

*Your Westbound*  
**SUNSET ROUTE TRIP**

*New Orleans-El Paso-Los Angeles*

**S • P** THE FRIENDLY SOUTHERN PACIFIC

*The world-famous VIEUX CARRE ("Old Square"), New Orleans.*



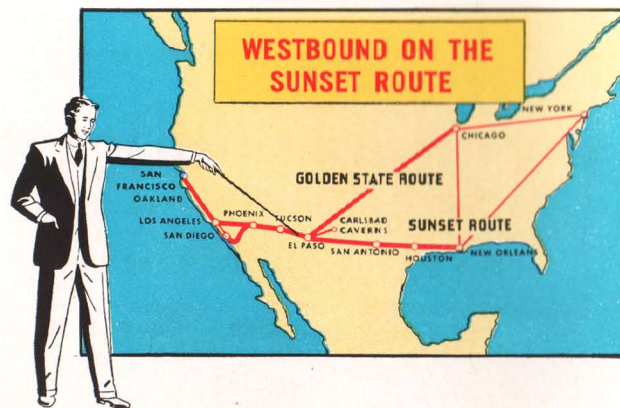


**The Sunset Route** links New Orleans with Los Angeles and San Francisco, three of the most fascinating cities in America. Fine, fast Sunset Route trains speed west to California through the lush bayou country of Louisiana and across the rolling Texas plains . . . through Houston and San Antonio . . . to El Paso, convenient starting point for the one-day tour to Carlsbad Caverns National Park. Then crossing the Rio Grande into rugged New Mexico and Southern Arizona's resort and guest ranch country . . . Tucson, Phoenix and Yuma . . . past the fashionable desert resorts at Palm Springs, and on to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Trains from the east, midwest and southeastern seaboard make direct connections with Sunset Route trains in New Orleans.

**New Orleans** The eastern terminal of Southern Pacific's Sunset Route, New Orleans is located about eighty miles from the mouth of the Mississippi on a graceful crescent bend of the river—hence its nickname, "The Crescent City". Founded in 1718, New Orleans grew up under seven flags. Today she is a modern city that has never lost the precious charm of Old World France and Spain.

Canal Street (America's widest business thoroughfare) separates new New Orleans from the famous French Quarter (*Vieux Carre* or "Old Square") with its narrow, balconied streets that remember the faces of Andrew Jackson, Jenny Lind and the swashbuckling pirate, Lafitte. Here you'll explore quaint courtyards and the treasure-laden antique shops on Royal Street. You'll eat in famous restaurants (Antoine's, Galatoire's, Arnaud's, La Louisiane, etc.) where you'll quickly learn the vast difference between "dining" and merely having dinner. Every building, street and square in the French Quarter is rich in historical associations: the Pontalba Apartments (first apartment houses in America—completed 1850), Spanish Arsenal, Napoleon House, Old Mint, Old Absinthe House, St. Louis Cathedral, the Cabildo (early Government house), Jackson Square (where formal transfer of the Louisiana Purchase from the French to the American Government took place in 1803) . . . Paul (Chess Champion) Morphy's House, the Haunted House and the French Market.

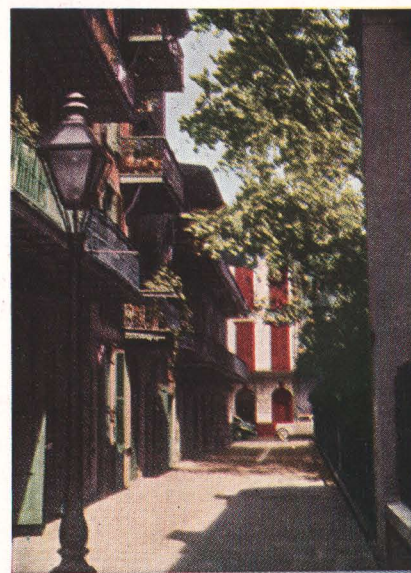


With so much to do and see in New Orleans, a planned stopover of one day easily stretches into a week. When you finally do leave, however, there's plenty to look forward to on your Sunset Route trip to California. Leaving New Orleans behind, your train crosses the broad Mississippi on the monumental Public Belt Bridge, finest of 15 major spans across the river, picks up speed and soon is racing across Southern Louisiana. Foliage is dense and green, separated by occasional patches of open country intensively cultivated. This is the "Sugar Bowl" of Louisiana. Thick groves of ancient cypress and gnarled oak edge the bayous and line the tracks, their sturdy limbs bearded with wisps of Spanish moss. Small Negro children dance with glee and wave to your train from tiny cabins. A stately colonial mansion with formal pillars catches your eye, and you almost expect a frilled, pantalooned southern belle to step through the entrance way.

