

1100 Avenue A • PO Box 150040 • Ely, Nevada 89315
Toll Free: (866) 407-8326 • Voice: (775) 289-2085 • Fax: (775) 289-6284
Web: www.nnry.com • e-Mail: info@nnry.com

Dear Be the Engineer Participant,

Thank you for participating in our Be the Engineer program. First, you are ***the*** engineer on a century-old steam locomotive; this is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Secondly, the revenue from your trip helps keep the steamers steaming. Your participation is a win-win for both of us. This program is designed as an educational experience with a real “hands on” opportunity for the history or rail enthusiast.

The program includes a copy of our Rulebook. You will need to pass a written test on the important and basic rules for the operation of the steam or diesel locomotive. Once the testing is done, there will be an instruction period from a certified Engineer of the Nevada Northern Railway Museum. After your instruction, you will operate the steam locomotive or the diesel locomotive under the supervision of the instructor Engineer.

PROPER CLOTHING IS REQUIRED. You will need a long-sleeve, 100% cotton shirt; 100% cotton bibs or long pants; boots, hats and gloves. Closed-toes shoes are permissible, boots are preferred; but they do not need to be steel-toed boots. The museum is located at 6,500 feet elevation. We can receive snow in any month of the year, so bring a cotton jacket. The cab of a steam locomotive is hot, dirty and oily. Chances are that the clothes you'll wear during your Be the Engineer Experience may get oil and grease stained, so be prepared.

The Be the Engineer Experience can be shared between two individuals or a companion can ride along. In either case, they must also wear the proper clothing. There is a limit of two (2) participants in the cab of the locomotive.

To participate in the Be The Engineer Experience, the minimum age is 18. The participant must hold a valid driver's license in their state or country of residence. Riders may be as young as 12 years of age. A certificate will be presented to the Be the Engineer participant upon completion of the trip.

Most of all have fun, ask questions and enjoy your trip!



Mark S. Bassett
Executive Director

Award Winning Destination

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

Be the Engineer Participant Information and Policies

- ✓ You will receive a copy of the Nevada Northern Railway Rulebook and a Safety Exam. Please read the rulebook and fill in the answers on the exam. (Yes, it is an open book test.) You will need to turn in the filled out answer sheet before you can go to the locomotive.
- ✓ For information on Ely and White Pine County please visit www.elynevada.net.
- ✓ Please note there are no cash refunds. We will do our best to accommodate your schedule.
- ✓ Please call us (866) 407-8326 - 48 hours before the time of your Be The Engineer Experience to confirm your trip.
- ✓ Trains operate regardless of weather. So, yes, if it is snowing or raining your Be the Engineer Experience will still happen.
- ✓ Please arrive at least one hour prior to departure time on the day of your trip to complete the written quiz. (For early morning trips, please check in the day before, if possible.)
- ✓ Travel Insurance: You might look into travel insurance to protect you should you need to cancel. Travel insurance is relatively inexpensive. You can visit www.insuremytrip.com or www.quotewright.com for quotes from the major companies. QuoteWright has plans available that give 75% to 90% refunds under its "Cancel for Any Reason" program. These policies are roughly 10% of the cost of the trip and can include airfare, car rental and hotels, as well as the Be the Engineer Experience fee.
- ✓ Should you have any questions, please call 1-866-407-8326. Thank you for supporting the Nevada Northern Railway Museum.

Frequently Asked Questions, Policies, and Information

- 1) What is the Be the Engineer Experience at the Nevada Northern Railway Museum?
This program provides the Be the Engineer participant with both training off-the engine and on-the-engine with instruction by one of the NNRY's certified engineers. During locomotive operation, the NN Ry certified engineer is in charge of the locomotive and is ultimately responsible for its safe operation.
- 2) As a Be the Engineer participant, do I actually operate the engine?
After successful completion of the written test, the Be the Engineer participant will move to the on-the-engine instruction. The Be the Engineer participant is placed at the controls of either the steam or diesel-electric locomotive and is allowed to operate the engine under the direct supervision of the NNRY certified engineer. The engineer instructor may at any time take partial or full control of the locomotive in order to demonstrate a particular task, to assist the student with the operation of the locomotive or to maintain the safe control of the locomotive.
- 3) How long is my time at the throttle?
Since you are the engineer, you are controlling the speed of the locomotive. The faster you go the shorter the trip time wise. The distance is 14 miles round trip out on the original mainline. Most people do the trip in 1.5 to 2 hours. Depending on when your trip is, you are welcome to help the crew prepare the locomotive for the day or help them put the locomotive away at night.

