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A Photographic Journey along El Camino Real de los Tejas

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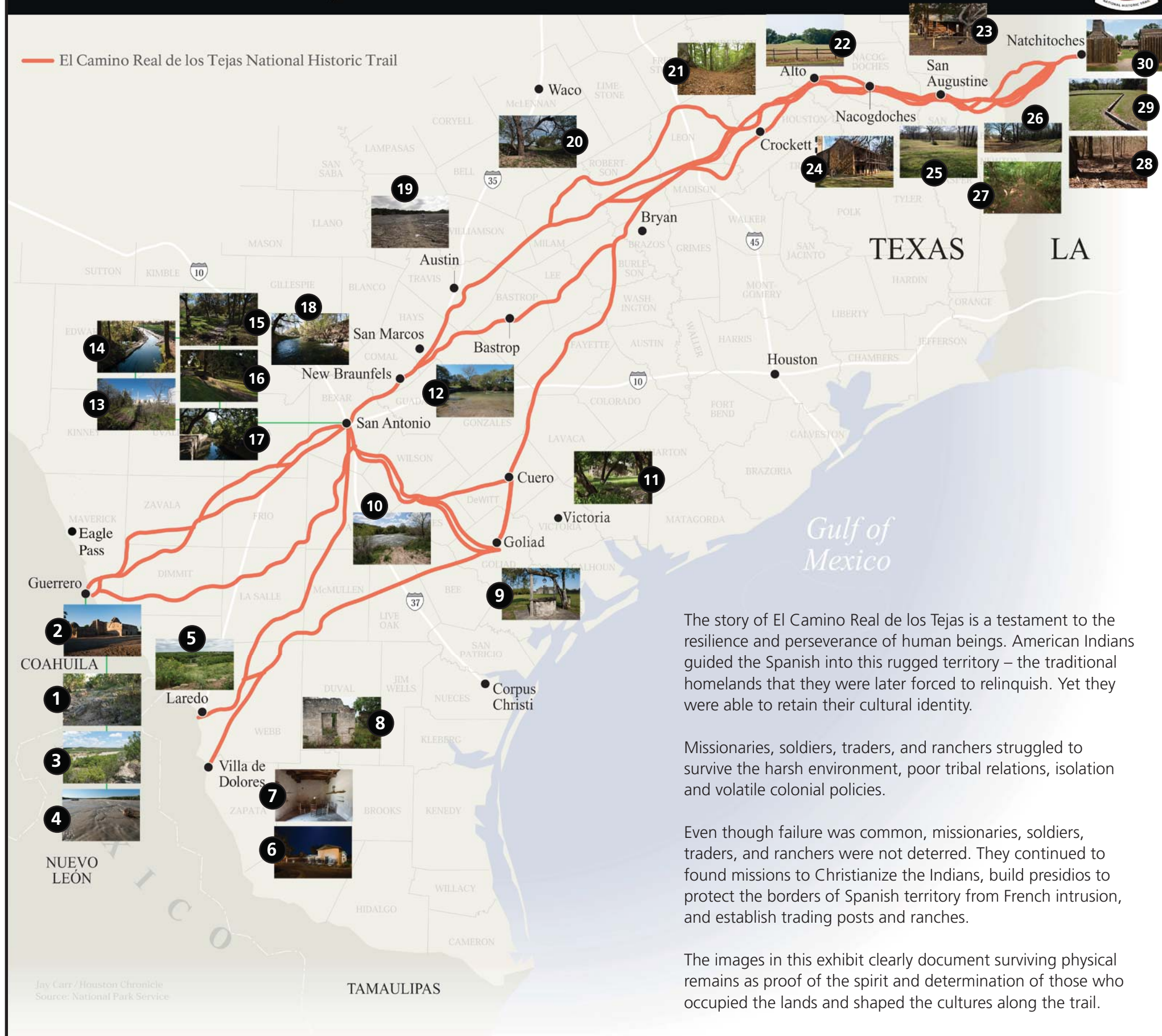
El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail



Featured sites along El Camino Real de los Tejas

The numbers correspond to the sites on the map.

1. Mission San Juan Bautista Guerrero, Mexico
2. Mission San Bernardo Guerrero, Mexico
3. Paso de Francia Maverick County
4. Paso Las Islas Maverick County
5. Paso de Jacinto Webb County
6. Jesús Treviño Ranch & Fort Zapata Zapata County
7. Los Corralitos Zapata County
8. Rancho Los Ojuelos Webb County
9. Presidio Nuestra Señora del Rosario de los Cujanes Goliad County
10. Conquista Crossing Karnes County
11. Mission Nuestra Señora del Espíritu Santo Victoria County
12. McGehee Crossing Hays County
13. Mission San Juan Acequia Bexar County
14. Mission Espada Aqueduct Bexar County
15. Olmos Basin Road Segment Bexar County



16. San Pedro Springs Bexar County
17. Acequia Madre Mission de Valero Bexar County
18. Comal Spring Comal County
19. McKinney Falls State Park Travis County
20. Mission San Xavier Acequia Milam County
21. Mission Tejas State Park Houston County
22. Caddo Mounds State Historic Park Cherokee County
23. Gaines-Oliphant House Sabine County
24. Old Stone Fort Nacogdoches County
25. Nuestra Señora Mission de los Dolores de los Ais San Augustine County
26. Lucky Loop Swales Sabine County
27. Lobanillo Swales Sabine County
28. Camino de la Laguna Natchitoches Parish
29. Presidio Nuestra Señora del Pilar de Los Adaes Natchitoches Parish
30. Fort St. Jean Baptiste Natchitoches Parish

The story of El Camino Real de los Tejas is a testament to the resilience and perseverance of human beings. American Indians guided the Spanish into this rugged territory – the traditional homelands that they were later forced to relinquish. Yet they were able to retain their cultural identity.

Missionaries, soldiers, traders, and ranchers struggled to survive the harsh environment, poor tribal relations, isolation and volatile colonial policies.

Even though failure was common, missionaries, soldiers, traders, and ranchers were not deterred. They continued to found missions to Christianize the Indians, build presidios to protect the borders of Spanish territory from French intrusion, and establish trading posts and ranches.

The images in this exhibit clearly document surviving physical remains as proof of the spirit and determination of those who occupied the lands and shaped the cultures along the trail.

Jay Carr / Houston Chronicle
Source: National Park Service