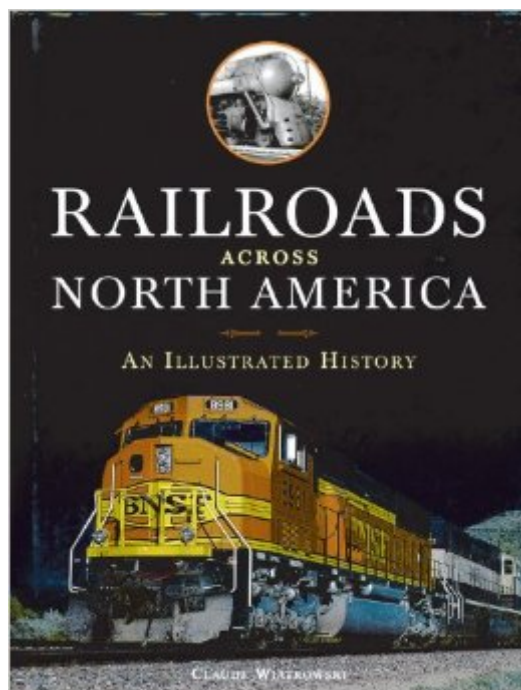


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# Railroads Across North America: An Illustrated History



## Synopsis

In this lavish celebration of the glory and grandeur that are the great North American railroads, author Claude Wiatrowski examines the development of the industry with nearly 90 features covering more than three dozen railroads past and present, as well as dozens more subjects, including railroads in film and music, specialty railroads, life and travel on the rails, and much more. Wiatrowski, a rail author and award winning video producer, generously illustrates the text with an array of material, including vintage black and white and modern color photographs, period advertisements, maps, brochures, timetables, postcards, posters, menus, and other collectibles--nearly 600 pieces in all, many of them rarely seen! Also included are a list of Web resources and contact information for museums, preserved railways, and historic sites throughout the United States and Canada.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (66 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #45,899 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Vehicle Pictorials > Trains](#) #5 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History > Railroads](#) #7 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Railroads](#)

## Customer Reviews

Whether an a railfan for decades or just getting into the hobby, this is a great book. Copy is informative and not overdone. Photos and graphics are outstanding. Although my interest in railroading in the Northeast, I found the collection of schedule graphics, promotional pieces, etc. very interesting and, simply, just fun to look at. I lent my copy to a few of my buddies and was happy to see they didn't glance over the pages, but were caught by photos and info. (Hats off to the graphics people). And these are former railroaders and modelers who are "rivet counters," so for the book to get their attention says something about it. A few commented on the price, and thought the book was a real bargain.

As a general book on railroading, this is an excellent book. The photos are excellent, and it covers all the major railroads (and most minor ones) across the USA. There are many chapters on various aspects of railroading, and it is very informative for those who are learning or new to the hobby.

Railroads Across North America is a unique book in this field. It illustrates in great color the historic rail lines that made America great. It also shows the breadth of railroad activities that were a part of operations. This book is just plain fun! Bill Lock, Founder Friends of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

Train travel enthusiast and photographer Claude Wiatrowski is a member of the Colorado Midland Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society; the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society; The Colorado Railroad Museum; The Friends of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad; Friends of the East Broad Top; the Nevada Northern Railway Museum; the Pikes Peak Historical Street Railway Foundation; and the Lexington Group in Transportation History. He is therefore in a particularly knowledgeable position to create a profusely illustrated history of American railroads, and has done so with "Railroads Across North America: An Illustrated History", an amazingly informed and informative 256-page compendium of information and images ranging from the first steam-powered locomotives of the 1800s down to the high-speed commuter trains of today. Enhanced with a descriptive listing of historical societies and other railroad organizations, as well as a section devoted to preserved railways, museums and historic sites, "Railroads Across North America" also includes a bibliography and a comprehensive index, making it an ideal and enthusiastically recommended addition to personal, academic, and community library railroading reference collections and supplemental reading lists.

This is a fine overview of major railroad developments and the principal players (companies) in the history of the railroads in the United States. The approach taken by the book is not a conventional historical narrative, but a series of short one to two page summaries: most devoted to short descriptions of each of the best known Class I railroads, with occasional sections taking up topics of special interest, such as dieselization, steam power, passenger service, cabooses, and the like. It is not an integrated approach, so picking up a chapter on, say, circus trains, can be done without having read any other part of the book. In fact, there is little to no benefit to reading the book straight through, from beginning to end. Rather, it is best taken in pieces, like a series of nicely illustrated

magazine articles.

This book was truly amazing for the money! And with it being PRIME shipping was free so it was even better. It is packed with great info and pictures. Perfect for someone who is new to model railroading and seeking information and ideas and also for the person who just loves trains! Also history buffs will find enough here to love as well. I was impressed with the binding and artwork throughout the book even the insides of the covers! Just a great book!

I bought this for the railroad buff in the family for Christmas and he loves it! While he hasn't had a lot of time to sit down and read it, what he saw when he flipped through it at Christmas he really liked and was commenting on this and that. We had to take it away from him so he would open the rest of his gifts and spend time with the family! A must buy for the train lover in your family!

I ordered this book for my brother for Christmas. He is an engineer on a train and thought he would love this book. It is beautifully illustrated with wonderful photographs. It has a lot of stories, history, and facts. It is a very big and sturdy book and a wonderful addition for anyone that loves trains and railroads!

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