Now your Sunset Route train enters the Evangeline country of Louisiana, named after Longfellow's fa-



*Stately colonial mansions, framed in heavy oak and sweet magnolia, symbolize the Old South.*



*Pirate's Alley captures all the Old World flavor of Southern France and Spain, is a favorite subject of artists in New Orleans.*



mous poem. You follow the banks of Bayou Teche for more than forty miles and pass through New Iberia, center of this modern Acadia.



*The French Quarter (or VIEUX CARRE) in New Orleans was laid out in 1720, is filled with unique buildings (some more than 200 years old) that huddle around inviting little flower-filled courtyards.*

**New Iberia** The original Acadians migrating from Nova Scotia settled here on the banks of Bayou Teche and their descendants are known today as "Cajuns" (a local corruption of the word "Acadians"). Some of America's greatest salt mines are located near here. Mr. Edward Avery McIlhenny's famous wild fowl sanctuary is on Avery Island eight miles south of New Iberia. It is estimated that 100,000 herons are given protection here, the same birds returning year after year. Mr. McIlhenny is also responsible for the fiery tabasco sauce found on nearly every restaurant table. Ten miles north of New Iberia is picturesque St. Martinville, where Longfellow's heroine supposedly lies buried. It is generally believed that the poet learned the romantic story of *Evangeline* from an old "Cajun" living in St. Martinville. The beautiful "Evangeline Oak" grows here.

Your Sunset Route train speeds on to Lafayette, through fields of sugar cane, with now and then a fleeting glimpse of a plantation home surrounded by cabins for the servants and field workers. Just before Lafayette swings into view you cross the Vermilion River at a point where one of the bitterest battles occurred in the War Between the States.

**Lafayette** This city is the westernmost of the old French towns. French is still the language of its people, and old-world customs still prevail. Lafayette is a thriving agricultural community (cotton, rice, sugar cane, figs, sweet potatoes, soy beans and corn). From here a line runs north to Alexandria.

Leaving Lafayette, your train hurries westward past twinkling bayous that mirror your swift passage, through Crowley, centering a region of prominent rice fields . . . past Jennings (the seat of Jefferson Davis Parish and noted for its Easter lilies), and Welsh, farming and trading point on east fork of Bayou Lacassine. Next comes Lake Charles, at the eastern edge of the great pine forests of Louisiana and Texas.

**Lake Charles** The seventy-mile channel that joins this city with the Gulf of Mexico handles more rice than any other waterway in the South. Cotton and lumber are also important industries, and so is oil, which is produced twenty miles to the south. Nearby forests and streams make Lake Charles a popular recreational center.

Now your Sunset Route train races over the Sabine River, western boundary of Louisiana, and enters Texas, the largest state in the Union. Then across the Neches River into Beaumont, Texas.

**Beaumont** Oil, as you will quickly see from your train window, is Beaumont's chief industry. Large "tank farms" are on every side and in the distance to the south you can make out the towering derricks of the fabulous Spindletop Field. Oil was discovered here in 1901 and soon replaced lumber as Beaumont's first industry. South of Beaumont is Port Arthur, center of the oil refining industry in the South.

Your train leaves Beaumont, enters a fertile grassland and forest country, and crosses the winding Trinity and San Jacinto rivers. About ten miles south of the railroad crossing, the San Jacinto River and Buffalo Bayou join to form the great Houston Ship Canal. On a ridge south of this juncture is the famous battlefield of San Jacinto, where General Sam Houston won Texas her independence from Mexico. Next stop, Houston.



