

Hidden Trails

Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS

*Equestrian Vacations
- on & with Hidden Trails*

About Hidden Trails



Hidden Trails is owned and operated by nature enthusiasts who love horses and adventure activities. We have been involved with riding and other outdoor vacations for over 20 years.

With our partners Voyage du Cheval (France), Pegasus (Germany) as well as Equitour (Switzerland and France) we have collected the best riding destinations all over the world in some hidden places we would like to share with you.

These rides are about galloping on endless beaches, forging rivers, cantering through forests, trotting along age-old trails, gazing at beautiful vistas and encountering foreign cultures. But most of all, these trips are about getting away from the cycle of too much work and never enough free time.

Escape from the rituals, which long ago froze our nights and days into little more than routine and away from the worries of our new tense times. It is so satisfying when we take the plunge of adventure - it's unfortunate that we invent so many reasons to put aside living our dreams of adventure. It is sometimes a tangled web that we weave through life. Some of the threads reveal a work-a-day world of commitments, duties and obligations. Other threads are of a quiet fabric of hope, responsibility and refreshment.

On our adventures you see the real country, its back country and meet the locals. The love for horses has no boundaries but possesses a common language we all speak and understand. The majority of the overseas rides are from inn to inn, some from castle to castle and a few are camping rides.

You will experience new countries and their customs and make new friends. The Hidden Trails trips are the best you can find.

They have been tested by our staff or associates and received our stamp of approval. If you are considering a special riding vacation anywhere in the world, call us first and let our experienced consultants match the perfect trip with your dream.

We will listen to you and give you objective advice to help you choose the best destination and adventure.

Your vacation is the most precious time of the year and we are committed to making it the most memorable time of your life. Wherever you go, have a great time and bring back some peace of mind.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hidden Trails

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from within the USA or Canada or

E-mail: info@hiddentrails.com

Website: www.hiddentrails.com

Address:

659A Moberly Road, Vancouver BC Canada V5Z 4B3 or

4406 Tennyson Road, Wilmington, DE 19802 USA

Toll Free from the U.K.:

Ph: 0- 808 189-0420

Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Inca Trails Cattle Drive - Argentina, South America

Tour Code: IT-CHCD02
9 days / 8 nights ~\$1,990.00
Dates: May & Oct

Trip Rating : ●●●●●
Difficulty : ●●●●●
Lodging : 🏠 BASIC

Tack: South American Recado saddles. They ar...
Horses: Criollo and Peruvian Paso cross, cattl...
Pace: Only for experienced riders. Must be i...
Walk,Trot,Canter,

Airport: Martín Miguel de Güemes International Airport



Introduction

Salta, Argentina

For centuries, the beginning of Fall, marks the time when gauchos round up cattle grazing the open range. It is time to get ready for Winter.

After driving cattle to the ancient corrals, the task is sorting, branding, doctoring. A lot of work and adrenaline, joy and excitement as the time has come to sell some and cash in a year of hard work.

This is the perfect program to enjoy horses to its maximum, fully blending with the rider. It is for a small group of experienced riders, willing to experience the authentic, essential and unspoiled life of the gaucho and cattle drives in the Andes. You will be required to ride your horse off track in steep mountain terrain. I hope you can join us in this unique adventure that runs just once a year.

We go up to 3000 m (9000 ft) where the forest changes to high altitude grassland. This is the homeland of the Andean condor. As the sun sets, the spectacular stars of the southern hemisphere will cover the sky. Relax at the camp with its peaceful atmosphere. The campfire lightens up the darkness of the night as you share a cup of coffee, tea or mate. All this creates the ideal ambiance to feel the timeless spirit of nature and make new friends.

Accommodation



Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so nights will be spent in different locations.

Description

The first and last nights are spent in a boutique hotel in Salta, 4 nights in a cabin in Peñas Blancas, and 2 nights in cabin in Amblayo. The cabins will have beds, mattress, and linens provided.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Hotel in Salta (Hotel del Virrey or similar)

Night 2, 3, 4, & 5: Peñas Blancas

Night 6 & 7: Amblayo

Night 8: Hotel in Salta (Hotel del Virrey or similar)

Hotel del Virrey in Salta

Well located in the center of Salta and very close to the main street of bars and Penas (traditional venue featuring folkloric dancing), this is a small, simple but comfortable hotel decorated in a traditional colonial style. Its friendly staff and intimate atmosphere with only 8 rooms make for a pleasant stay in one of Argentina's most attractive cities.

Peñas Blancas

Here is the 3000 hectares ranch where we breed cattle. The accommodations are basic cabins. By no means can be considered a lodge, hotel or any of the sort- but authentic and better than tenting. We sleep in beds but there is no bathroom or showers.

Amblayo

Amblayo is a small town with 150 inhabitants. We stay at the house of one of the local families. Also a simple, basic but very authentic home of a local family. Bathroom with hot shower available.

