

Tucson Garden Railway Society – 2023 Rails in the Garden Tour Saturday and Sunday, March 11th and 12th, 10am to 4pm both days

Unless stated otherwise, all layouts are wheelchair accessible.

**Note – For the most part, these layouts are at private homes
and, therefore, public restrooms are usually not available.**

The number listed before each layout is the same number that is shown on the tour map.

Layouts in the Saddlebrooke area

1 Bobcat and Quail Railroad 62066 E. Amberwood Drive 85739

The railroad has nearly 300 feet of track which meanders around the backyard. An old clear cut and sawmill greets the visitor to the backyard. A few Norwegian loggers still hang out in the area. An old west town and a Mexican town are located on the layout. The time frame for our railroad is the early 1930's situated somewhere in the four corners area

From Oracle, turn east on Eagle Crest Drive on the north end of Catalina. Take your first right on to Edwin Rd. and head east not quite a mile and you will see an open gate into the Saddlebrooke area on your left. You will be on Clubhouse Dr.. Take your first left on Sandcrest and follow it up the hill to where it intersects with Amberwood.

2 South Park and Western Railroad 39794 S. Riverwood Drive 85739

The South Park & Western Railroad is based on the mountain railroads of Colorado in their heyday. The layout is 20 X 70 feet in size and sits on a 2 1/2 foot tall raised “flowerbed”. The motive power is Steam with fully functioning LIVE STEAM power. Come watch as the engineer fuels, fires, and runs these unique locomotives. This prosperous railroad has recently acquired the assets of a local 2 foot narrow gauge railroad which will also be in operation.

From Oracle, turn east on Eagle Crest Drive on the north end of Catalina. Take your first right on to Edwin Rd. and head east about a half mile and you will see an open gate into the Saddlebrooke area on your left. You will be on Clubhouse Dr. Take the second left onto Windwood Drive and then the first right onto Riverwood Drive.

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Layouts in the Northwest area of Tucson

3 **Rose Garden Railroad**
7594 W. Talavera Way 85743

The Rose Garden RR is 670 foot double loop with the upper loop elevated with 106 handmade piers. There are 5 roses between the loops. The RR is battery operated, with no specific time period as I run both steam and diesel locomotives. A waterfall, stream, aerial tram, Disney Character retreat, small adobe village with hotel, a ranch, Christmas village, mine, and mountain retreat are the structures on display.

I-10 to exit 244 (Twin Peaks Rd.), turn West on Twin Peaks Rd. to Coachline Rd.. Turn Left on Coachline Rd. to Silverbell Rd. Right on Silverbell Rd. to Silver Moon Way. Right on Silver Moon Way to Talavera Way (100ft after turn on Silver Moon Way). Right on Talavera Way to the end of Cul-de-Sac.

4 **Turtle River Railroad**
5100 Paseo del Campo 85745

The Turtle River Railroad was completely rebuilt in 2017-18 as a more senior friendly design with towns and industries on raised beds. Stretches of bridges and trestles join raised areas of towns. It still models a railroad somewhere in the Southwest in the late 1800's. The operational focus is on hauling ore from the mine to an interchange terminal and transporting miners to the mine. The new railroad is a dog bone with 200+ feet of track that follows the perimeter wall of the yard. Those who have visited before will recognize some features and see some new things.

From the interchange of I-10 and Ruthrauff Rd. / El Camino del Cerro (exit 252): proceed west on El Camino del Cerro to Silverbell Rd. (approx. one mile).

Continue west on El Camino del Cerro, approx. 1 ½ miles west of Silverbell Rd, turn left on Paseo de los Rancheros (large wooden "Rancho del Cerro" sign), at the "T" , turn left and immediately right, back onto Rancheros, just over the top of the hill (about ½ mile) turn right on Paseo del Campo—we are the first house on the right.

There is parking for several cars in the driveway for those who need to be close and street parking on our street.

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Layouts in the Central area of Tucson

5

Gadsden-Pacific Division Toy Train Operating Museum
3975 N. Miller Ave. 85705

The outdoor layout will be open on Sunday from 10am to 4pm, but not on Saturday. The indoor layouts will also be open on Sunday from 1pm to 4pm. There is a \$5 per person or \$10 per family admission fee.

