



SPECIAL INTEREST TOURS

Trains MAGAZINE

GREAT AMERICAN
PRIVATE CAR
ADVENTURES

APRIL 20 - MAY 11
2020

CARPE DIEM





PULLMAN

America's hotel on wheels
and the rolling cradle of the civil rights movement

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A made-for-PBS documentary coming in 2020

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Classic Trains Magazine and documentary video producer **Rich Luckin** are teaming up to produce "Pullman, American's hotel on wheels." It's the story of porters, 100,000 passengers every night, and the origins of the civil rights movement, a 1-hour documentary made for the Public Broadcasting System.

This video will cover the inception of the Pullman railroad passenger car, the peak of travel by rail in the 1920s when 100,000 Americans who bedded down each night nationwide on a Pullman sleeper, and the genius of founder George M. Pullman and his controversial planned city in the Chicago suburbs. The video will focus on the lives, challenges, and opportunities of Pullman porters, a mostly African-American workforce, and their struggles that led to the creation of the U.S. civil rights movement under A. Philip Randolph. More than a railroad story, Pullman the video will transcend transportation and social history.

Wisconsin-based Classic Trains Magazine is the sponsoring organization, a brand of Kalmbach Media. This is its fourth collaboration between Kalmbach and with Luckin for PBS. Currently showing on PBS is "Journey to Promontory," the story of the nation's first transcontinental railroad in conjunction with its 150th anniversary in May 2019.

Luckin of Golden, Colo., is often called the Ken Burns of transportation documentaries. His documentary library includes well-known automobile brands, famous named passenger trains, and, most recently, for Trains, the 20th Century Limited, Florida Trains, and Journey to Promontory.

You can experience Pullman travel this spring when Trains Magazine and Special Interest Tours will offer private car tours on several mainline routes across the United States. You can be a part of the filming of this landmark documentary.

**To participate or for more information, contact Special Interest Tours at
727-330-7738 or www.specialinteresttours.com**



Cross the country in style on private rail cars with Trains Magazine special guests.

Part 1 New Orleans to LA - April 20-24

Featuring the Sunset Limited and special guest Fred Frailey

Day 1 - April 20th

Join us as we welcome you to the "Big Easy" with our river cruise dinner on the Paddlewheeler Creole Queen. Say hello to new friends, and perhaps, some familiar faces, while enjoying a dinner of Creole cuisine and local beverages surrounded by the festive sounds of calliope and live jazz.

* When booking your transportation, please plan a to arrive in NOLA by 2:00pm for a 3:00pm hotel check-in.

After our outing on the Mississippi, we settle in for a 2-night stay at the gorgeous, luxury, full-service hotel, Pontchartrain, located in the Garden District. Wind down with a beer or whiskey in Bayou Bar or treat yourself to breathtaking views and a cocktail in their new rooftop bar, Hot Tin.

Day 2 - April 21st

Wake from a peaceful rest and enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the Silver Whistle Cafe, located in the hotel. Midmorning, we'll gather in the lobby before hopping on our privately chartered Saint Charles St. streetcar, boarding just outside the hotel. Our ride will take us along the entire Saint Charles St. route before returning us to the steps of the hotel.

The rest of the day is yours, so "laissez les bon temps rouler" and explore all that New Orleans has to offer! Find a new favorite spot for lunch and dinner.

Day 3 - April 22nd

Today we say Au Revoir to the Crescent City and begin our journey west. After breakfast at the Silver Whistle, we'll transfer to the New Orleans Union Passenger Terminal to board our private cars!

Once on board, we'll meet our special guest, acclaimed rail author Fred Frailey. Each guest will receive a copy of his book, *Twilight of the Great Trains*, and have the opportunity to have it signed. Along the journey, Fred will share his insights on the Sunset Limited route.

The first highlight of the trip is our climb out of New Orleans over the Huey Long Bridge. The rest of the day will be spent navigating Louisiana's Cajun country before crossing the border into Texas. After night fall, we'll arrive in the colonial city of San Antonio. All meals, as well as beer & wine service, are included while on the train. Settle in for an overnight stay in your private cabin.

