



Trail of Tears National Historic Trail



TRAIL'S END
The last detachment arrives in Indian Territory on March 24, 1839. The Cherokee are promised subsistence rations through March 1, 1840, in compliance with the Treaty of New Echota.

BENGÉ ROUTE
Starting from Fort Payne, on September 28, 1838, Cherokee leader John Bengé escorts 1,079 Cherokee toward present-day Stilwell, Oklahoma.

BELL ROUTE
Starting from Fort Cass on October 11, 1838, John Bell of the Treaty Party leads 660 Cherokee, ending at present-day Evansville, Arkansas.

WATER DETACHMENTS
Cherokee removals from Ross's Landing and Fort Cass include four water route detachments that prove to be punishing for the Indians: 3,103 depart; 2,273 arrive at Mrs. Webber's Plantation (near present-day Stilwell), Fort Coffee, Lee's Creek (near Stilwell), and Illinois Campground (near Tahlequah).

REMOVAL CAMPS
After being forcibly removed from their homes in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and North Carolina, most Cherokee are moved into 11 removal camps—10 in Tennessee and one in Alabama. There they await the start of an 800-mile journey.

ROSS'S LANDING
Location: Present-day Chattanooga, Tennessee. From June 6 to June 17, 1838, three detachments are forced to leave their homeland for Indian Territory.

VANN'S PLANTATION
Location: Present-day Wolftever Creek, Tennessee. Two detachments totaling 1,642 Cherokee leave in September 1838 bound for Indian Territory.

FORT CASS
Location: Present-day Charleston, Tennessee. From August 23 to December 5, 1838, 10 detachments totaling 9,302 Cherokee are marched from Fort Cass toward Indian Territory.

BLYTHE FERRY
Location: Meigs County, Tennessee. Nine detachments with more than 9,000 Indians cross the Tennessee River.

CHATTANOOGA AREA
Audubon Acres/Spring Frog Cabin
Brainerd Mission Cemetery
Brown's Ferry Tavern Site
Chattanooga Regional History Museum
John Ross House
Ross's Landing
Vann's Plantation

CHARLESTON AREA
Fort Cass
Lewis Ross Home
Rattlesnake Spring
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum

FORT PAYNE AREA
Andrew Ross Home
Fort Payne Cabin Site
Willstown Mission Cemetery

ROUNDUP ROUTES
Fort Payne
Fort Newnan
Fort Wool
Calhoun
New Echota State Historic Site