*St. Louis Cathedral (built in 1794), with its slender triple spires, faces Jackson Square in the heart of New Orleans' French Quarter. It is flanked by the Cabildo (1795), early Government house, and the Presbytery (begun before 1794), now used as a museum.*

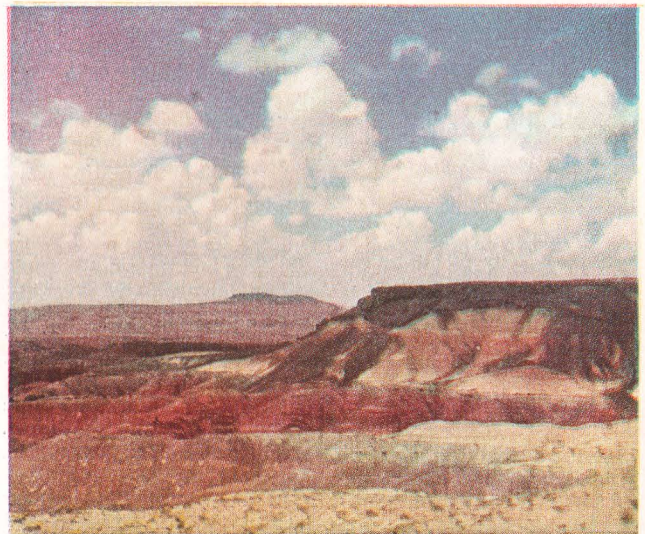


**Houston** The largest city in Texas, Houston is spread out on the long level plains adjoining Buffalo Bayou. It is a clean, prosperous city of shining skyscrapers and inviting boulevards. Few American cities can boast such astonishing recent growth as this Lone Star State metropolis. Her famous ship canal runs from the eastern edge of the city to the Gulf of Mexico. Once the capital of the Republic of Texas, Houston has long been a railroad center. Many Southern Pacific lines radiate from here: south to Galveston on the Gulf, Corpus Christi, Victoria, Edinburg and to McAllen, Brownsville and other cities in "The Magic Valley of the Rio Grande", one of the most productive agricultural regions in the United States (vegetables in the winter, citrus fruits, dates, grapes, etc. in the summer). Other Southern Pacific lines radiate northward from Houston to the Texas cities of Dallas, Fort Worth and Waco . . . and to the State Capital at Austin.

Back on your Sunset Route train, you watch Houston drop below the horizon as you speed westward, climbing gradually out of the lowlands. And soon forest land gives way to open grazing lands. Oaks and junipers are replaced by occasional mesquite and prickly pear. In the sandy soil here the bluebonnet, state flower of Texas, lays a purple carpet on the gentle hills during the spring and early summer. Next important stop is San Antonio.



*Prosperous Houston is connected with the Gulf by a ship canal.*



*Sunset Route trains pass colorful buttes and mesas in West Texas.*



*"Remember the Alamo!" This historic mission centers San Antonio.*

**San Antonio** This attractive city is built along the San Antonio River, which has been landscaped to form a magnificent park through the center of San Antonio. Every American will want to see the Alamo, shrine of Texas liberty. Once a Spanish mission, the Alamo became a fortress on a memorable day in March, 1836, when 182 brave Texans heroically fought an army of 4,000 Mexicans and chose to die rather than surrender. Today the Alamo is surrounded by the skyscrapers of modern San Antonio. Other tourist attractions are the ancient walls of three missions all constructed originally in 1731 (two miles south of the city), Brackenridge Park with its sunken garden and lily pond, Randolph Field—the "West Point of the Air", and Fort Sam Houston.

Now your Sunset Route train slips out of San Antonio, across the vast rolling plains of West Texas, climbing higher and higher into the golden plateau land of Uvalde, Spofford and Del Rio. Bunch grass, chaparral and the creosote bush spring up along the tracks. Soon you enter spectacular Castle Canyon of the Devil's



River. Still climbing, your Sunset Route train crosses the lofty Pecos River Bridge and passes through Langtry, where Judge Bean administered "law west of the Pecos". Then into a tableland of sage, sotol, Spanish bayonet and bear-grass . . . topping the summit at Paisano Pass (5,074 feet). You speed through Alpine and Marfa (near here is the famous McDonald Observatory, with one of the world's largest telescopes). Then along the historic Rio Grande to El Paso, where Southern Pacific's Sunset Route joins Southern Pacific's Golden State Route from Chicago.

