TRAVEL

Where To Find Treasure Maps In Red Dead Redemption

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The Allure of Buried Riches in the Wild West

The vast, untamed wilderness of Red Dead Redemption is more than just a backdrop for outlaw adventures and epic gunfights. It is a world brimming with secrets, from hidden cabins and legendary animals to the elusive, sparkling promise of buried treasure. For many players, the question of **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption**is the first step on a journey that transforms them from a simple gunslinger into a fortune hunter. These maps are not just items; they are keys to some of the most rewarding and challenging side content in the game. They lead you off the beaten path, encouraging you to study the landscape, interpret cryptic drawings, and uncover caches of gold bars, cash, and unique items. This guide will take you through the dusty trails and dark forests to find every significant treasure map, covering both the original Red Dead Redemption and its prequel, Red Dead Redemption 2, ensuring you never miss a single piece of eight.

Understanding Treasure Maps in the Red Dead Series

Before you saddle up, it is important to understand the two main types of treasure maps you will encounter. The mechanics between the 2010 original and the 2018 prequel differ slightly, but the core thrill remains the same. In both games, a treasure map is usually a piece of paper with a hand-drawn sketch that depicts a specific landmark or a series of landmarks. Your job is to identify the real-world location in the game world that matches the drawing. You then need to search the immediate area for a glowing, lootable object, often a lockbox or a strongbox. The reward is almost always substantial, making these quests well worth the effort. Knowing **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption**is the first part of the puzzle; the second is having the patience to decode them.

Where to Find Treasure Maps in Red Dead Redemption (The Original)

The original Red Dead Redemption features a smaller, but highly rewarding, set of treasure maps. These are primarily tied to the **Treasure Hunter Outfit**and the "Treasured Knowledge" challenge. The challenge is a multi-stage quest that requires you to find and decipher a series of maps.

The Treasured Knowledge Challenge

This is the primary source of treasure hunting in the original game. It is a single, continuous questline that you can begin after completing the mission "Old Friends, New Problems." Here is the breakdown of **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption** for this specific challenge:

- Map 1: The Debut - This map is given to you automatically by a stranger named Mina Aruya (or you can find her). She is located just north of Chuparosa. She will give you the first map and ask you to find the

treasure. The first location is near the "T" in "Río Bravo" on the map, under a large rock formation.

- Map 2: The Trail Continues - You find the second map inside the treasure chest at the first location. It takes you to a spot near the "O" in "Río Bravo," close to a distinctive cactus.
- Map 3: The Final Haul - The third map is found in the second chest. This final map leads you to a location north of Plainview, near a specific rock arch. Clearing this challenge rewards you with the Treasure Hunter Outfit, which is one of the most valuable items in the game as it grants infinite stamina for your horse.

Other Valuable Maps in the Original Game

While the Treasured Knowledge challenge is the main event, there are other, less structured ways to get rich.

- Bounty Hunter Maps: While not "treasure maps" in the traditional sense, completing bounty hunter side missions often rewards you with substantial cash and unique items, which is its own form of treasure hunting.
- Looting Fallen Enemies: This is a less reliable but surprisingly common way to get map pieces. If you methodically loot every enemy you kill, especially gang leaders and high-ranking outlaws, you might stumble upon a map. This is a true testament to being thorough if you are wondering where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption without a specific quest marker.

Where to Find Treasure Maps in Red Dead Redemption 2

Red Dead Redemption 2 dramatically expands the treasure-hunting mechanics. There are numerous separate treasure maps and quests, each with its own reward, often in the form of gold bars worth $500. The world is littered with them, and knowing **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption**2 is essential for any serious player.

The Jack Hall Gang Treasure

This is the first treasure map you will almost certainly encounter. It is designed to introduce you to the concept.

- Location: The first map is found in a burnt-out saloon in the town of Limphany, located in Lemoyne. It is sitting on a table in the back room. This map leads you to a location near the "M" in "Lemoyne" on the map, where you find a second map. The final treasure is at a stone pillar near the "O" in "Lemoyne."
- Reward: Two Gold Bars ($500 each).

The High Stakes Treasure

This is one of the most well-known and rewarding treasure hunts in the game.

