

# Santa Fe National Historic Trail



## Santa Fe Trail Activity

Between Fort Wise and Bents Fort, is the Mountain Branch intersecting or running parallel to the Cimarron Cutoff?

From Fort Dodge to Bents Fort, is the Arkansas River intersecting or running parallel to the Mountain Branch?

To the right of Fort Zarah, is the Arkansas River intersecting or running parallel to the Santa Fe Trail?

From Fort Dodge to Bents Fort, is the Cimarron Cutoff intersecting or running parallel to the Arkansas River? Is the Cimarron Cutoff intersecting or running parallel to the Cimarron River?

Does the Arkansas River and the Cimarron River generally intersect or run parallel to each other on this map? What are the closest forts to the intersections of the Cimarron Cutoff and the Mountain Branch?

Draw a line from Independence Missouri to Santa Fe. Which branch of the Santa Fe Trail closely follows this line?

Draw a line from Santa Fe to Bents Fort and a line from Bents Fort to Independence. Which branch follows these lines?

From the lines you drew, what is the angle of the triangle at Bents Fort?

Note: The Santa Fe Trail via the Cimarron Route is 788 miles, and via the Mountain route is 844 miles. Why would people travel the long way to get to Santa Fe?