

Mission Trails Badge

Juniors



GIRL SCOUTS of GREATER LOS ANGELES

www.girlscoutsla.org

California Mission Trails Badge

Purpose Statement:

California is the only state that can claim the history and stories of the 21 California Missions that dot our landscape from San Diego to Sonoma. Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles are proud that two of the missions are within our boundaries. Let's learn about our California heritage!

Step 1

Have you ever been on a car ride and seen a bell and a sign "Historic El Camino Real"? Find out what that refers to and draw a map of the California Mission Trail. Put stars by the missions that are in the boundaries of Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Council.

OR...

Find out about the history of the California Missions. Tell how and why they were built, the number built, who built them and what has happened to them.

OR...

Learn about other cultures that impacted the California Missions. Visit the Mission San Gabriel Arcangel or the Mission San Fernando Rey de Espana. Then using the art format of your choice, show one or two ways on how the culture contributed to our California heritage.

JUST FOR FUN! Visit Smith Park in San Gabriel to see the Gabrielino Tribe Village displayed there.

Step 2

Visit either the Mission San Gabriel Arcangel or the Mission San Fernando Rey de Espana. If you can arrange a docent visit, please do so! Be sure to notice the architecture, wall and roof construction and landscaping. Take pictures or a video and do a presentation to a Brownie troop.

OR...

Compare the two Missions, either in person or in photos. What details are the same and what are different? Why is that?

OR...

All California missions have bells and bell towers. Why? What was their purpose? Sketch or make the bell tower and mission bells out of clay, legos, etc.

Step 3

Select any method you wish and show what life was like at a functioning mission. Skits, storytelling, a short play or puppets may be used for your story. Share with other Junior or Brownie troops.

OR...

Find out about the many products manufactured by the Missions and make at least one. Be sure to know its usage by Indians, guests or the community. How have the Mission products continue to impact our life and the art world today?

OR...

Do a craft from the Mission era. It could be a candle, make soap, weave a small item, make a pottery piece, or try your hand at adobe bricks. How have the Mission craft continue to impact our life and art world today?

Step 4

Murals were an important part of Indian culture and one way to tell a story. Read a story or legend about the Mission San Fernando Rey de Espana or Mission San Gabriel Arcangel and share your version of the Mission by writing a poem, acting out a skit, composing a song, or painting a mural.

OR...

Visit Olvera Street in Los Angeles and see the Blessing of the Animals mural by Leo Politti. While there, visit the asistencia, Nuestra Senora La Reina de Los Angeles. Find out what an asistencia is. Document your trip and share how these are related to the two missions.

OR

Read the book, The Song of the Swallows, by Leo Politti, about the swallows returning to the Mission San Juan Capistrano every year. Discuss this book with your troop members. In the style of a mural, draw a picture from the story.

JUST FOR FUN! Visit the miniature mission display at the side of the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, ½ block from the Mission San Gabriel Arcangel.

Step 5

Construct a model of the Mission San Gabriel Arcangel or the Mission San Fernando Rey de Espana.

OR

Draw an aerial view of your favorite mission. You can draw using a computer graphic program, paint or a pencil drawing.

OR

Using the facts and skills you have learned, organize an exhibit for your community, school, library or troop members.

Once you have completed the requirements for this badge you can purchase them in any of our seven Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles shops.

Check out our locations, hours and contact information at
<http://www.girlscoutsla.org/pages/shop/index.html#hours>