**El Paso** Here is "The Pass"—old-time gateway to all the wonders and riches of Mexico. For you, it is the gateway to the great Southwest. The spreading city is perched high on the north bank of the Rio Grande, the river that marks the boundary between the United States and Mexico, and which is associated in song and story with the daring exploits of the Texas Rangers. Behind the city are the Franklin Mountains, culminating in Mt. Franklin (7,152 feet). During the romantic frontier days El Paso was a colorful western outpost (first settled in 1659). Today, the city retains much of its historic glamour, and in its hotel lobbies you'll see rugged men from the mountains and the desert . . . from the mines and the cattle ranges. Fort Bliss, the largest U. S. Army



*On the way to the Caverns you pass Signal Peak, highest in Texas.*

cavalry post, is an interesting part of an El Paso tour. To your left as the train enters the city you'll plainly see the mountains of Old Mexico. El Paso, favored with a dry, mild climate and visited annually by thousands of tourists, is the starting point for the side trip to Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

**Juarez** On the Mexican side of the Rio Grande across from El Paso is Juarez, largest Mexican city on the Border. You can walk the short distance to Juarez, or take a taxi or street car across the International Bridge. Juarez is a typical Mexican city of some 45,000 people. Most of its houses are built of adobe, their walls bright with colored plaster. Rickety shops stand in rows along its principal streets, and smiling attendants invite you to buy their goods . . . sarapes and pottery and baskets, bubble glass and *sombreros* and earrings. You'll want to visit the market place and the cathedrals . . . perhaps take in a bull fight.

**To Mexico City** El Paso is the beginning of a National Railways of Mexico line to Mexico City. Westbound passengers planning to make the side trip to Mexico go over this line from El

Paso through Chihuahua, Torreon and Zacatecas, and return over Southern Pacific's tropical West Coast of Mexico Route through Guadalajara, the Barrancas of Nayarit, Mazatlan, Guaymas (Hotel Playa de Cortes) and Nogales to Tucson, Arizona, where they continue their trip to California.

## Your Trip to Carlsbad Caverns

Convenient way to see Carlsbad Caverns National Park is from El Paso. Big, easy-riding motor coaches—streamlined and air-cooled—make the trip to the Caverns, leaving El Paso in the morning, returning from the Caverns the same evening. The road is paved all the way, and follows for many miles the route of the famous Butterfield Trail. You go through the Hueco and Guadalupe Mountains, past the Salt Flats, near El Capitan and Signal Peak, highest points in Texas.

Tourists making the side trip from El Paso enter the Caverns in a small party of from 30 to 75 people, conducted by Ranger guides. You walk down into the Caverns, see all the rooms open to visitors, return to the surface by elevator. (You may also make the descent by elevator.) Through this fairyland the National Park Service has built wide, easy trails, well-lighted and perfectly safe. There are seven miles of pathway and caves open to the public. At no time do you have the impression of being underground. The temperature is always 56 degrees; the air is cool and clean.

A single room is 4,000 feet long, 625 feet wide, 350 feet high. Monumental stalagmites grow out of the floor. Great stalactites hang from the ceiling. On every hand are weird formations resembling totem-poles, statues and flowing draperies . . . all illuminated with hidden lights, and glowing with delicate, translucent shades of pale blue and green and golden-brown.



*Juarez in Old Mexico is just across the Rio Grande from El Paso.*



And now, having seen El Paso, Juárez and Carlsbad Caverns National Park, you are ready to continue your Sunset Route trip to California . . . streaking across the southwest corner of New Mexico—past bold, billowing hills and patches of purple sage.

Southern Pacific operates two lines from El Paso west to Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. The "South Line" touches at Douglas and Bisbee Junction; the "North Line" goes through Lordsburg and Bowie. Some trains take one line and some the other. If you leave El Paso on the North Line, your train bears through Deming to Lordsburg, center of a rich mining district that produces sixty per cent of New Mexico's gold output. Then this line skirts rocky lava hills, crosses the wide level basin of the Playa de Los Pinos, and dips through a pass in the Peloncillo Mountains to Arizona and Bowie in San Simon Valley. Then around the northern end of Dos Cabezas Mountains, across the fertile Sulphur Springs Valley and past several other mountain ranges to connect with South Line near Tucson.

If your Sunset Route train leaves El Paso on the South Line, it passes through Columbus (scene of Villa's raid), skims through rocky desert land spotted with sage, cactus and graceful yucca that blooms brightly during May, June and July. Crossing into Arizona your train pauses briefly at Douglas, convenient starting point for the side trip to that amazing natural curi-

osity, Chiricahua National Monument—"The Wonderland of Rocks". Then this South Line runs through Bisbee Junction (eight miles from Bisbee, famous copper mining center) and close to the pioneer town of Tombstone, joining the North Line near Tucson.

