

# JOURNEYS ON AN ANCIENT ROAD

## El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Auto Tour

### VALENCIA COUNTY



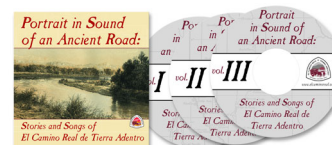
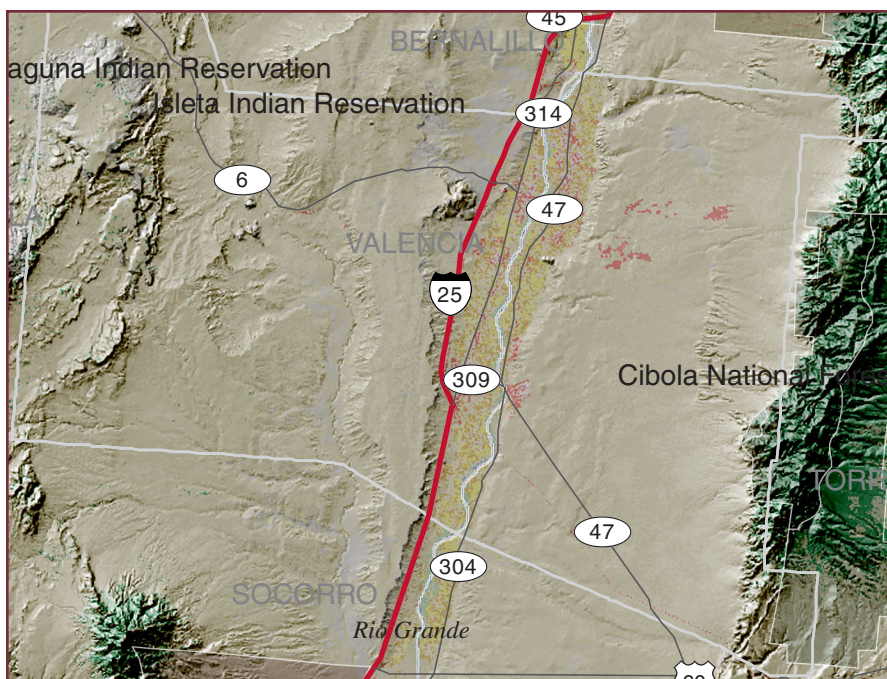
### Trail History

Susan Magoffin, a young bride brought down the trail in 1846 as war erupted behind her, writes of her visit to Los Chavez, "(Monday 12th) We camp tonight in a large piece of woodland belonging to some of the Chavez's—the ricos of New Mexico. The trees are all cotton-woods, which I suppose from the sterility of the soil, are much stunted and from the manner of their situation they resemble an apple orchard—and especially from a distant sight. Tuesday 13th. Noon. This morning we called to see the widow of Don Mariano Chaviz, who was one of the chief men in New Mexico till his death, about a year since. His wealth was immense, and his lands (for Mexico) were improved accordingly. The house is very large—the sala measuring some \_\_\_ feet. This is well furnished with handsome Brussels carpet, crimson worsted chairs, chandelabras. And all the Mexicans have the greatest passion for framed pictures and looking-glasses. In this room of Chavez's house are eight or ten gilt-framed mirrors all round the wall. Around the patio are chambers, store-room, kitchen and others. All is exceedingly neat and clean. La Senora met us and opened the great door, she was very polite, friendly, and invited us to spend sometime with her. All was with true hospitality, and I truly regret we were not able to do so."



### Audio Tour

The three-CD set, *Portrait in Sound of an Ancient Road*, is narrated by Jack Loeffler and produced by the Bureau of Land Management. The CD is available for sale online, at [www.publiclands.org](http://www.publiclands.org), and in person at the Public Lands Information Center (1474 Rodeo Road in Santa Fe), or Wide Open Spaces (6501 Fourth Street NW in Albuquerque). We have selected the tracks most appropriate for traveling through Valencia County.



*suggested tracks:*

#### volume I

- Track #3, Origin of Royal Highways
- Track #8, La Ruta de Onate
- Track #10, A la Jota Serrana
- Track #38, Indian Raiders

