

## Ready for Your Badge?



1. Fill out your contact information:

Name _		
Address		
-		
Phone		

2. Photograph your completed booklet and email it to:

ntir\_Junior\_Ranger@nps.gov

Learn more about the trail at: nps.gov/elte



Ocean

## El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail

Junior Ranger Program

# The Royal Road

El Camino Real de los Tejas connected Mexico City to western Louisiana. Think of traveling 400 years ago through swollen rivers, vast forests, wet swamps, and hot deserts. Missionaries and soldiers used the route to increase and protect Spain's claim on the land across the breadth of today's Texas –1,000 miles! The American Indians living there experienced great change. Texas is a big state with a long history!



What do you see in the logo that represents one of the three groups of people impacted by the royal road?

#### Ft. Worth. • Dallas Los Adaes UNITED STATES Louisiana Austin Houston New Orleans \*Corpus Christi MEXICO Monterrey Saltillo of Mexico Zacatecas 200 Kilometers Aquascalientes 200 Miles Lagos de Moreno Guanaiuato Mexico City Veracruz Pacific

Acapulco

## A 2,500 Mile Walk

What two countries does the royal road cross?

1.			
_			

In the 1600s, Spain was protecting its territory from:

- a. America
- b. Mexico
- c. France

The trail starts in Mexico City and goes to:

- a. Louisiana
- b. California
- c. New Mexico

### Time Goes Fast in the Past

Use the timeline on the brochure to identify the <u>year(s)</u> these events happened.

to



Caddo Indians.

Spaniards establish presidios and missions in an effort to convert numerous Indian groups who lived in the area.

Spain gives Louisiana to France. Three years later the US acquires Louisiana from France Mexico gains independence from Spain.

Texas becomes the 28th state.

# Whose Perspective?

Different people may tell the story of El Camino Real de los Tejas in different ways. They may have positive or negative feelings about the impact of the route. For each of the people below, explain why he or she is on the trail.



Spanish Soldier Soldado español I was born in New Spain (Mexico). I was sent on the trail to:



Coahuiltecan Indian Indígena coahuiteca My people have lived here for generations. To me, the trail means that:



Franciscan Missionary Misionario franciscano I came from Spain. As a missionary, I hope to:

### **Match the Flags**

Many flags flew over Texas between the 1600s and today. Draw a line to match the right flag with the right time period.







- 1686-89 Spaniards search for LaSalle's settlement, but it has been destroyed
- 1762 France cedes (gives up) Louisiana to Spain
- 1821 Mexico gains independence from Spain
- 1836 Republic of Texas is created
- 1859 Caddo are removed to Indian Territory in Oklahoma

In this year, El Camino Real de los Tejas became a national historic trail.

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