**Tucson** Oldest and second largest Arizona city, Tucson has grown from a sprawling frontier town into a modern and thriving metropolis. Jutting to the north is the prominent Santa Catalina Range, while to the south can be seen the Santa Rita and Serrita Ranges. Tucson boasts fine winter resort hotels and centers a large guest ranch area. No visitor to Tucson will want to miss seeing the movie set where the picture, *Arizona*, was filmed. It is being maintained as a permanent exhibit fourteen miles from the city and is an exact replica of Tucson in 1860—the only walled city in the United States. Nine miles south of Tucson is the ancient Mission San Xavier del Bac, founded in 1699.

**Guest Ranches and Resorts** Southern Arizona's increasingly popular guest (or "dude") ranches may easily be reached from Tucson, as well as from other Southern Pacific main line points such as Douglas, Bisbee, Chandler, Nogales and Phoenix. Because of Southern Arizona's warm, dry winter climate, the principal guest ranch season is from October to May. Accommodations are clean and comfortable; the meals are abundant and wholesome. All the ranches are well-stocked with riding horses and have genial cowboys to teach you the ropes. Southern Arizona is also noted for its luxurious winter resort hotels, usually located well outside the cities and surrounded by desert and mountains.

**West Coast of Mexico** Tucson is the departure point for travelers to Mexico City over Southern Pacific's West Coast of Mexico Route via Nogales, the weird cactus forests of Sonora, picturesque Guaymas (Hotel Playa de Cortes) and tropical Mazatlan, and over the fantastic Barrancas of Nayarit to Guadalajara and Mexico City, magnificent and exotic.

From Tucson your Sunset Route train rolls north and west through the Santa Cruz River Valley. You will long remember the odd-shaped mountains and the giant cacti that sprout up alongside the track. For awhile the abrupt Tucson Mountains spin past on your



National Park Service Rangers guide you through Carlsbad Caverns.



Wild flowers bloom in the spring on the Arizona desert.



left, then dissolve into foothills that eventually flatten out into green, irrigated farmland and then desert. Just beyond Picacho Peak, the Sunset Route divides again, one line swinging north through Phoenix and the great Salt River Valley, the other continuing on to Wellton (where both lines meet).

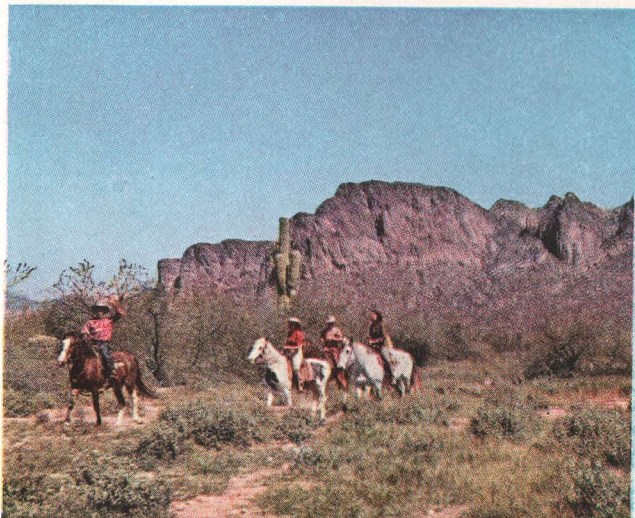
On the way to Phoenix, you pass through Coolidge. Near here is Casa Grande ("Big House") National Monument, best preserved of the prehistoric, valley-type pueblo dwellings in the United States. They are thought to be some seven or eight hundred years old. Next your train crosses the Gila River and speeds on through a country of many Indian settlements, through the fertile Salt River Valley (dates, lettuce, cotton, citrus fruits, etc.), and the winter resort town of Chandler, through Mesa and Tempe to Phoenix.

**Phoenix** This is the capital of Arizona. It occupies an area of some ten square miles on the broad plain north of the Salt River. Although reclaimed from a virtual desert, the city has developed surprising landscape beauty. Phoenix boasts the only city archeological museum in the United States, filled with an amazing collection of prehistoric relics. During the winter and spring, Phoenix enjoys maximum sunshine and this, combined with a dry, clear atmosphere, is responsible for the city's popularity as a winter tourist resort. Near Phoenix are many well-known ranches and resorts.

**Apache Trail Tour** Phoenix is the starting point for the scenic side trip over Arizona's famous Apache Trail. You can make the trip in one day, traveling by Gray Line sedans through miles of inspiring canyons and tablelands that are rich in Apache Indian lore and legend. Here are the Tonto Cliff Dwellings.

