like? The weather can range from clear blue skies to blizzard conditions. The temperature can vary from 50 degrees above to a -20 degrees below zero. Dress in layers! The days can be quite warm but as the sun goes down, so does the temperature! There can be a 50 degree difference between day and night.
- 15) What type of physical shape do I need to be in? Most of us spend way too much time at a desk, so you will be in good company, regardless. There will be a lot of walking and standing. You must be able to climb into the railcars. Sometimes there is a three foot drop from the last step to the ground. We may need to climb up and down hills to get the best shots. We will be walking through sagebrush, snow, ice, mud and occasionally dry ground. Wear hiking boots.
- 16) What are my lodging options like? Ely has over a century of experience providing lodging to visitors to the high desert. The community has a couple of chain motels and plenty of independent hotels and motels. Click the link to see the list <http://www.elynevada.net/planvisit/lodging.html>
- 17) Are rental cars available in Ely? No