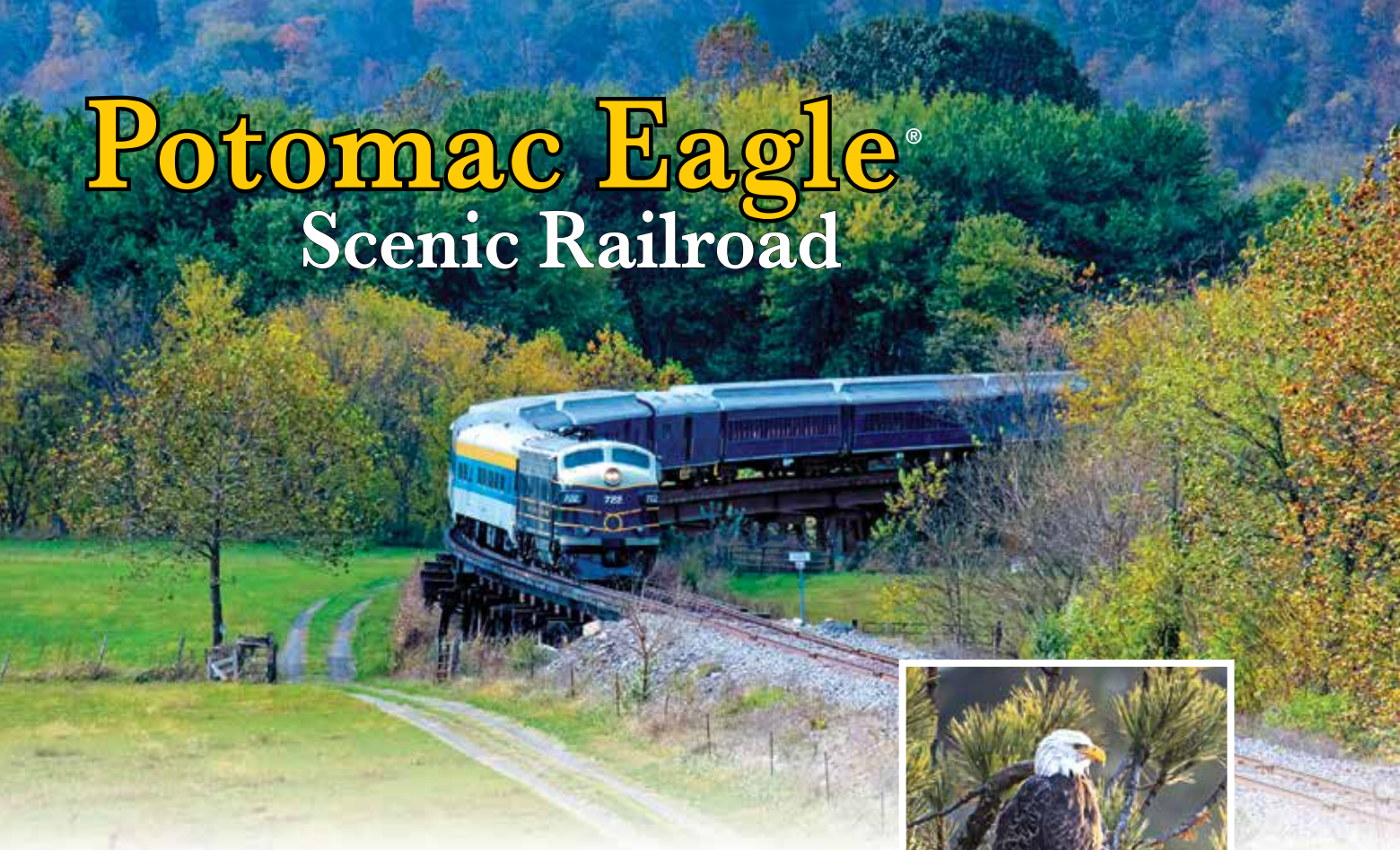


# Potomac Eagle® Scenic Railroad



*Fall foliage along the South Branch of the Potomac River – Romney, West Virginia*

Written by: **Jodi Burnsworth**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

As summer slips away, cooler temperatures and colorful foliage takes its place—a sure sign of autumn splendor! A train ride is a unique way to take in that fantastic fall color.

Your journey begins at Wappocomo Station, situated next to a charming homestead and a sprawling view of the mountains. Enjoy the sounds of vintage diesels as they lead you through beautiful pastures and farms dating back to the 1700s. As you wind along the South Branch of the Potomac River, you'll enter a visually striking gorge known as the Trough. One of the most scenic spots along the South Branch, the Trough is home to American bald eagles.

Our Trough Trip, a three-hour round-trip to see bald eagles, is offered every day, October 1-28, 2018. On weekdays, departures are 1 pm. On Saturdays and Sundays, two departures are offered: 10 am and 2:30 pm, except Sunday, October 28, the last day of the season, there is one departure, at 1 pm.

Two classes of service are offered on our excursions: Club and Coach. Club includes a 3-course meal, complemented



**The gorge known as the Trough along the South Branch of the Potomac River is home to American bald eagles.**





with Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad china. These beautifully restored lounge cars offer loveseats with tables and are climate-controlled. Reservations required; entree chosen at time of reservation.

Coach is great for families or groups, as an affordable (yet still comfortable) seating option on the train. These 1920s era coaches have cushioned, high-back, bench-style seats, with a reversible back so passengers can face in either direction the train is moving. Windows may be opened.

We welcomed a new engine to our fleet this year! Canadian Pacific number 8250 was built in 1955, originally as CP 8516. After retirement, it was purchased by Larry's Truck and Electric in Ohio in 2015. Potomac Eagle purchased it last fall and it was delivered in November 2017. Our crew spent the winter and spring doing maintenance and giving it a new paint scheme. Now in Potomac Eagle blue, it really complements the rest of our equipment. You'll find it leading southbound on excursions, while our beloved 722, in its B&O scheme, leads northbound.

Due to popular demand, we added more Green Spring Specials this year! Previously, we offered this trip just once



PHOTO COURTESY JODI BURNSWORTH

**Above: A new engine – the Canadian Pacific #8250 – was added to the Potomac Eagle Scenic Railroad this year. The new paint scheme of Potomac Eagle blue was completed in the Spring.**

**Inset: the Canadian Pacific #8250 pre primer and new paint.**

a year for those railfans who enjoyed riding “rare mileage.” We found over the past two years that more families are enjoying this trip because it is shorter and more affordable. The trip to Green Spring is a 1½ hour trip northbound, approximately 25 miles round-trip. Enjoy river views along the South Branch of the Potomac River as well as beautiful farmland and rock cuts (like Hanging Rock).

The October Trough Trips book quickly so be sure to make reservations soon. Book online at [potomaceagle.info](http://potomaceagle.info) or call **304-424-0736**.