The G-Scale Layout is one of the outdoor attractions at the Gadsden Pacific Toy Train Museum. The walk-around layout is built up in the shade of two large trees on the property. There are five complete loops, three lower ones at 24" elevation, and two upper ones at 36".

On the upper elevation is a small pond with a creek leading to a waterfall, another to a Stamp mill. One of the tracks runs over a 10 feet long wooden trestle, other tracks cross bridges spanning a canyon. The trains run through highly detailed terrain with regional highlights such as the Clifton Station and Jail, Mission San Xavier del Bac and Old Tucson. There is also a replica of the Chama Coaling Tower.

From I-10 exit East on Prince Road, making an immediate Left at the First light- Runway Drive-Turn Right on Sun Tran Blvd. The street curves to the Left- Turn left on the first road- McMillian St. Turn right onto Miller Avenue, the Museum is on the Left.

From the corner of Ruthrauff /La Cholla continue South on La Cholla, turn Left on Gardner Lane- First Right is Miller Ave.

Street parking is allowed.

6

Cholla Patch Railroad
925 E. Foothills Dr. 85718

The 375 ft. Cholla Patch Railroad emphasizes the gardening aspect by incorporating a huge variety of desert plants and cactus (especially chollas). The railroad is an intricate symphony of handcrafted elaborate wood trestles, bridges, walkways and tunnel that carefully winds like a pretzel around all the plants and structures. Roughly designed to reflect turn of the century styles and technology, the extremely detailed buildings even have furnished interiors. Keep your eyes peeled for the many odd and humorous vignettes and the luxurious Victorian treehouse!

Foothills Drive is one block north of River Rd. off of 1st Ave. Turn East onto Foothills Dr. then go to the 4th house on the left (north) side of the street.

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Layouts in the Southwest area of Tucson

7

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum
414 N. Toole Avenue 85701

This location will feature two layouts...

- Located in the Museum Hall you will find an overhead railroad depicting the 1880s. The locomotive is similar to the full scale mogul locomotive next to the UP railroad tracks.
- The next layout is located right below locomotive 1673 and is a “point to point” configuration. This layout depicts some of the buildings that were in downtown Tucson in the 1880s.

The museum is located at 414 N. Toole just a few doors down from the Amtrak station.

Coming from the east or west on Broadway turn north onto Toole Avenue.

Coming from the north proceed on Stone Avenue and as you go under the boat dock you will then approach Toole Avenue on your left. The museum is located at Toole and Pennington.

8

Tucson Rodeo Parade Museum
4823 S. 6th Avenue 85714

This is a railroad based in the early frontier days of Tucson. Sections of the Tucson area included are a Mexican village, a “tent city”, a stockyard and the main street downtown with its historic train station. Trains and sounds of the time bring Tucson’s past to life.

Take I-19 to Irvington, go left (East) on Irvington about 1 mile, turn left (North) on 6th Ave. and the museum is on the right just north of Irvington. Or from I-10 take Irvington exit to westbound Irvington. Turn North on 6th Avenue as above to the museum on the right.

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Rincon Country West RV Resort
4555 S. Mission Road 85746

The RCW layout has 5 interconnecting loops with approx. 1000 feet of track. The layout accommodates Diesel & Steam, track power or battery. During our Train-A-Thon event we have run 23 engines pulling various rolling stock. The layout depicts a canyon area, waterfall feature & rural town with farm area. "Old Town" is located along a running stream and a circus area. Four tourist trolleys and an abundance of flowers, trees and bushes showcase several whimsical vignettes. We also have a mountain with a waterfall and a lake.

Although the address is listed as Mission Road, to get to the park turn east on W. Via Ingresso. This is on Mission Road, south of Ajo Road and north of Irvington Road. Follow this road a short distance and you'll see the entrance to the park on the right. The park is gated and the guard will let you thru. Continue on the main street to the large parking lot on the left. The layout is at the far end of the parking lot.