Room Occupancy

Single rooms are only available at the boutique hotels on the first and last night of the trip.





Meals

All meals are included during this trip.

Meals on the trail are made the old fashioned way on the campfire: simple, home made and abundant. In the exact manner that life is in those far away places. It is this which makes them unforgettable. At lunch we stop for a picnic.

Wine is included at dinner.

Dietary Restrictions

We are able to cater to vegetarians and celiacs if notified ahead of time. We cannot cater to vegans.

Riding

Pace

We will be riding at high altitude, often above 6000-9000 feet.

The pace is slow with a few trots and canters during most of the trail due to the terrain. This allows to enjoy the scenery, the conversation, take pictures, etc.

The average riding day includes 3 hours on horseback in the morning and 3 to 4 hours in the saddle during the afternoon with plenty of intermediate stops to take pictures, spend some time at specific points of interest, etc. 6 riding days (1 day round-up, 3 days cattle drive, 2 days trail riding), 6-9 hrs /day.

Horses

We assign horses according to each rider's preference. We have plenty of horses, some are more challenging while others are very easy to handle. They are sure-footed as they were all born and raised in the mountains.

Safety measures

The trails are well known by our guides. In those places we believe risky, we step down the horse and walk. In case of emergency, our guides are trained and know what to do. We carry radio equipment in case of emergency. We consider a must that all our guests follow our guide's instructions.

Itinerary



Sample itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival

Plan to arrive at Salta airport any time before 4 PM. Pick up at local airport. We will visit the MAAM (Museum of High Altitude Archaeology). Recently opened to show the items found at an Inca human sacrifice site on top of the Lullailaco volcano (6730 mts - 18000 ft. high). It holds the best preserved mummies worldwide. Check in at boutique hotel. Enjoy a welcome dinner with your guide.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Hotel in Salta

Day 2 (Sunday): Cattle round up and horseback ride

After breakfast, we will drive to meet our horses. The drive takes us along the Cuesta del Obispo and its breathtaking views and the Cardones National Park where you can usually spot guanacos (Andean camelidae). This is a program on its own. We reach Peñas Blancas (2750 meters high) where we meet the horses and gauchos. Lunch. In the afternoon we ride the lifeline this valley has had for centuries while we start looking for the cattle spread all over. On our way we can see, here and there, the small houses made with mud and archeological remains of ancient settlements. We stop to see the ancient pictographs painted by local Indians centuries ago. We will visit Isonza which is a working ranch with its ancient way of life still intact and Leuca Purque who makes goat cheese. The way they milk the goats, make cheese, grow their crops is centuries old.



larges who makes goat cheese. The way they milk the goats, make cheese, grow their crops is centuries old and inherited from Inca times. On the way there are herds of wild donkeys set free by the Spanish Conquistadors.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Peñas Blancas (rooms with beds, no bathroom)

Day 3 (Monday): Cattle round up

After breakfast we get ready to ride. The whole day will be dedicated to screen the area and round up cattle. The ride takes us West at the beginning until we reach the very steep Chilo slopes which divide two valleys. The view is magnificent and makes us feel the power of nature. Lunch on the way. By sunset we should be able to arrive to the corrals with not one cow left behind.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Peñas Blancas (rooms with beds, no bathroom)

Day 4 (Tuesday): Cattle work

The corrals we will be working in were built in mud over 200 years ago and ever since used. Get ready to start sort, brand, doctor, etc. each of the cows and calves. A lot of work and adrenaline while the local Food and Drug Administration officers check the health of the heard. It is now when gaucho and horse blend together in a reining exhibition that made them world famous. You can just decide to relax and watch or get into the corral and join the gauchos!

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Peñas Blancas (rooms with beds, no bathroom)

Day 5 (Wednesday): Cattle work

After breakfast we will finish whatever work is left from the day before. After that, we ride back to Peñas Blancas to spend the night.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Peñas Blancas (rooms with beds, no bathroom)

Day 6 (Thursday): Ride to Amblayo

Today, we drive the cattle South to Amblayo. We will go past Yaslaguala. The giant cactii are all over and set the stage. After lunch, we ride to Amblayo town (2400 meters high) where we will spend the night. It has only 150 dwellers and its main means of transportation is on horseback. It is renowned for its goat cheese. Sense the feeling of arriving on horseback to this tiny town with almost no cars! An unforgettable experience. To get there we will ride first through archaeological areas where you can see pieces of painted pottery scattered around. We have a look with agreement not to remove any of the findings.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Amblayo (rooms with beds, bathroom with hot water)

Day 7 (Friday): Ride through Sierra Pelada

After breakfast enjoy this picturesque town. Visit its ancient chapel and its 17th century paintings brought from Peru, have a chat with its neighbors. After lunch we ride to the foothills of the Sierra Pelada. These multicoloured hills are unique. We will also ride the Río Salado which is a great place for cantering! Traditional goat barbecue at dinner.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Amblayo (rooms with beds, bathroom with hot water)

Day 8 (Saturday): High Altitude Wineries

After breakfast, drive to Cachi. This area is known for high altitude vineyards (most 2000 to 2500 meters high). It has just 1% of all vineyards in Argentina but gets 10% of total investments. This means just one thing: high quality. Some of Argentinas best wines are made here. So your Argentinean experience would not be complete without a private visit to a local winery and taste some of their best wines. Lunch and 3 hours transfer to Salta city. Check in at boutique hotel. Dinner not included.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at Hotel in Salta

Day 9 (Sunday): Departure

Breakfast. Transfer to airport. End of program.