- Finding Map 1: You can get the first map from a stranger named Maxime at the Flatneck Station train station. He challenges you to a race. Beat him, and he gives you the first map. Alternatively, you can loot it from his corpse if you decide to rob him.
- The Hunt Continues: The map leads to a location near the "O" in "New Hanover" on the map, specifically at Cairn Lake. You will find a second map in a lockbox under the ice. The third map is found at a location near the "W" in "Ambarino," inside a frozen cabin. The final treasure is located at a stone formation west of Window Rock.
- Reward: Four Gold Bars ($2,000 total).

The Poisonous Trail Treasure

This is a darker, more mysterious hunt. You begin by finding a specific location rather than a map.

- Starting Point: Travel to the shack north of Strawberry, called Mount Shann. Inside, you will find the body of a treasure hunter and the first map. This map leads you to a location near Bacchus Station, where a second map is found in a tree stump.
- Final Stage: The third map takes you to the Window Rock area, where you find the final treasure near a specific rock arch.
- Reward: Three Gold Bars ($1,500).

The Elemental Trail Treasure

This is a unique treasure hunt tied to a specific stranger mission chain.

- Location: You find the first map by looting the body of a fortune teller near Valentine during the "Goodbye, Dear Friend" random encounter. This starts a questline where you must find maps hidden in locations representing the elements: Earth (a cave), Fire (near a fire pit), and Water (near a waterfall).
- Reward: Three Gold Bars ($1,500 total).

The Landmarks of Riches Treasure

This is a post-game treasure hunt that is specifically available in the Epilogue.

- Finding the Maps: You can find these maps in three specific, hard-to-reach locations: on top of the Rocky Mountains (near the "R" in "Ambarino"), on a ledge near the Window Rock formation, and inside the Loose Joints shack in New Austin.
- Reward: This is the most rewarding treasure hunt in the game, giving you a total of six Gold Bars ($3,000 total).

Random Encounters and Other Maps

As in the original game, you can also find maps through random events.

- Looting: You can sometimes find treasure maps by looting dead bodies of rival gangs. The Skinner Brothers, Murfree Brood, and O'Driscolls occasionally carry them.
- Camp Requests: In Red Dead Redemption 2, gang members may ask you for items or ask you to fetch things. While not direct treasure maps, fulfilling these requests can lead to unique items and money.
- Bounty Hunters: Sometimes, you can find maps on the bodies of bounty hunters who come after you if your bounty is high.

Tips for Using Treasure Maps Effectively

Knowing **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption**is only half the battle. Here are some professional tips to make your hunt more successful and less frustrating.

Use Eagle Eye

When you arrive at the location indicated by the map, immediately engage your Eagle Eye ability. This highlights interactive objects, including the treasure chests and lockboxes, with a golden glow. It makes finding the exact spot much easier, especially in thick vegetation or rocky terrain.

Study the Map Carefully

The hand-drawn maps are often more abstract than a real-world photograph. Do not just look at the big landmark. Pay attention to small details: the position of rocks, the shape of a tree, the curve of a river, or the angle of a mountain peak. The best treasure hunters are also master observers.

Save Your Game

This is a crucial tip for anyone wondering **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption**and how to safely collect the reward. Always save your game before you start a treasure hunt or before you search a final location. If you die while trying to reach a difficult spot (like a cliffside ledge), or if you accidentally lose a map, you can reload and avoid losing progress. It also allows you to experiment with different routes to a location.

Use a Guide for the Final Steps

There is no shame in using an online guide or video walkthrough for the final stage of a treasure hunt. The maps are intentionally vague, and some locations are incredibly tricky to find. Many players spend hours looking for a chest that is literally at their feet. Using a guide for the last 10% of the hunt saves time and

frustration while still letting you enjoy the epic journey.

Sell Gold Bars Strategically

Once you find your treasure, you will likely have a massive pile of gold bars. Do not sell them all at the first fence you see. Gold bars are extremely valuable and are best saved for purchasing expensive items like the best horses, weapons, and outfits. A fence in a town like Saint Denis or Rhodes will offer the best prices, but wait until you need the cash rather than selling them immediately.

Conclusion: The Real Treasure is the Journey

Whether you are exploring the dusty plains of New Austin in the original Red Dead Redemption or climbing the snowy peaks of Ambarino in the prequel, the hunt for treasure maps is one of the most engaging and rewarding activities the series has to offer. Understanding **where to find treasure maps in Red Dead Redemption** transforms a simple playthrough into a grand adventure. It forces you to slow down, observe the world, and engage with the environment in a way that standard

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