Rocks and Rails

Date – Tuesday, August 13, 2024
Time – TBD (all day)

Participants have the option to ride the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad train to Silverton and return on a bus or ride the bus to Silverton and return on the train.

The train ride from Durango to Silverton will navigate a geologic record from the late Mesozoic into the Proterozoic complex of the Needle Mountains, and end in the boundary of the Silverton caldera. The train route follows the Animas River which flows down a glaciated canyon exposing the geologic history. The landscape and vistas on this ride are amazing and unforgettable.

The bus ride will give participants a different perspective of the geology of southwestern Colorado with fantastic vistas of the landscape and rock record.

Be prepared for changing weather conditions and cooler conditions at the higher elevations near Silverton. It is difficult to have conversations on the train, so it might be helpful to review the geologic train guide before the trip. The guide ‘Geology of the Durango-Silverton Train Route’ by David Gonzales and Lauren Heerschap can be purchased in the gift shop and is published by D&SNGRR & Fort Lewis College.

Photo by David Gonzales