

As a member of OSTA you can:

Help the Association to conduct research, protect, preserve, interpret, and promote appropriate use of the nation's 15th National Historic Trail.

Help to make all Americans (and others) aware of the cultural mix, history, and significance of the Trail and the Southwestern U.S., through OSTA's 40 or more Trail Partners all along the trail.

Help to develop the participation of your tribe, community, or business in telling the stories and providing experiences related to your culture and the trail, in your own words and with your own special emphasis. (OSTA can provide experienced consultation to help develop suitable programming and can help attract visitors to stop and stay in your area, while enriching their visit with information and experiences.)

Drive, bike, walk, camp along segments of the three routes (2,700 miles) between Santa Fé, NM, and Los Angeles, CA. In the trail's six states, enjoy some of America's most diverse scenery, from alpine valleys and forested passes to spectacular deserts.

Visit a dozen national forests, a dozen national parks and monuments, many special Bureau of Land Management sites, state, county, and city parks along the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

Participate in national and chapter meetings, activities, and projects, along the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

Meet and compare notes with people from Partner Associations from other National Historic and Scenic Trails and the federal officials who administer and fund the national trails system. Partner meetings help us visit trails all across the country.

Photograph pictographs, stunning scenery, flowers and trees, wildlife, and cultural places and events in mostly rural settings.

Write prose and poetry about the trail's inspirational places and people.

Start a list of birds, insects, or mammals seen along the Trail, by location and month; compile your list with others for a checklist that future visitors can use.

Do field detective work on segments of this National Historic Trail. Discuss your own trail investigations with leading authorities.

Meet Utes, Pueblos, Apaches, Paiutes, Navajos, and others who share your interest in southwestern history from their perspectives; visit their tribal parks, museums, and cultural displays; taste their foods; enjoy their lands' natural wonders.

Discover how your family, culture, and community were influenced by the OTrail.

Visit traditional Hispanic communities, their religious heritage, historic museums, special outdoor facilities and events.

Discover churches, missions, moradas and chapels of early 1800s and compare them to those of today.

Discuss culture and family history with Hispanics, Indians, and Anglos whose ancestors rode horses or walked thousands of miles on the Old Spanish Trail.

Trace the names of OST traders and emigrants in CA, CO, and NM to discover their genealogical lines to the present.

Study the historic breeds of horses and sheep, the packing of mules.

Cook the foods used by the traders on the trail and their families at home.

Study the techniques and designs of weavers who supplied the traders with woolen goods. Start a collection of the traditional weavings from several active weaving centers.

Read the trail news, opinions, and scholarly articles about OSNHT in *Spanish Traces*.

Keep up with developments, the latest maps, and outstanding photographs, and the members-only section of www.oldspanishtrail.org.

