

THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL QUIZ

SCOUT: _____ UNIT #: _____

- Name the two fur trading companies responsible for the majority of the exploration in the areas that the California Trail would eventually pass through?
 - _____
 - _____
- The California Trail begins in _____, Missouri and was _____ miles long.
- The trail was used between the years of _____ and _____.
- It is believed that as many as _____ people traveled the trail to California.
- The entire trip to California took between _____ and _____ months.
- Name four of the states that settlers passed through to get to California.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- _____ were the preferred draft animal of the westward-bound settlers.
- Wood was scarce along much of trail so _____ were burned.
- Speaking of which, it is estimated that there were between _____ and _____ million bison roaming the American west at the time the California Trail was in use.
- The _____ is generally credited with being the first true emigrant wagon train. It left Missouri in _____.
- The discovery of _____ spurred a massive immigration to California in 1849?
- _____ thought that he found a faster route to California.
- The most famous group of people that traveled the trail was the _____ party.
- They were trapped in the California mountains by a _____, and it is believed that the survivors resorted to _____ to stay alive.
- Wagon train _____ still exist as evidence of the California Trail.
- At Fort Bridger, Wyoming, the California trail splits into _____ branches.
- What are the names of the three cutoffs that ran out of Salt Lake City, Utah?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- The California Trail logo used by the National Park Service depicts an _____ as a testament of the absolute value of these animals to complete the trek.
- Who signed Register Rock? _____
- The transcontinental _____ was completed in _____ and began to replace the wagon trains to California.

THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL QUIZ ANSWERS

The purpose of this quiz is to increase the scout's awareness of the history of the California trail and to also generate an appreciation for the strength of character and tenacity that the early settlers exhibited by embarking on and completing the trip to California or Oregon. All of the answers are found in the three pages of text describing the history of the trail. You can have them read the text and fill out the answers as they read, answer from memory, or complete the questions during a group discussion. The choice is yours.

Answers in **BOLD**.

1. Name the two fur trading companies responsible for the majority of the exploration in the areas that the California Trail would eventually pass through?

A. **Hudson Bay Company**

B. **John Jacob Astor's Fur Company**

2. The California Trail begins in **Independence**, Missouri and was **2000** miles long.

3. The trail was used between the years of **1840** and **1870**.

4. It is believed that as many as **500,000** people traveled the trail to California.

5. The entire trip to California took between **4.5** and **5** months.

6. Name four of the states that settlers passed through to get to California.

A. **Nebraska**

B. **Wyoming**

C. **Idaho**

D. **Nevada**

7. **Oxen** were the preferred draft animal of the westward-bound settlers.

8. Wood was scarce along much of trail so **buffalo chips** were burned.

9. Speaking of which, it is estimated that there were between **40** and **100** million bison roaming the American west at the time the California Trail was in use.

10. The **Bidwell-Bartleson Party** is generally credited with being the first true emigrant wagon train. It left Missouri in **1841**.

11. The discovery of **gold** spurred a massive immigration to California in 1849?

12. **Hastings** thought that he found a faster route to California.

13. The most famous group of people that traveled the trail was the **Donner** party.

14. They were trapped in the California mountains by a **snow storm**, and it is believed that the survivors resorted to **cannibalism** to stay alive.

15. Wagon train **ruts/tracks** still exist as evidence of the California Trail.

16. At Fort Bridger, Wyoming, the California trail splits into **four** branches.

17. What are the names of the three cutoffs that ran out of Salt Lake City, Utah?

A. **The Salt Lake Cutoff**

B. **The Bidwell-Bartleson Route**

C. **Hastings Cutoff**

18. The California Trail logo used by the National Park Service depicts an **Ox yoke** as a testament of the absolute value of these animals to complete the trek.

19. Who signed Register Rock? **Emigrants traveling the California and Oregon trails.**

20. The transcontinental **railroad** was completed in **1860** and began to replace the wagon trains to California.

California Historic Trail Award Application Form

Requirements for Awards

Check the requirements as you complete them.

Medal:

___ A. Camp 2 days and 1 night in the vicinity of the trail. Date: ____/____/____

Campsite Location: _____ in _____
(state)

___ B. Travel the Trail Using One or More of the Choices Below

- Hike at least 10 Miles
- Cycle at least 15 Miles or Mountain Bike 10 miles
- Horseback ride 10 Miles
- Canoe, raft, kayak or paddle 10 miles

___ C. Visit an Interpretive Center or Historic Trail Marker Date: ____/____/____

Statement of Completion

Abiding by the principles of scouting, the undersigned do hereby verify that all members receiving Historic Trail award in our unit did complete the requirements listed above to the best of their ability and became eligible for this recognition on (date): ____/____/____

(signature of youth unit leader)

(signature of adult unit leader)

California Historic Trail Award Order Form

Unit Information

Please enter your unit number:

Cub Scout Pack No. _____

Varsity Team No. _____

Boy Scout Troop No. _____

Venturing Crew No. _____

Council Name: _____ District: _____

Leader's Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number:(_____) _____

Email: _____

(necessary for confirmation of packet)

Request for Awards

Upon qualification, we would like to receive:

<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Total</i>
_____	Trail medals @ 15.50 each	\$ _____
_____	Trail certificates @ \$3.50	\$ _____
	The total of our order is	\$ _____

(Shipping and Handling are included in the price of the award)

Submission Checklist

Please enclose the following things with your packet:

- _____ A. Signed and completed Application.
- _____ B. A typed/printed list of the names as you would like them to appear on the certificates.
- _____ C. Completed Order Form.
- _____ D. A check made out to: **Historic Trail Medals** for amount listed above.
- _____ E. Address where you would like awards mailed if different than above.

Mail your completed packet
to: Historic Trails Program
13032 South 1300 West
Riverton, Utah 84065

We will confirm the arrival of your packet by email within 3-4 days of receiving it from the USPS. Please allow 2-6 weeks for us to complete the certificates and mail the awards back to you. If you want to check on your application or have a question you would like to ask, please email us at questions@historictrailmedals.com.