

**Connecting Trails Across the Nation** 





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# MAKES A TRAIL?

# THREE TYPES OF TRAILS

- National scenic trails are 100 miles or longer, continuous, primarily nonmotorized routes of outstanding recreation opportunity. Such trails are established by Act of Congress.
- National historic trails commemorate historic (and prehistoric) routes of travel that are of significance to the entire Nation. They must meet all three criteria listed in Section 5(b)(11) of the National Trails System Act. Such trails are established by Act of Congress.
- National recreation trails, also authorized in the National Trails System Act, are existing regional and local trails recognized by either the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior upon application.

Sources: National Park Service Website





# NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

- Appalachian National Scenic Trail
- Continental Divide National Scenic Trail
- Ice Age National Scenic Trail
- Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
- Arizona Trail
- Florida Trail
- Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail
- New England National Scenic Trail
- North Country National Scenic Trail
- Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail
- Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail



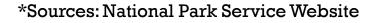


#### APPALACHIAN TRAIL

- The Appalachian Trail is a 2,180+ mile long public footpath that traverses the scenic, wooded, wild, and culturally resonant lands of the Appalachian Mountains.
- Conceived in 1921, built by private citizens, and completed in 1937, today the trail is managed by the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, numerous state agencies and thousands of volunteers.
- The Appalachian Trail spans from Maine to Georgia (through 14 different states), with the highest point being Clingman's Dome in Tennessee.
- Less than 15,000 people have successfully thru hiked the trail.











- The Ice Age National Scenic Trail is a thousandmile footpath that highlights these landscape features as it travels through some of the state's most beautiful natural areas. The Trail is entirely within Wisconsin.
- The Ice Age Trail is open for hiking, backpacking and snowshoeing. Many segments support crosscountry skiing, too.
- More than one million people use the Ice Age Trail each year.
- The trail is maintained by the National Park Service, the Ice Age Alliance, and volunteers
  – without the volunteers their trail would not be as developed as it is.
- \*Credit: Ice Age Alliance





# NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

- Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail
- California National Historic Trail
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail
- El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail
- El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail
- Iditarod National Historic Trail
- Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail
- Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
- Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail
- Nez Perce National Historic Trail

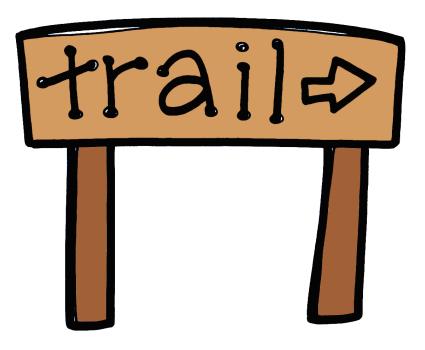






## NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

- Old Spanish National Historic Trail
- Oregon National Historic Trail
- Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail
- Pony Express National Historic Trail
- Santa Fe National Historic Trail
- Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail
- Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail
- Trail of Tears National Historic Trail
- Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

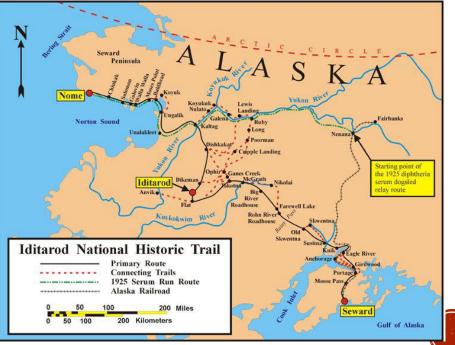




#### IDITAROD NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- 1,000 mile trail from Seward, AK to Nome, AK– only National Historic Trail in Alaska
- Established a trail in 1978 because it offers "a rich diversity of climate, terrain, scenery, wildlife, recreation and resources in an environment largely unchanged since the days of the stampeders." (source BLM website)
- Established to commemorate the last great American gold rush.
- The trail strung together many mining camps, trading posts, and villages from the 1880s to the 1920s.
- Part of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race travels down the Iditarod National Historic Trail.

Source: Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance



#### SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

- The trail was a 900 mile transportation route between Franklin, MO and Santa Fe, NM– goes through five states.
- The trail was pioneered by William Becknell in September 1821.
- Cloth was one of the major goods that was traded in the southwest during this time.
  - Calico, chambray, flannels, linens, and silks were some of the kinds of cloth included.
- In the 1880s the railroad stretched from Missouri to New Mexico and the end of the Santa Fe Trail was in sight.