Meals included: Breakfast



EXTRA DAYS:

Salta city tour:

We walk and drive the city with a guide. Its colony time buildings bring to life the way the city was at the time of the Spanish Conquistadors.

Quebrada de Humahuaca:

Trip to Humahuaca Creek. Walk the ancient indian fortress in Tilcara. We reach Purmamarca and the 7 Colors Hill. Lunch. See a few of the small and picturesque towns along the creek.

Cafayate and its wineries:

The road to Cafayate shows us very curious rock shapes (the amphitheater, the toad, the Titanic, etc.). In Cafayate we will visit the world renowned vineyards and wineries for wine tasting. The Torrontés variety is regarded as best in class and exported all over.



Other Info

Meeting: Martín Miguel de Güemes International Airport

Airport: Martín Miguel de Güemes International Airport

Train station: --

Transfer: Martín Miguel de Güemes International Airport

Trasfer from Salta before 4 on Day 1. Drop off Salta on last day in the afternoon.

Tack: South American Recado saddles. They are very suitable and comfortable for cattle work.

Horses: Criollo and Peruvian Paso cross, cattle trained

Pace: Only for experienced riders. Must be in good physical condition and able to ride in rough rugged terrain. Must be capable to walk, trot and canter. 6-9 hrs /day.

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3.5 to 5 out of 5) Strong Intermediate

Weight: 100 kg / 220 lbs

Riders: Min 6 riders

Max 10 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-CHCD02

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals including wine with dinner, 6 riding days & Salta city airport transfers.
Saddlebags are provided

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	9 day trip	\$1990

Transfer Option

Description

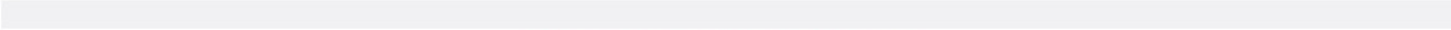
2024	Transfers from Salta Airport included at set times	
2024	Single supplement for hotels (during ride- shared rooms)	\$100
2024	Extra days/nights or extra activities -- please inquire	
2024	Small group supplement, dbl, pp (4-5 pax only)	\$180
2024	Small group supplement, dbl, pp (2-3 pax only)	\$390

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	05/05/2024 - 05/13/2024	9d / 8n	9 day trip
A 2024	09/28/2024 - 10/06/2024	9d / 8n	9 day trip

Min/Max: 6/10

Rates do not include:Travel and medical insurance (mandatory) & Gratuities
Bring your own sleeping bag



Reservation Form

Tour : _____ Code #: _____ from: _____ to : _____

The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)	Male Female	Single room / or tent	Birth Date MM/DD/YY	Height	Weight	Special diets													
						Special diets	Beginner	Novice	Intermediate	Strong Intern.	Advanced	ride English	ride Western	mostly arena	mostly hacking				
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Special Diets: _____

Your fitness level: Excellent ☐ Moderate ☐ Poor ☐ How long have you been riding? _____

How often do you ride? _____ Have you been on other riding tours? No ☐ Yes ☐ last trip when? _____

If Hidden Trails offers a transfer from the local airport/station: I would like the transfer to be included: YES ☐ NO ☐

In an emergency, name and phone number of contact: _____

Attention: Please, if there is more than one participant, all have to sign the reservation form - make copies if needed

With my signature I confirm my reservation of the listed program(s) under the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions. I'm aware, and I made all participants aware of the risk involved with these outdoor adventure activities. All participants have read and agree with the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and the Hidden Trails Recreational Activity Release and Indemnity Agreement in this brochure or as listed on the Internet.

I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational Activity Release and Indemnity Agreement at least 10 weeks before trip starting date.

Last Name and First Name (The Traveler) _____

Street _____ e-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

Phone (wk) _____ (hm) _____ Cell _____ Fax _____

Date _____ Signature (mandatory) 1. _____

Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per person) now and full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to my credit card.

For payments by VISA ☐ or Mastercard ☐ (no debit cards)

Cardholder: _____

Card # _____ 3 digit Security # _____

Exp.Date: _____ Signature _____

Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than mailing address):

I have enclosed a check for the deposit ☐

Additional Signatures:

2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Travel Cancellation Insurance Credit Card required

Sign me (us) up ☐ initial _____

No, we will provide our own ☐ initial _____

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