Day 4 - April 23rd

Wake up in far West Texas, as we cross the Pecos River High Bridge, one of the highest railroad bridges in the United States. The rest of the morning is spent navigating through scenic Marfa and Alpine. By lunchtime we will be in El Paso, TX where guests can stop and stretch their legs.

Upon departing El Paso we'll pass along the Mexican border. For a few miles the railroad tracks are the border! Your cell phones will briefly welcome you to Mexico.

Dinner time finds us passing through beautiful Tucson, Arizona and suburban Phoenix before we settle in for our second night aboard the train.

Day 5 - April 24th

An early morning arrival brings us into the Los Angeles Union Station.

Breakfast will be served on board before we disembark.

Stay tuned for details about optional add-on activities before our Part 2 journey departs for Seattle.

Included in Part 1 Tour Cost

- Welcome dinner on Paddlewheeler Creole Queen
- 2 nights in New Orleans at The Pontchartrain Hotel
- 2 breakfasts in New Orleans
- 2 nights on the train, including meals and beer & wine service
- Breakfast on the train before disembarking in LA
- Private streetcar charter on the Saint Charles St route
- Transfer to/from riverboat and to train station
- Narration/presentation by Fred Frailey
- Signed copy of Twilight of the Great Trains
- Special Credit mention for participation in filming of the documentary
- Total of 4 breakfast, 2 lunches, 3 dinners

Not Included in Part 1 Tour Cost

- Transportation to New Orleans
- Transportation from Los Angeles (unless joining us for Part 2 to Seattle)
- Items of a personal nature

Total Cost of Part 1

- Per person, based on double occupancy: \$3595
- Single Cabin: \$4530
- Single in a double cabin: \$5530
- Per person, deposit required at registration: \$500*
- Full payment due February 15, 2020

*Please note, deposits for this tour are non-refundable.

Part 2 LA to Seattle - April 25-28

Featuring the Coast Starlight and special guest Kevin Keefe

Day 1 - April 25th

In the early evening we meet at our LA area hotel and head to our welcome dinner, where we will meet our special guest, author & lecturer Kevin Keefe.

Day 2 - April 26th

After breakfast at the hotel, depart Los Angeles for our 2-day journey behind the Coast Starlight. Enjoy stunning scenery & warm conversation from the comfort of our dome car.

Along the way, Mr. Keefe will provide historical insights. All meals and beer & wine service are included on the train.

Day 3 - April 27th

Late evening, after dinner on board, we'll pull into the Seattle Union Station and transfer to our rooms at The State Hotel, next to the popular Pike Place Market and the waterfront.

Day 4 - April 28th

Breakfast included at the hotel. Enjoy Seattle!

Included in Part 2 Tour Cost

- **Welcome dinner in Los Angeles**
- **1 nights hotel stay in Los Angeles**
- **1 night hotel stay in Seattle at the State Hotel**
- **1 night on the train, including meals and beer & wine service**
- **2 breakfasts at hotels**
- **Total of 3 breakfast, 2 lunches, 3 dinners**
- **Narration/presentation by Kevin Keefe**

Not Included in Part 2 Tour Cost

- **Transportation to Los Angeles**
- **Transportation from Seattle (unless joining us for Part 3 to Los Angeles)**
- **Items of a personal nature**

Total Cost of Part 2

- **Per person, based on double occupancy: \$2985**
- **Single Cabin: \$3820**
- **Single in a double cabin: \$4820**
- **Per person, deposit required at registration: \$500***
- **Full payment due February 15, 2020**

***Please note, deposits for this tour are non-refundable.**

Part 3 Seattle to LA - April 29-May 2

Featuring the Coast Starlight and special guest Bob Johnston

Day 1 - April 29th

In the early evening we meet at The State Hotel in Seattle and head to our welcome dinner, where we'll meet our special host, Trains Magazine Passenger columnist, Bob Johnston.

Day 2 - April 30th

Wake up early to depart Seattle on our 2-day journey behind the Coast Starlight. Breakfast this morning, as well as all meals during our journey, will be served on board. Beer & wine service is also included.

