**Strike Autumn Gold at the Verde Canyon Railroad**

 **Sedona, Cottonwood, and Clarkdale, AZ** – Fans of golden foliage come from near and far to participate in Verde Canyon Railroad’s ***Fall Color Tours*** during October and November. A striking mosaic of scarlet, amber, crimson and gold, brilliant blue sky, red canyon cliff faces and a cool green river provide limitless photo opportunities at every turn. Berries ripen and autumn hues tint the already vibrant landscape as the branches blaze brilliantly along the Verde River near Sedona. Arizona’s verdant summer season winds to a close as the days shorten and a welcome chill grows in the evening air.

 To further enhance the celebration of this *colorific* canyon, Verde Canyon Railroad hosts its very popular ***Ales on Rails*** event at the train’s depot every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday during the month of October. This party on the patio prior to boarding time features a choice line-up of local and regional craft beers as well as a hearty selection of traditional European ales. Available by the glass or by the taste, beer is accompanied by traditional German favorites like sausages, strudels, pretzels and a special-recipe potato salad. Polka tunes add to the lively atmosphere. The seasonal revelry will continue after boarding, as the canyon’s color palette complements the specialty beverages available for purchase on the train, including Verde Canyon Railroad’s private-labeled beers made exclusively by Sedona’s Oak Creek Brewery.

 With Thanksgiving just around the corner, autumn is family time in the Verde Canyon. Out of town guests will be impressed with a real Arizona experience. Grandmas and grandpas, aunts, uncles, and children of all ages, will delight in riding the rails for a fun multi-generational get together aboard a classic train adventure.

On heritage rails built in 1912, Verde Canyon Railroad has operated as a scenic wilderness excursion since 1990 and celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2015.The train’s vintage FP7 locomotives are both outfitted proudly with bald eagle motifs; the national bird’s visage leads the passenger cars through the winding, wild canyon. Comfortable first-class accommodations lavish passengers in a relaxed living-room setting, including an abundant selection of appetizers and attentive beverage service right to the comfy seats. Coach-class is redolent of vintage-style passenger-car charm with a well-stocked snack bar. Both classes have easy and direct access to open-air viewing cars, a favorite aspect to this rail journey which immerses passengers into the sights, sounds and scents of this remote western canyon.

A stone’s throw from the hillside mining town of Jerome, Verde Canyon Railroad’s Clarkdale depot is located in the heart of the Verde Valley, a diverse crossroad featuring amazing adventures in every direction. Only two hours from Phoenix and 25 minutes from Sedona, Verde Canyon Railroad is the perfect Arizona day trip. Reservations are accepted at 800.293.7245 or online at [verdecanyonrr.com](file:///C%3A%5CVerde%20Canyon%20Railroad%5C2015%5CPress%20Releases%5Cverdecanyonrr.com).

*It’s not the destination; it’s the colorific journey*

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