



AWARD WORKSHEET

Historic Trails Award

Scouts BSA

Name

Started

Completed

The Historic Trails Award connects you with history by visiting a real trail or site where important events happened. You'll research its story, camp nearby, and help preserve it for others. It's a great mix of adventure and learning.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/awards/awards-central/historic-trails/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

- ☐ **1** Find a historic trail or site and study its history, using sources like a historical society, public library, or people living nearby (see the Scouting America Historic Trails list)

Tip: Ask a local historical society, library, or park ranger about historic trails or sites near you. Read up on what happened there.

Example: Research can include a library book, the park's website, old maps, and a conversation with a historical society volunteer. Make a one-page fact sheet: what happened here or who traveled this route, when, why it mattered, and one story about a real person.

- ☐ **2** Spend two days and one night hiking or camping on the trail or near the site (staying at a nearby hotel or other Scouts' homes is OK)

Tip: Plan a two-day, one-night trip along the trail or near the site. Share what you learned with your group around the campfire.

Example: Camp at a campground near the site, hike a marked section of the trail on day one, and share what you learned at the evening campfire, with each Scout telling one fact or story from the research.

- ☐ **3** Work with an adult group, such as a historical society, to restore and put markers on some or all of the trail or site, or to plan and put on a historic pageant, ceremony, or public event there big enough for local press coverage

Tip: Contact the site manager to see what help is needed, like clearing brush, building markers, or helping with a historical event.

Example: Helping could mean clearing brush from a trail segment, repainting or installing trail markers with the land manager, cleaning up a historic cemetery with permission, or helping set up and guide visitors at a living-history day.