Enjoy anecdotes & insights from Mr. Johnston as we take in the splendor of the West Coast.

Day 3 - May 1st

In the late evening, after dinner on board, we'll pull into Los Angeles Union Station and transfer to our rooms at an LA-area hotel.

Day 4 - May 2nd

Breakfast included at the hotel, enjoy LA!

Included in Part 3 Tour Cost

- **Welcome dinner in Seattle**
- **1 night hotel stay in Seattle at the State Hotel**
- **1 nights hotel stay in Los Angeles**
- **1 night on the train, including meals and beer & wine service**
- **2 breakfasts at hotels**
- **Total of 3 breakfast, 2 lunches, 3 dinners**
- **Narration/presentation by Bob Johnston**

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Not Included in Part 3 Tour Cost

- **Transportation to Seattle**
- **Transportation from Los Angeles (unless joining us for Part 4 to Chicago)**
- **Items of a personal nature**

Total Cost of Part 3

- **Per person, based on double occupancy: \$2985**
- **Single Cabin: \$3820**
- **Single in a double cabin: \$4820**
- **Per person, deposit required at registration: \$500***
- **Full payment due February 15, 2020**

***Please note, deposits for this tour are non-refundable.**

Part 4 LA to Chicago - May 3-5

Featuring the Southwest Chief and special guest Fred Frailey

Day 1 - May 3

Gather for a meet and greet with our special guest, author Fred Frailey, at the Los Angeles Union Station before the 6pm departure for our 2-night journey behind the Southwest Chief. Dinner will be served on board.

Day 2 - May 4

Get cozy and peer out the dome windows as we traverse deserts, mountain passes, and breadbasket farmland. Sit in on an informative lecture with Mr. Frailey, with the opportunity to have your copy of Twilight of the Great Trains (included) signed by the author.

All meals, as well as, beer & wine service, included on board.

Day 3 - May 5

Mid-afternoon, we'll arrive at Chicago Union Station.

Breakfast & lunch will be served on board.

***Accommodations in Chicago are not included, but can be arranged by us at Club Quarters – Central Loop (0.5 mi. from Union Station).**

Included in Part 4 Tour Cost

- **2 nights on the train, including meals and beer & wine service**
- **Total of 2 breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners**
- **Narration/presentation by Fred Frailey**
- **Copy of Twilight of the Great Trains, by Fred Frailey**

Not Included in Part 4 Tour Cost

- **Transportation to Los Angeles**
- **Transportation from Chicago**
- **Items of a personal nature**

Total Cost of Part 4

- **Per person, based on double occupancy: \$2885**
- **Single Cabin: \$3745**
- **Single in a double cabin: \$4745**
- **Per person, deposit required at registration: \$500***
- **Full payment due February 15, 2020**

***Please note, deposits for this tour are non-refundable.**

Part 5 - May 6-11

Chicago-Saratoga Springs-Montreal-Albany

Featuring the Lake Shore Limited & Adirondack
and special guest Rob McGonigal

Day 1 - May 6

Gather for our welcome dinner at a local restaurant near Chicago Union Station, where we'll meet our special guest, Classic Trains editor Rob McGonigal.

Following dinner,, we'll head to Union Station for our 9:30pm departure behind the Lakeshore Limited. Settle in for our overnight on the train.

Day 2 - May 7

This morning we continue our journey east, past Great Lakes and Finger Lakes alike, as we make our way towards Albany, where our private cars will detach from the Lakeshore Limited. We'll disembark one stop early, in Schenectady around 2pm and transfer to the lovely Adelphi Hotel in Saratoga Springs.

Breakfast & lunch will be served on board today. Dinner tonight is on your own and can be found at one of the many restaurants in town.

Day 3 - May 8

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, included at the hotel, before transferring to the Saratoga Springs station to catch the noon arrival of our dome car, now pulled behind the Adirondack.

Another discussion, led by our special guest, rounds out our journey across the northern border on this "Top 10" rated scenic route.

Upon arrival in Montreal, we part from our dome car, and make our way to our luxury hotel, Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth, located just above Gare Centrale. Lunch and dinner will be served on board.