Between Phoenix and Yuma your Sunset Route train heads down the Salt River Valley, climbs to a pass in the Gila Bend Mountains, and then races on to Yuma.

**Yuma** Situated on the east bank of the Colorado River just below the mouth of the Gila River and across from California,



Three Arizona ranch guests and a "wrangler" ride across the desert.



Pool at one of the many popular resort hotels in Southern Arizona.



The Palm Springs Racquet Club, with Mt. San Jacinto in the background.

Yuma is famous for its unvarying sunshine. Across the river on the California side is the Yuma Indian Reservation of more than 8,000 acres. Invariably trains entering Yuma are met at the station by at least a dozen blanketed, camera-shy squaws offering beads, bracelets and other trinkets for sale. (A Sunset Route line to San Diego, California, branches off at Yuma, running in places through Old Mexico, El Centro. The spectacular Carriso Gorge and Tia Juana are on this line.)

Leaving Yuma, your train rolls across the Colorado River and you're in California, second largest state in the Union. Low sand dunes (where many Hollywood desert movies and Foreign Legion pictures are filmed) come into view and then you enter the Imperial Valley—once a desert wasteland and now a vast man-made garden producing enormous quantities of cantaloupes and lettuce, as well as cotton, grains and citrus fruits. The Valley descends from practically sea level to 250 feet below sea level at Salton Sea, along whose eastern shore your train passes. You speed by Mecca and the date palm orchards at Indio to Palm Springs Station.





*Tree-bordered Westlake Park is in the heart of Los Angeles.*



*You'll see mile on mile of Southern California orange groves.*



*Santa Catalina Island, only two hours from Los Angeles Harbor.*

**Palm Springs** An especially happy introduction to California awaits you at Palm Springs—a lovely oasis where the desert and mountains meet. The average winter temperature at noon is 81 degrees; at night the average winter temperature is 45 degrees. Here, under a warm winter sun, you can swim, ride, bicycle or loaf. Accommodations at Palm Springs are unsurpassed. Some are quite modest, others very luxurious. Notable resort hotels are the Desert Inn, The Oasis and Del Tahquitz. The Deep Well and Smoke Tree ranches are just beyond the village of Palm Springs. Other ranches and resort hotels are located nearby. Southern Pacific provides the only main line train service to Palm Springs.

West beyond Palm Springs Station your Sunset Route train runs through San Geronio Pass to Banning and on to Redlands, where you get your first glimpse of Southern California's famed orange groves. Then your train rushes down the green San Bernardino Valley into Colton . . . through the summery cities of Ontario, Pomona, San Gabriel, Alhambra—to Los Angeles.

**Los Angeles** From a tiny Spanish pueblo, Los Angeles has grown to be one of the nation's largest cities. Its homes, parks and boulevards, its smart shops, cosmopolitan hotels and moving picture industry in Hollywood are world-famed. Here you'll see, perhaps even meet, stars of screen, radio and stage. During the summer, beautiful Hollywood Bowl echoes nightly to music of the masters played by a great orchestra. Nearby are the smiling cities of Riverside, Long Beach, Pasadena, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and a score more. Also miles of inviting Pacific Ocean beaches.

**San Diego** Some 126 miles south of Los Angeles is San Diego, lovely seaside city and an important Army, Navy and Marine base. Cabrillo, Spanish explorer and first white man to set foot on California soil, entered San Diego Bay in 1542. Mission San Diego, first of a chain of twenty-one missions extending north along the California coast to Sonoma, was founded by Junipero Serra in 1769. Near San Diego are many fine beaches and resorts (La Jolla and Coronado, for example) where you can swim in the blue Pacific.

If you continue your trip from Los Angeles to San Francisco, you may choose between two routes, the Coast or the San Joaquin Valley Lines. The Coast Line skirts the Pacific Ocean for 113 breathtaking miles, past seaside resorts and old Mission cities. You may wish to stop over at lovely Santa Barbara or on the Monterey Peninsula.

The San Joaquin Valley Line climbs the Tehachapi Mountains, slips through the rich San Joaquin Valley, passing within a few hours of Sequoia and Kings Canyon and Yosemite National Parks. At the end of your train journey at Oakland, you ferry across the bay, with San Francisco's spectacular skyline before you.

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*The friendly Southern Pacific*