

PEOPLE PLACES

DOCUMENTARY
30 MIN.



VERSIONS

Arabic, English, Spanish:
13 x 30 min.

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Railway Stories

Railways have always linked places and people. A train journey is a very special way to get acquainted with a country and its inhabitants. Our **Railway Stories** are set on legendary routes and lesser-known lines, in old rolling stock, luxury carriages and high-speed trains. The stories present people for whom the railway can be many things: an employer, a means of transport or a tourist attraction. The routes lead through landscapes of spectacular beauty and rich in history all over the world.

01 Along the St. Lawrence Seaway: With the Ocean Train Through Canada HD

A train journey in Canada is a very special experience: the legendary Ocean Train operates the breathtakingly beautiful route between Montreal and Halifax on the Atlantic coast. Long sections of the 1,200-kilometer trip run alongside the mighty Saint Lawrence River and places of great significance in Canadian history.

02 On the Adventurers' Trail: With the Gem Express Through Brazil VoD HD

Glittering precious stones, adventurers in search of the big find, a Samba queen and Ouro Preto, the gold diggers' town with its Baroque center – all this awaits travelers on the Brazilian Gem Express from Belo Horizonte to the port city of Vitória north of Rio de Janeiro.

03 A Magical Train Journey: On the West Highland Line Through Scotland VoD HD

Railway enthusiasts agree that the West Highland Line is one of the most stunning routes the world has to offer. The train snakes its way from Glasgow through the Scottish Highlands to the sea. It traverses spectacular countryside along the way: high moorlands, bleak mountains, deep-blue lochs and craggy coastlines.

04 A Historic Route: With the Mandalay-Lashio Express Through Myanmar VoD HD

The Mandalay-Lashio Express connects the humid lowlands with the hilly highlands. The route is more than a century old. Every day, many monks, traders, travelers and smugglers use the historic train service from the metropolis of Mandalay to the north-east of Myanmar.

05 A Cruise on Railway Tracks: With the Shongololo Express Through Southern Africa HD

Shongololo is the Zulu word for a long brown millipede, and it has become the name of a train route. The Shongololo Express travels through South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland. It also has minibuses onboard for excursions to places including the Etosha National Park and the Namib Desert.

06 A Trip to Icy Climes: With the Polar Express Through Siberia VoD HD

The Yamal Peninsula in Siberia extends far into the Arctic Ocean. It is home to a small community of nomads and their reindeer. The Yamal Polar Express was only inaugurated in 2011. The railroad is owned by the Russian energy concern Gazprom, which uses the route to transport material and workers to the Bovanenkovo natural gas field.

07 Andean Train Adventure: With the Tren Crucero Through Ecuador HD

One of South America's most spectacular train routes runs between Guayaquil on the Pacific Ocean and the Ecuadorean capital Quito. The luxury Tren Crucero has just 54 seats and is the only train that travels the entire 450-kilometer route. A highlight of the trip is the Nariz del Diablo or Devil's Nose, a massive wall of rock. The Tren Crucero navigates the valley by making a series of zigzags and hair-raising horseshoe bends.

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08 From the Past to the Present: Time Travel Through South Korea VoD HD

A railway trip through South Korea takes in a culture that's thousands of years old. It also serves as a reminder of the painful history of this divided nation. The capital Seoul, destroyed in the Korean War, is now a vibrant metropolis. The railway station was built during Japanese colonial rule. With the high-speed Korea Train eXpress, South Korea is showing its modern face to the world.

09 The Rhythm of Africa: On the Central Railway Line Through Cameroon VoD HD

This journey on the Central Railway Line leads from Douala, Cameroon's biggest city, to the capital Yaoundé. With a bit of luck, travellers will get to hear some makossa, a home-grown kind of funky dance music. Musicians often play on trains, thereby bringing makossa to every corner of the land.

10 Luxury on the Tracks: On the Deccan Odyssey Through Southern India VoD HD

A journey on the Deccan Odyssey, a palace on wheels, lasts seven days and covers 1,800 kilometers. Starting in Mumbai, the cobalt-blue luxury train travels through the Indian states of Maharashtra and Goa. The route takes well-heeled passengers off the beaten track, past sleepy railway stations and through magnificent countryside.

11 On the Trail of Explorers and Gold diggers: A Trip to the Wilds of Alaska VoD HD

In Alaska, the wilderness begins where the city ends. Most tourists set out to explore the northernmost US state from Anchorage, its only major city. A trip on the Alaska Railroad is a particular highlight. Visitors can experience the unspoiled landscapes from the comfort of the viewing car.

12 The Magic of Asia: On an Historic Route Through Sri Lanka VoD HD

This voyage of discovery leads from the capital Colombo up to Ella in the highlands. The train snakes its way upwards through huge tea plantations. At an elevation of almost 1,900 meters is a place known as Little England, Nuwara Eliya, the highest town in Sri Lanka. A horse-racing track and a golf club are relics of the British colonial era.

13 A View of the Panama Canal: A Train Journey from the Pacific to the Atlantic VoD HD

The Panama Canal is definitely more famous than Panama's railway network. This despite the fact that long before the ships came, trains traversed the country from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Now, people are rediscovering the merits of the railways. It's a cheap way to transport goods, and passenger trains afford a unique view of the Canal.