

# Discovering the Legacy of Lewis and Clark

BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION 2003-2006

## Exploration

The Corps of Discovery traveled up the Missouri River, over the Rocky Mountains, and down the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Despite great physical challenges, isolation, and river starvation at times, the expedition mapped vast territories of the West. In November 1805, they reached their ultimate destination, the Pacific Ocean. The words of their journals provide exciting glimpses of their remarkable adventures.

## Indian Country

The Corps of Discovery encountered the diversity and generosity of many Indian Nations as they traveled across the land and water. The expedition survived and succeeded because of the shelter, supplies, food, and cooperation of Native American people they met. Now, as then, the people, culture, and land here needs to share.

## Homecoming

With the Missouri River's current, the Corps of Discovery covered up to 70 miles a day and returned to St. Louis on September 23, 1806. The expedition had traveled nearly 8,000 miles of territory in over 2 years. Their detailed journals contributed important information about the land, its geographic features, its natural resources, and its native peoples.

## Preparation

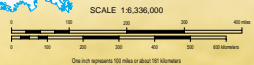
On January 18, 1803, President Jefferson asked Congress for \$2,500 for a small U.S. Army unit to explore the Missouri and Columbia Rivers. Jefferson chose Captain Meriwether Lewis to lead the expedition. To prepare for this monumental trek, Lewis studied a wide range of scientific topics in Philadelphia. Lewis also assembled supplies and armaments from Harpers Ferry and recruited boatmen from Pittsburgh.

## Recruitment

Journeying down the Ohio River, Lewis, and co-commander Captain William Clark, recruited civilians and military personnel of "hardy stock" from along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The members of the expedition were as diverse in backgrounds as the lands they were to explore. Each member provided critical skills and expertise for the success of the mission.



- Preparation
- Recruitment
- Exploration and Homecoming
- Indian Reservation
- Louisiana Purchase Boundary
- Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail



SCALE 1:136,000  
 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 Miles  
 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 Kilometers  
 One inch represents 100 miles or about 160 kilometers.  
 Tribal Reservations are not public lands and are enclosed by boundaries established by treaties and proclamations. In some cases these boundaries are more irregular than is held in view. It is suggested to acquire most lands from other interested lands at the state. Tribal Reservations smaller than a township (36 square miles, or roughly 23,000 acres) generally are omitted. Such does not prevent naming each of the Indian lands at California.  
 Preparation route source: Frank Mahy, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia Chapter



On July 25, 1806, Captain Clark inscribed his own name and date in the rock of "Pompey Pillar" named for Sacagawea's son whom he nicknamed "Pomp." Today, Pompey Pillar National Monument, near Billings, Montana, is the only site along the entire Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail where the public can view physical evidence of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.