- 4) What are the eligibility requirements of the Be the Engineer Experience?
All participants must:
- ✓ Be age 18 or older.
 - ✓ Hold a valid driver's license in your state or country of residence.
 - ✓ Sign a liability release form.
 - ✓ Pass the written test.
 - ✓ Be physically able to climb into the cab of the locomotive unassisted.
- 5) Is it possible to split the on-the-engine instruction time and cost with another party?
Yes, two individuals can split the on-the-engine instruction time and the associated cost. Each individual must successfully complete the test and fulfill our requirements.
- 6) Is it possible to have another person accompany the Be the Engineer participant during the on-the-engine instruction?
Yes, an additional person may ride along. They must be 12 years old or older. In the cab of the steam locomotives there is constant activity with the fireman hand-shoveling coal into the firebox and adding water to the boiler. Seating is only available for one additional person, for a total of two people in the cab plus the crew. The fireman may give up his/her seat to a passenger. However, the fireman will often request that the passenger move or shift position in the seat so that the fireman can gain access to various controls.
- 7) Is it possible to change Be the Engineer participants and/or accompanying persons while I in route?
No; due to safety reasons changing persons riding in the locomotive cab is not possible in route.
- 8) What is the off-the-engine training?
Be the Engineer participants will receive information on the safe operation of a locomotive and the hand signals involved. Study is expected before the on-the-engine program. The NTRY rulebook for is available on-line at <http://www.nnry.com/documents/rulebook.pdf> and is included with your package.
- 9) What equipment is used for the on-the-engine portion of the program?
Your on-the-engine instruction will be given on the locomotive that you will be operating.
- 10) Can I request a certain locomotive?
No, due to mechanical issues, FRA requirements and the needs of the museum, it is not possible for us provide a certain locomotive for a person's Be the Engineer Experience.
- 11) Is the on-the-engine portion of the training conducted in the yard or on the main line track?
The on-the-engine training is conducted in the yard before your trip. Once training is done, the steam locomotive is operated on the Keystone Route and requires one and a half to two hours to complete. The Main Line Diesel program is on the McGill Junction Route for the on-the-engine instruction and requires two hours to complete.
- 12) What is the route I will be operating on?
Steam experiences use the Keystone Branch. It features two tunnels and plenty of road crossings that you will need to blow for. Diesel trips general take the J & M Branch, it has plenty of road crossings too. On both branches you will be going up and down hill and learn a whole new appreciation of gravity.

- 13) As a participant in the Be the Engineer Program, am I allowed to do switching, turn the steam engine on the wye or pull passenger cars?
The on-the-engine instruction is limited to operating the locomotive only in certain situations. The Be the Engineer participant is not qualified to couple onto any cars, operate the engine during switching maneuvers or operate the locomotive on the wye at either Keystone or East Ely. Nor is the Be The Engineer participant qualified to haul passenger trains. Be the Engineer participants can operate a freight train but only train crew can ride in the caboose.
- 14) Is any part of my Be the Engineer Experience tax-deductible?
Yes, for the steam Be the Engineer Experience, the tax deduction is \$450 and for the diesel Be the Engineer Experience the tax deduction is \$250.
- 15) Can I have pictures taken while I am operating the locomotive?
Yes, pictures can be taken in the cab of the locomotive as long as the Be the Engineer participant or the NN Ry crew is not being distracted by the photographer. The instructor engineer has the final authority to decide if the photographer is being too distracting. Please note! Cellphones **CANNOT** be used as a camera while the locomotive is in motion.
- 16) Can the Be the Engineer Experience be given as a gift?
Yes, gift certificates are available. Once the gift is presented, the recipient can then call us to make their arrangements for the experience.
- 17) What is the best way to get to Ely?
Ely does not have air, train or bus service. Ely is located 240 miles west of Salt Lake City or 240 mile north of Las Vegas. Our recommendation is to fly into Las Vegas and rent a car from there and drive to Ely. Travel time is about 4 hours. We have found that the air fares into Las Vegas are usually cheaper than Salt Lake.