Day 4 - May 9

Breakfast is included at the hotel before we transfer by bus to ExpoRail - The Canadian Railway Museum, home to the largest collection of railway equipment in Canada.

After our morning museum visit, we'll return to Gare Centrale for our afternoon journey on VIA Rail to Quebec City. Traveling along the St. Lawrence River Valley through lush agriculture, then northwards across the Quebec Bridge, the world's longest cantilever bridge, we arrive late afternoon at the beautiful Gare du Palais.

A quick transfer brings us back to another time and place, as we settle in for a 2-night stay at the luxurious Fairmont Le Château Frontenac in Old Quebec. Dinner tonight is on your own.

Day 5 - May 10

Set your own pace today with countless ways to experience old Quebec, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the Fort Museum, view the changing of the guards at the Citadel, stroll the cobblestone streets, or perhaps join one of the many tours of the city departing right outside the hotel. Tonight we will gather for a group dinner.

Day 6 - May 11

A very early departure brings us back to Montreal where we rejoin our private dome car behind the Adirondack, heading back across the border to Albany.

Breakfast & lunch will be served on board. We end our tour and detach from the Adirondack with a 5:40pm scheduled arrival in Albany.

*Guests may choose to continue on to New York Penn Station, or elsewhere, on Amtrak. Accommodations have not been made in Albany.

Included in Part 5 Tour Cost

- 1 night on the train, including meals and beer & wine service
- 1 night stay at the Adelphi Hotel in Saratoga Springs
- 1 night stay at the Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal
- 2-night stay at the luxurious Fairmont Le Château Frontenac in Old Quebec
- Total of 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners.
- Narration/presentation by Rob McGonigal

Not Included in Part 5 Tour Cost

- Transportation to Chicago
- Transportation from Albany
- Items of a personal nature

Total Cost of Part 5

- Per person, based on double occupancy: \$4795
- Single Cabin: \$5890
- Single in a double cabin: \$6890
- Per person, deposit required at registration: \$500*
- Full payment due February 15, 2020

*Please note, deposits for this tour are non-refundable.

CANCELLATION REFUND POLICY:

Tour payments, including deposits, are non-refundable for this tour.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that all guests travel with a trip protection plan.

Terms & Conditions

Special Interest Tours reserves the right to change the itinerary of its tours without prior notice, upon extenuating circumstances. Itineraries subject to change due to extreme and/or emergency circumstances including: default of any third parties, sickness, weather, strikes, acts of nature, acts of terrorism, war, quarantine, theft, criminal activity or any other cause beyond our control. If a tour is canceled by Special Interest Tours due to low enrollment (less than the required minimum of 10 registered guests), Special Interest Tours shall incur no liability beyond the refund of all tour guests' payments thus far received. However, if Special Interest Tours must cancel for reasons beyond its control, including but not limited to weather, disease, strikes, acts of nature, acts of terrorism or war, SIT liability shall be limited to a refund of only those portions of the tour cost, as able to be recovered from suppliers. All arrangements to transport and accommodate other services are made upon the express condition that Special Interest Tours and its agents shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damage, injury, or loss to person or property, accident, delay or irregularity of any kind occasioned by reason of any act or omission beyond our control, including without limitation: any act or negligence or breach of contract of any third party, such as an airline, cruise line, train, hotel, restaurant, ground handler, etc., who is to or does supply any goods or services to the tour. Without limiting the foregoing, Special Interest Tours and its agents are not responsible for any loss or expenses due to delay or change in schedule, overbooking and/or other default done by any third parties, sickness, weather, strikes, acts of nature, acts of terrorism, war, quarantine, theft, criminal activity or for any other cause beyond our control. Photo, video, and other promotional material relating to a tour may be used by Special Interest Tours for our website and additional, sponsored social media e.g.: Facebook, Instagram, Canva, and Twitter galleries, etc. All materials displaying the activity and/or likenesses of tour guests will not be sold or used outside of Special Interest Tours media. SIT Tours may be sold in conjunction with the services of any airline. The passenger tickets in use by associated carriers, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the passenger. Carriers are not responsible for any act or omission or events during the time tour guests are not aboard their conveyances.