



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Bent's Old Fort
National Historic Site

35110 Highway 194 East
La Junta, CO 81050

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Bent's Old Fort 2011 Calendar of Events

May 8 – September 5: Trails and Rails Trips

Narrated excursions aboard Amtrak's *Southwest Chief* depart La Junta, Colorado on Mondays and Fridays for overnight trips to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Follow the Mountain Branch of the Santa Fe Trail up and over Raton Pass while learning the stories of people, plants and animals along the way. For more information, call (719) 383-5024.

June 3 – 5: Living History Encampment

A training event for new fort volunteers and historic site staff includes classroom instruction as well as hands-on living history work at the fort. Demonstrations of historic crafts for fort visitors will be featured on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For more information on this event, call (719) 383-5023.

July 9: Kids' Quarters

Seven to eleven year-old children are invited to "step back in time" and experience the life of a trapper, trader, laborer, craftsman, Indian, soldier or other roles. Kids learn and practice 19th century skills and experience living history for themselves. Pre-registration is required. Call (719) 383-5051 for an application **after May 1, 2011**.

September 17 – 18: Santa Fe Trail Encampment

The park's main living history event again takes place in the fall, and will include historic interpretations of Santa Fe Trail traders, U.S. Army soldiers and Plains Indians. Experience the hey-day of the trail through ongoing demonstrations. Camps, set up near the fort, will be open for touring. All together over 50 living history volunteers bring the post back to life during this major event! For more information, call (719) 383-5023.

December 2 – 3: Holiday Celebration

Witness for yourself the joys, pleasures and pastimes of the 1840s at an isolated trading post. The spirit of the season comes alive with wagon rides, games, toy making and other holiday festivities. The event begins Friday evening December 2 with candlelight tours of the fort and continues all through Saturday, December 3 culminating with another evening of candlelight tours. For reservations for the evening tours, phone (719) 383-5026 **after October 1, 2011**.



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