

Welcome to the Delaware and Ulster Rail Ride, located on Route 28 in Arkville, New York in the heart of beautiful Delaware County. The Delaware and Ulster is an excursion train that combines rail ride nostalgia with scenic rides through New York's legendary Catskill Mountains.

Step back in time as you board the historic D&U. Your journey will include an ever changing landscape of quaint villages, rolling fields, majestic mountains and pastoral farms while you enjoy a leisurely ride along the pristine waters of the East Branch of the Delaware River. The Arkville depot offers a terrific exhibit chronicling the important role the rail ride played in the development of the region. There's a gift shop that offers a unique shopping experience that will help commemorate your trip or delight someone special who is waiting for your return. The Catskill Local Café, housed in a vintage caboose offers snacks and light lunches.



Round trip excursions from Arkville to Halcottsville and Roxbury depart on weekends from the end of May through October. Trains also depart Wednesday through Friday during July and August.

History

The Ulster & Delaware rail ride crossed the Catskills from Kingston Point on the Hudson, to Oneonta in the Susquehanna Valley. Chartered in 1866 as the Rondout & Oswego, and reorganized in 1872 as the New York, Kingston & Syracuse, it became the Ulster & Delaware in 1875, and was completed to Oneonta in 1900. There was also a branch - originally the narrow-gauge Stony Clove & Catskill Mountain - from Phoenicia, through Stony Clove Notch, to Hunter, and a connecting narrow-gauge extension, the Kaaterskill rail ride, from near Hunter to the Mountain Top destinations of Tannersville, Haines Falls, Kaaterskill Falls, and Catskill Mountain House.



Surmounting dramatic mountain scenery with four percent grades that demanded three Ten-Wheelers for an eight-car passenger train, the Ulster & Delaware was often called the most scenic line in the east. It helped create and then profited handsomely from a boom in the Catskill tourist trade, while providing outlets for the area's agricultural, timber, bluestone, and other products. It also provided a through, if roundabout, route for coal bound from northeastern Pennsylvania mines to New York City - indeed, one of the reasons it was built, was to bring Delaware & Hudson coal from Oneonta to the Hudson River steamboats of Thomas Cornell, one of the U&D's chief promoters.

Delaware and Ulster Railroad Special Events

Train Robbery of the Delaware & Ulster

Bandits! Lots of 'em... everywhere! The train is loaded with gold as it rolls out of the Arkville depot. Telegraph wires have been buzzing with the news of the Catskill Mountain Rail Raiders and their return to town. These desperados have tried to hold up the train before but the law is on our side. Special deputies will ride along to protect us all! Judge Willie B. Hangin is ready to dispense some swift justice in the event any of them live long enough to need it. Uh oh... watch out for whats waiting around the next curve! Note: These light-hearted robberies are great fun. The guns only shoot blanks but they can be real loud and a little scary for the youngsters... unless they are ready to shoot back. . **Reservations strongly suggested. Call for Dates and Times**



Twilight on the Rails

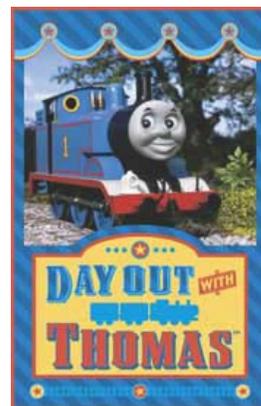
Join us for a magical evening under a soulful summer sky. Live music, complimentary hors' doeuvres and the rhythm of the rails under a slow-moving train combine to create a little night magic and romance. Soft drinks are provided and those wishing to bring more potent libations are welcome to do so. **Reservations strongly suggested. Call for Dates and Times**



A Day out with Thomas the Tank Engine

Come ride a train pulled by Thomas the Tank Engine and meet Sir Topham Hatt. Lot's of children's activities, entertainment, free parking, great food and Thomas the Tank Engine merchandise.

Reservations strongly suggested. Call for Dates and Times



The Sky Ride Special September 18 – October 10

This is a great way to spend the afternoon and enjoy fantastic views from the highest skiable peak in the Catskills! The D&URR and Belleayre Mountain have teamed up to offer you a great opportunity. Climb aboard the Delaware & Ulster Rail Ride at 1:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays from September 18 through October 10. The train will climb one of the steepest grades on any conventional rail ride east of the Mississippi River. When it reaches the Highmount Station the Belleayre Mountain shuttle will be waiting to transport you to the chair lift sky ride. Climb aboard the chair lift and ride to the top of the mountain! Bring your own picnic lunch and relax while you take in the spectacular views. There only a couple of limited service vending machines on the whole mountain, so come prepared! Hike back down the mountain or ride the chair lift. The shuttle will return you to the Highmount Station where the train will be waiting to bring you back to your vehicle in Arkville. This round trip excursion lasts three and a half hours. This discounted package includes train passage, trolley and the chair lift ride.

Directions from Hunter : Rt 23A East to Rt 214. Take Rt 214 South to Rt 28. Take Rt 28 West to The town of Arkville. The train station is on the left.

Delaware and Ulster Railroad

RT 28

Arkville, NY 845-586-3211