#### volume II

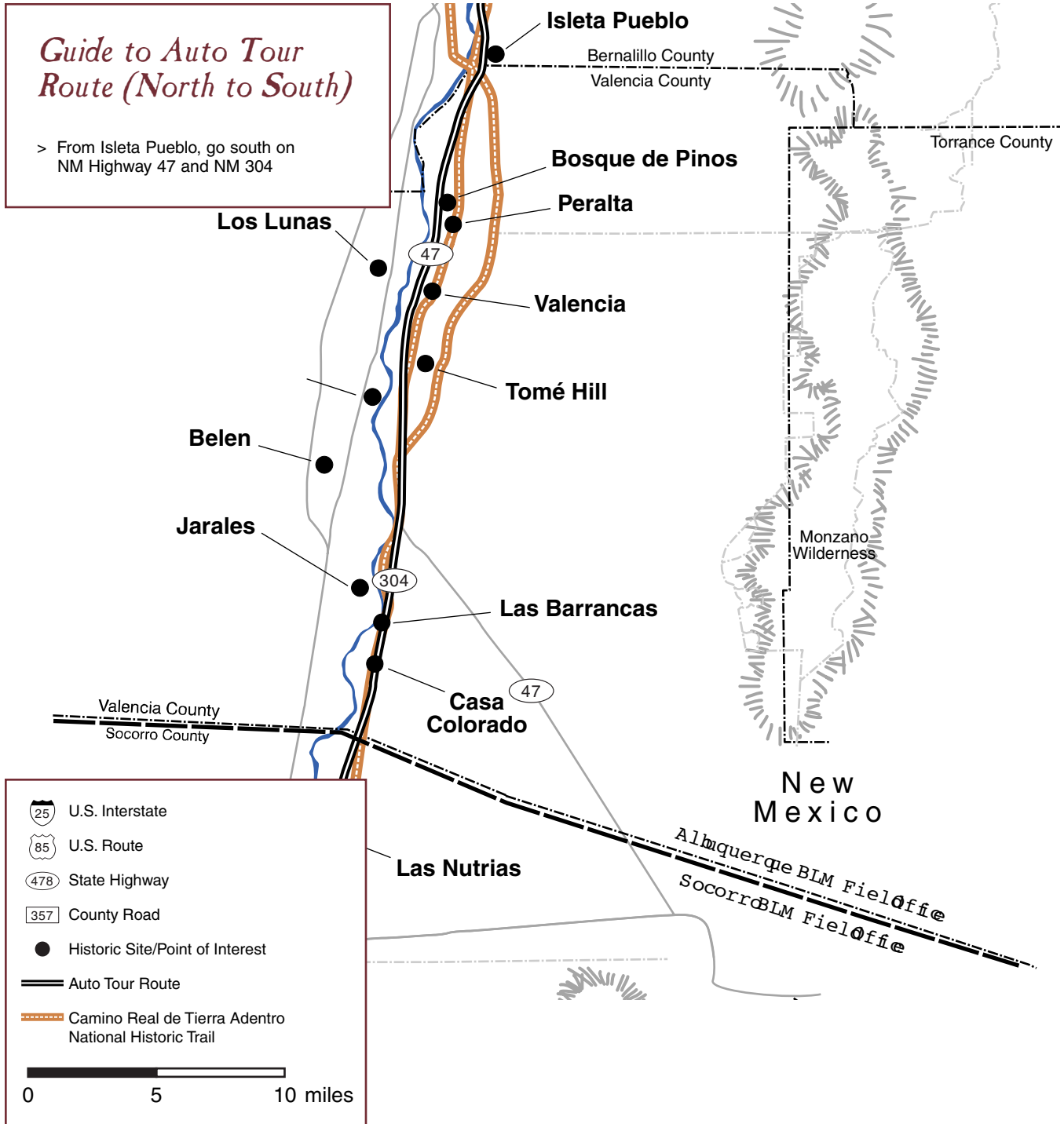
- Track #1, About the Pueblo Revolt of 1680
- Track #13, Los Ciboleros
- Track #20, Tome Hill as a prominent landmark
- Track #21, Tome Hill as a spiritual landmark
- Track #22, Penitentes in Tome
- Track #23, Tome Dominguez Mendosa hacienda
- Track #25, Tome genizaros
- Track #26, Indo-Hispano mestizaje
- Track #27, Genizaros mestizaje
- Track #28, Los Comanchitos
- Track #34, Mestizaje of foods



# *JOURNEYS ON AN ANCIENT ROAD*

## *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Auto Tour*

### *VALENCIA COUNTY*



# JOURNEYS ON AN ANCIENT ROAD

## El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Auto Tour

### VALENCIA COUNTY



Dolor sit amed bost ab forlstret.

### Historic and Cultural Attractions



#### Bosque de Pinos (also Alamos de Pinos or Bosque Farms)

One of the most luxurious estancias in nineteenth century New Mexico was the site of the Civil War Battle of Peralta (1862). Union troops besieged Confederates hiding in the hacienda, and also turned away a Rebel relief column trying to cross the river. The large and well-appointed Chavez hacienda, built in the late 18th century, was located on the east side of New Mexico Highway 47, between Abo and Pine Streets.



#### Peralta

Once the Tiwa pueblo of Mexicalcingo, Peralta was a thriving nineteenth-century community that grew up around the estancias of the Otero family. The original hacienda, built in the 1830s, has been placed in the site now occupied by the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



#### Los Lunas (Los Lentos)

Los Lunas was the site of the Tiwa Piquinaguatengo pueblo (later called San Clemente or Los Lentos) and of early land grants. It became a political and economic center under the tutelage of the powerful Luna family. The Luna-Otero family mansion is a popular historic attraction and restaurant.



#### Valencia

This was the site of a pre-colonial pueblo (a southern Tiwa pueblo, possibly named Caxtole) and a seventeenth-century estancia, abandoned during the Pueblo Revolt. Before 1800, two plazas were established, one at the old pueblo and estancia site and the other to the south.



