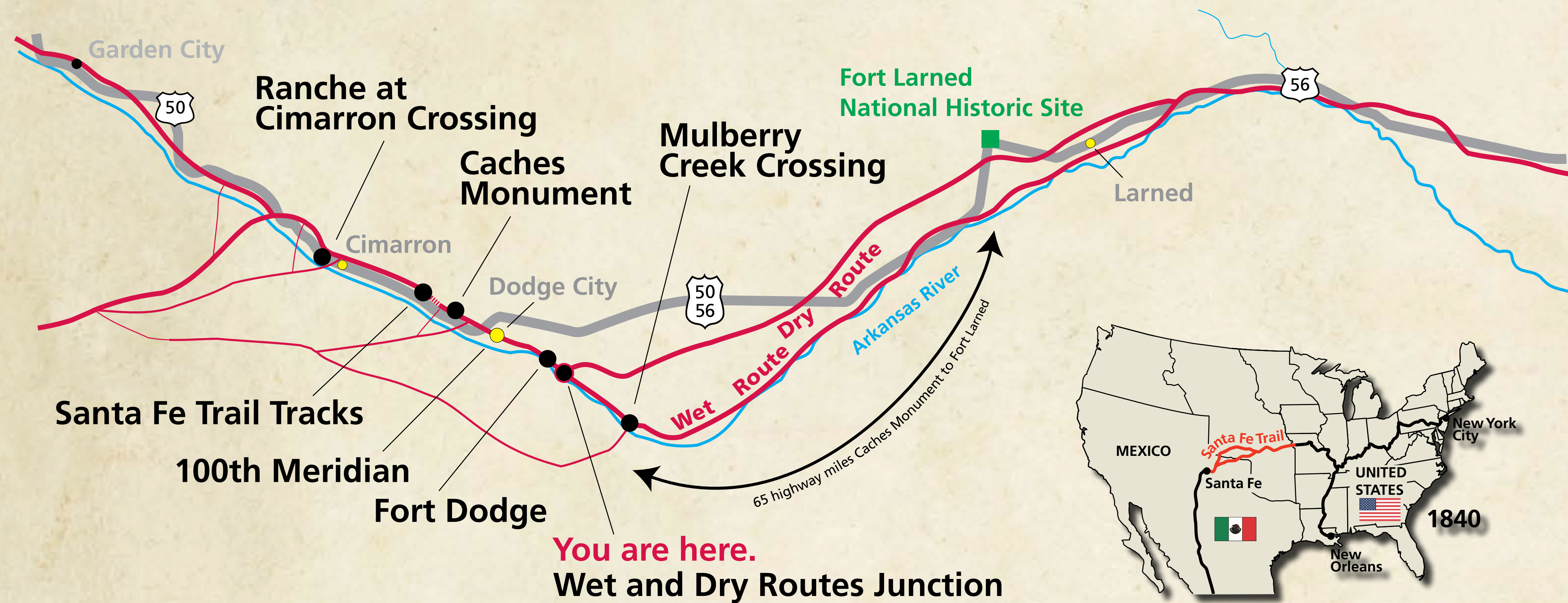


# Wagons Ho!

Near here, eastbound trail travelers made a choice between two routes. The Wet Route, also known as the river route, water road, or lower road, followed the north bank of the Arkansas River and provided a sure source of water. The Dry Route, also called the ridge or ridge road, followed an upland course that was shorter in miles than the Wet Route, but could lack water.

The Dry Route and the Wet Route merged to the east of Fort Dodge. Westbound travelers next had to decide whether to continue along the north side of the Arkansas River to take the Mountain Route or to cross the river and take the Cimarron Route. Mulberry Creek Crossing was the first option, although crossings farther west were often preferred.



## Experience the Santa Fe Trail



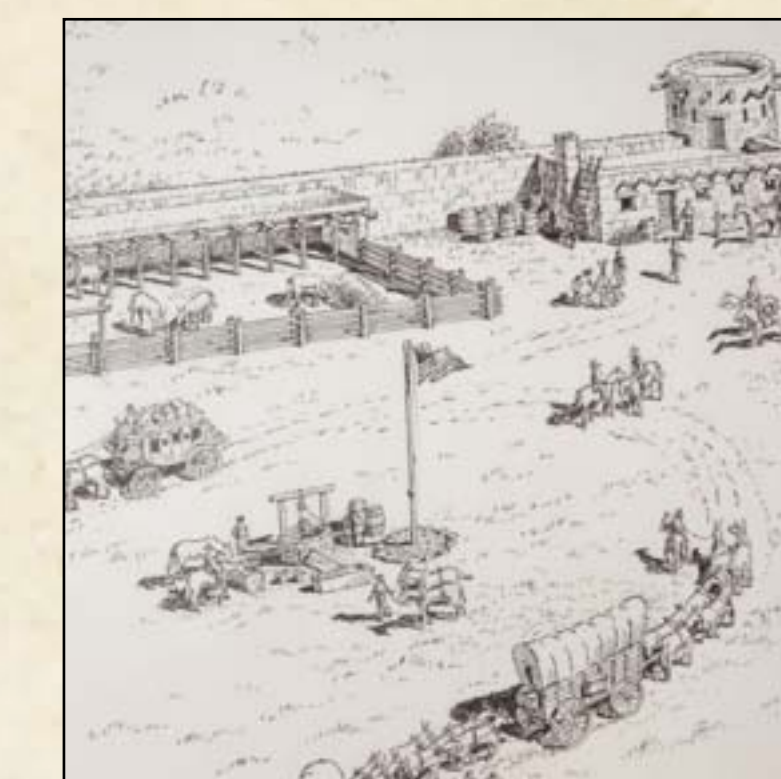
### Military History

Built in 1865, Fort Dodge is the oldest permanent settlement in this area. It protected trail travelers and provided supplies and a resting place for traders and buffalo hunters.



### Ruts and Swales

The ruts at Santa Fe Trail Tracks offer an excellent illustration of how the freighters worked with the terrain to make the easiest passage by hauling wagons up to the high ground.



### Crossings and Ranches

The "Rancho" at Cimarron Crossing provided Santa Fe Trail traders and travelers with accommodations, supplies, and protection. The site is now a public park west of Dodge City in Cimarron.



### Take a Tour!

Have a few hours? Spend part of your day visiting Santa Fe Trail sites in the Dodge City area.

#### Brochure

Printed materials about the Santa Fe Trail in the Dodge City area are available at the Chamber of Commerce.

#### Cell Phone Tour

We have an audio tour—check it out! Dial 505-428-6429, add the number to your contacts list and take your own tour!

#### Media Tour

Have a smart phone or tablet? Scan this code for access to the Santa Fe National Historic Trail website and the complete media tour.



oncell.mobi



### More to Explore

Dodge City is an important western history center. You can visit Boot Hill Museum, take a walk down Front Street, and retrace more of the Santa Fe Trail in town.

Learn more at [www.nps.gov/safe](http://www.nps.gov/safe) and [santafetrail.org](http://santafetrail.org)