



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Explore the Old Spanish Trail**  
**2026 OSTA CONFERENCE**

**April 23–25, 2026 | Las Vegas, Nevada**  
**Located at The Nevada State Museum**



**Explore the Old Spanish Trail: A Unique Conference**  
**Experience Ride Through History—Literally.**

Join us for an unforgettable, immersive conference that brings the Old Spanish Trail to life by taking you directly along its historic path in Nevada. Ride in comfort aboard a motorcoach and experience the landscapes, stories, and legacy of this remarkable trade route firsthand.

# LAS VEGAS TOURS

## Friday Tour

### **NORTHBOUND FROM LAS VEGAS:**

- The adventure kicks off at Apex Summit, situated at the northern edge of the Las Vegas Valley. Here, passengers will marvel at breathtaking views of the Old Spanish Trail (OST) trace as it gracefully descends into the valley below.
- The motorcoach will then traverse through the historic Jornada del Muerto, a route rich with story and significance, from Las Vegas Springs to the enchanting Muddy River. Travelers will experience the same awe-inspiring topography that early travelers on the OST encountered centuries ago.
- As we cruise through this landscape, the massive Gemini Solar Field will come into view, starkly contrasting the historical setting. This solar project highlights the region's modern advancements while serving as a reminder of the changing environment.
- The Muddy River area, deeply intertwined with the history of the OST, will be a focal point of discussion, shedding light on its importance in early travel and commerce.
- As we approach the majestic Mormon Mesa, the bus will pause to allow travelers to observe the OST trace as it gracefully descends the mesa. A stop at the newly installed silhouettes at the mesa's summit will reveal artistic representations that commemorate the trail's significance.
- At the Virgin River, passengers will glimpse the challenging ascent that the OST faced, where early explorers struggled with not only the rugged terrain but also with the encounters with the Paiute Indians, as vividly described in Frémont's journals.
- The journey will continue to Utah Hill along old Highway 91, where travelers will enjoy stunning vistas of the OST silhouettes and engage with Al Matheson, who will enlighten them with a talk about the history of the region.
- The day will culminate with a return to Las Vegas, concluding at the Old Mormon Fort, a historic adobe structure that offers a glimpse into the region's past and provides a fitting backdrop for our evening function.



### Saturday Tour

#### **SOUTHWEST FROM LAS VEGAS:**

- The journey begins with the motorcoach leaving Las Vegas and heading towards the quaint Blue Diamond/Cottonwood Springs area. Here, the bus will stop to view newly installed silhouettes, explore the historic spring site, and examine a nearby trace of the OST.
- As the bus rolls along, travelers will be treated to spectacular views of the towering Red Rock Escarpment, a stunning geological feature that adds a dramatic backdrop to the journey.
- Our next stop will be at Spring Mountain Summit, a refreshing oasis where we will take a moment to appreciate the natural beauty of the area before moving onward.
- On the west side of the Spring Mountains, travelers will observe the ancient wagon and mule traces carved into the land, tangible reminders of the arduous journeys undertaken by early settlers.
- As we weave through the serene Pahrump Valley along the Old Spanish Trail Highway, the landscape transforms as new solar fields emerge, showcasing the ongoing change in the region. Passengers will also learn of a proposed solar field site that has raised concerns with the Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA).
- The tour will continue over the historic Emigrant Pass, where the original wagon trace can be seen adjacent to the mule trace, further connecting travelers with the past.
- Upon our return to Las Vegas, we will conclude the day's adventure at the Old Spanish Trail Park, a vibrant site featuring a segment of the historic trail and informative interpretive signage to enhance our understanding of the area's heritage.
- Finally, as a delightful ending to a day of exploration, we'll make a leisurely stop at the charming China Ranch. This hidden gem, if accessible by motorcoach, offers tasty date shakes, scrumptious baked goods, and a tranquil desert oasis atmosphere that invites relaxation and reflection.