#### Cerro Tome

Tomé Hill, a natural landmark, served all travelers from prehistoric times into the historic period. A seventeenth-century road ran to the east of the hill, through the estancia of Tomé Dominguez. After the river changed its course in the early eighteenth century and the town was founded in 1739, the main road shifted to go along the valley and by the plaza.



#### Los Chaves

Los Chávez was founded as a farming community in 1738 and was a stop for caravans that used the west bank to travel along the Río Grande.



Dolor sit amed bost ab forlstret.



# JOURNEYS ON AN ANCIENT ROAD

## El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Auto Tour

### VALENCIA COUNTY



### Tomé Hill

Tomé Hill is more than just a landmark; it is a religious site, a refuge, and an inspiration. At the foot of Tomé Hill lies La Puerta del Sol, Gateway to the Sun, a steel sculpture commemorating El Camino Real, the Royal Road and Tomé Hill. The sculpture, by Gallup artist Armando Alvarez, reflects the diverse cultures of the region. La Puerta del Sol is the beginning of a 10-acre park which will include pathways, picnic tables, native plants, bike paths and interpretive panels telling the story of Cerro del Tomé and the people of Tomé.



#### Belen

Belén was constructed on the west bank of the Río Grande in 1741. Most colonial travelers saw it from their camps across the river while later users of the west bank road stopped within the town.



#### Jarales

Jarales and Sabinal were ranchos outside Belén in the eighteenth century through which the west bank variant of the Camino Real ran. Los Jarales was primarily settled by genízaros, or Christianized Indians. Today, Jarales is a small agricultural community.



#### Las Barrancas

Las Barrancas was an estancia before the revolt of 1680 whose name all but disappeared by 1900. The State of New Mexico placed a marker commemorating Las Barrancas alongside New Mexico Highway 47 just south of the A.T.&S.F. railroad tracks.

#### Casa Colorado

Casa Colorado may have been a seventeenth-century landmark. It began its existence as a community early in the nineteenth century.

## Natural Attractions



#### Manzano Mountains, Cibola National Forest

The Manzano Mountains, like all of the rugged ranges on the east bank of the Rio Grande, glow red every with every sunset. For centuries, travelers on El Camino Real, and residents in Belen, Los Lunas, and the many agricultural communities along the river have enjoyed this nightly transformation.

Wildlife in the Manzanos include bighorn sheep, bears, deer, and mountain lions. Hanging food or storing it in your car is recommended. Elevations range from about 6000 feet to over 10,000 feet, and vegetation changes from arid grasslands to spruce-fir forests.

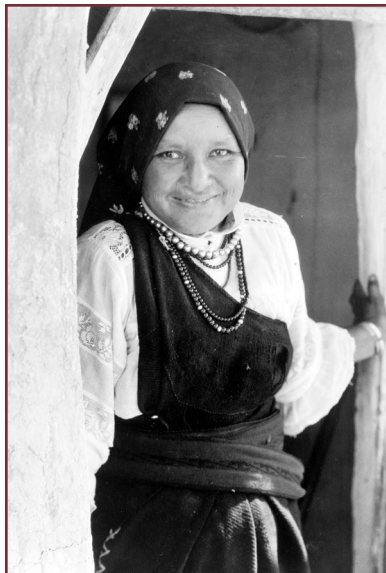
The Manzanos are popular for recreation. The Manzano Mountain Wilderness is a designated wilderness area on the west slope, where no motorized use is permitted. The eastern side features numerous campgrounds tucked in long canyons. The northernmost one, Fourth of July canyon, is a popular autumn colors viewing area. Developed campgrounds and designated trailheads can be found on both sides.



# *JOURNEYS ON AN ANCIENT ROAD*

## *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Auto Tour*

### *VALENCIA COUNTY*



Dolor sit amed bost ab forlstret.



#### **Public Lands Side Trip: Abó Mission ruins**

Located on a pass opening onto the Rio Grande Valley, the Tompiro people of Abó carried on a lively trade with people of the Acoma-Zuñi area, the Galisteo Basin near Santa Fe, and the plains. Salt, hides, and piñon nuts passed through this trading center. Springs provided water for households, crops, and flocks of turkeys. The Abó pueblo was also a major ceramics manufacturing center.

Abó was a thriving community when the Spaniards first visited the Salinas Valley in 1581. Franciscans began converting Abó residents in 1622, and by the late 1620s the first church was finished. Later, a second church was built, equipped with an organ and choir. The Franciscans employed Native Americans as gardeners, porters, sacristans, cooks, bell ringers, and janitors. By 1672, poverty, disease, and raids had weakened this community enough that both the mission and the pueblo were abandoned.

This park is part of the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument, managed by the National Park Service. Recreation is limited to day use, including picnicking, touring exhibits, and visiting the mission ruins and the unexcavated pueblo ruins.

### *Contacts*

**Luna Mansion** 505-865-7333

**City of Belen** 505-864-8221

**Village of Las Lunas** 505-839-3840

**Las Lunas & Bosque Farms Chamber of Commerce** 505-865.1581

**Cibola National Forest, Mountainair Ranger District** 505-281-3304

**Salinas Pueblo National Monument (Abó Mission Ruins)** 505-847-2585

