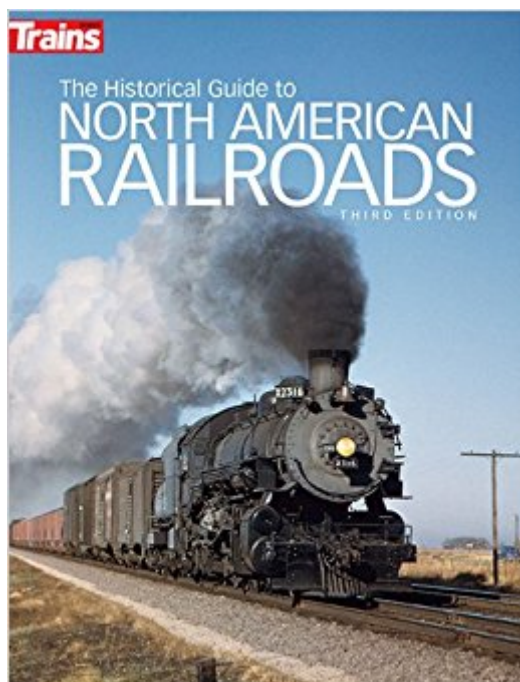


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# The Historical Guide To North American Railroads, 3rd Edition (Trains Books)



## Synopsis

Great photos, new maps, and history for 150+ railroads make *The Historical Guide to North American Railroads*, 3rd Edition the perfect guide for modelers, railfans, and history buffs! This updated edition features a new, larger format and a comprehensive index that makes searching for information quick and easy. Each listing includes historical information, a photo, a route map, and key statistics regarding miles of operation, locomotives, and rolling stock, and much more.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

In 1985, Kalmbach published the first edition of *The Historical Guide to North American Railroads* by longtime employee George H. Drury. This was followed by a second edition in 1999 and another title, *The Train-Watcher's Guide to North American Railroads*. These books were part of Kalmbach's Railroad Reference Series which also included the popular *Guide to Tourist Railroads* and *Railroad Museums*. These useful books were published in a 5.5 x 8" landscape format suitable for carrying in camera bags. In recent years, new versions of these books have been published in updated versions and titles. *The Guide to Tourist Railroads* and *Railroad Museums* is now the *Tourist Trains Guidebook* and the new *Hot Spots Guidebook* provides helpful hints on good places to watch trains. Now, *The Historical Guide to North American Railroads* appears in a new 3rd Edition featuring some classic color photographs and a new 10.8 x 8.4" format. As stated in the introduction, it also incorporates some updated content from the *Train-Watcher's Guide to North*

American Railroads. This 3rd Edition was edited by Jeff Wilson and Randy Rehberg. They point out in the Introduction that space prohibits listing all railroads and the listings are limited to current class 1, significant class 2 and "fallen flags" since 1930 that were either class 1s, 50 miles long or have other historical significance. The phrase "other historical significance" could ignite arguments, but overall the resulting list contains a "capsule summary" history of 171 "essential" railroads that fits these criteria. Before these, however, the editors have provided a nice summary of North American Railroad history, which is particularly welcome for its section on Mexico since there is relatively little available about that country's railroads.

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