

SUNSHINE SPECIAL

Coach - Stabled at Council Bluffs

The *Sunshine Special* was built by American Car & Foundry in 1954 as 44-seat coach No. 5480. It was named *Sunshine Special* in 1989.

The train Sunshine Special made its first trip on Dec. 5, 1915, providing through service over the Missouri Pacific lines and the Texas and Pacific Railway between St. Louis and Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Galveston and San Antonio, Texas. By 1924, the route of the Sunshine Special had been extended to Shreveport, La.; Laredo and El Paso, Texas; and Los Angeles.

In 1929, through service was extended to New Orleans and to Corpus Christi and Brownsville, Texas. Two more significant developments occurred a year later: the Southwest's first deluxe lounge-observation cars were added to the Sunshine consist; and through sleeping cars were placed in daily service between St. Louis and Mexico City, Mexico. The Sunshine Special also was among the first trains to offer the comfort of air-conditioning in 1933. Deluxe dining lounge cars also were added then.

The Sunshine Special was replaced by the Texas Eagle on Aug. 15, 1948, and was last listed in the December 1961 timetable.





Configuration: Sunshine Special is a Flat Coach Car with public restrooms at each end of the car and coach-style seating in the remainder of the car. Total seating capacity is 44.