

# 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

Phone: 604-323-1141

Fax: 604-323-1148

Toll Free: 1-888-9-TRAILS

from within the USA or Canada or

E-mail: [info@hiddentrails.com](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)

Website: [www.hiddentrails.com](http://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



# Cote d'Argent Ride - France, Europe

Tour Code: IT-FRAN08

8 days / 7 nights ~\$1,760.00

Dates: Feb - Nov

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●●●●

**Tack:** English saddle with saddle bag

**Horses:** Anglo-Arab, Thoroughbred and Totters

**Pace:** Moderate pace with lots of fast sections

Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,

**Airport:** Bordeaux



## Introduction

Landes, France

Where the Atlantic Ocean crashes onto the coast of south-west France lies the Côte d'Argent. Here you will find a ribbon of silver sand, 150 miles in length, which is popular with surfers, anglers, families, and celebrities in search of a little privacy - and now also for horseback riding enthusiasts.

Exhilarating gallops on fine sandy beaches that stretch as far as the eye can see: this is the Côte d'Argent. The Pays de Born stretches out in the middle of the biggest forest of Europe. Come and discover! Ride between the wild marshes and ponds in the company of our horses, mostly Anglo-Arabs, and enjoy the flora and fauna that makes this area of France so special.

In this abundance of greenery, dominated by the fragrant flowers in bloom in the spring and the purple heather in autumn, we ride on paths that have the mixed fragrance of many blossoms. Each day we can see deer, stags, squirrels, hare, and heron whilst meandering along the paths. Throughout your holiday we lead you along the coast with its rivers and canals. We help you discover the country as it is - tied to its traditions, its history, and whose rural habitat and picturesque areas are still a living testimony. We would be amiss if we did not mention the excellent gastronomy of the Côte d'Argent region, which is influenced by the bountiful nature of the land!

## Accommodation



### Accommodations

This is a stationary ride, so you will be staying at the same location every night except for 1 night (spent at a nearby B&B or camping - depending on the time of the year).

### Description

You will be staying at the guesthouse beside the riding center during most of the nights. We can accommodate up to 17 people total.

Our guesthouse is divided into 3 buildings:

- the main guesthouse building has 6 rooms for single, double/twin, and a family suite. Each room has its own bathroom
- the guesthouse's annex building has a big dormitory (capacity of 4-7 people) and 2 shared bathrooms
- the family guesthouse has 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom

The guesthouse has an outdoor swimming pool and free Wi-Fi access. Laundry can be done for an extra fee.

It is possible to add yoga classes, a relaxing massage or a sauna session for an extra fee, paid locally (please inquire).

If we do not have enough space, riders will stay in a hotel in Mimizan Beach or at another guesthouse close to the riding center.







#### Manor of Tireveste

This elegant mansion has 6 rooms (for 2-4 people) equipped with bathrooms and a lovely garden with a swimming pool. There is internet access and a TV that guests are welcome to use.

#### Room Occupancy

We charge a single supplement fee for solo travelers not willing to share a room with another rider. If you would like to guarantee a double/ twin/ single room, additional costs apply.



#### Meals

All meals are included from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8, except for lunch on Monday (Day 2).

Breakfast is served at the guesthouse before we head out on our rides.

Lunches are a real meal, with tables and chairs. We provide French aperitif and appetizers, Bordeaux red wine, soup or salad according to the weather, chicken or meat and veggies, French cheeses, dessert and coffee or tea. Dinners are served either at the guesthouse or at local restaurants. We try to offer as much variety to guests as possible.

Only breakfast and dinner is included for non-riders (lunches can be purchased for ~€28 each / option to pay for full board as well).

1/4 liter of wine or soda and coffee is provided during lunches and dinners. Other drinks need to be purchased locally directly by the client.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions with prior notice. Unfortunately, we cannot cater to vegan diets.

## Riding



#### Riding Level

This trek requires a rather good, fit intermediate rider confident at all paces and able to ride several hours over varied and sometimes challenging terrain. This ride is of moderate pace with frequent occasions of trots and gallops. To give more comfort, trotting or galloping is generally individually or by group of two, whether it is in forest or on the beach. Some group gallops on the beach are of course available. We are not riding nose to tail in order to give riders the opportunity to keep control of their own horse at the different paces.

This way of hacking also allows everyone to avoid the dust made by the riders at the front.

Our horses are used to be independent one from the others, and may stay walking when other horses are starting to trot or galloping in front of them! They stay under the control of the riders, and not under the group of horses.

#### Pace

During the 6 riding days of this trip, we cover between 30 and 35 km per day, spending between 5 and 6 hours in





the saddle each day.

#### Horses

We have 30 horses (mostly Anglo-Arabs) and 5 ponies. Most of them are born in our family farm. Beauty, blood, intelligence, frankness, kindness, and generosity are the essential qualities we seek in the choice of our horses. Our horses are safe, brave and easygoing; well trained and very well-balanced. They horses live in herds in the outdoors. We take great care in providing horses with a good quality of life.

#### Staff

Guidance is guaranteed by qualified /certified equestrian guide of tourism (French professional certification: A.T.E., CQP ASA or BPJEPS Tourisme Équestre) having good regional knowledge and willing to let you discover the beauty of this area.

#### Children

Participants as young as 13 years old can join the ride as long as they are accompanied by an adult. From 16 years old, participants are welcome to join the ride non-accompanied. There are no discounts for children.



#### Itinerary



#### Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

*This 6-day riding days program consists of a 5-day trail with one extra day of riding around the riding centre. There is usually the opportunity to swim in rivers or lakes during the lunch break, so do not forget to bring your swimsuit with you on the ride.*

#### Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival

Pick-up from the Bordeaux Airport (at 4:00pm) or Bordeaux train station (at 5:00pm) and transfer to Mimizan. You should arrive at the guesthouse around 7:00pm. Dinner is at a restaurant (around 9:00pm).

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at Guesthouse in Mimizan*

#### Day 2 (Monday): Ride to Bias

After breakfast, we have a small briefing about the program and then clients are transferred to Mimizan beach for 10:30am. Time to visit the village and the beach and lunch in the village (not included in the package) before being picked up at 1:30 pm from in front of the Tourism office center.

At 2:00pm we go to meet the horses and tack them up. At 4:00pm we will meet in the arena for a short 30 minute ride to make sure that everyone gets along with its mount. Then we set off for a first hack in the area surrounding the riding center.

At 7:00pm we are transferred back to the guesthouse (only about 10 minutes drive) and have some time to relax before dinner (around 9:00pm).

*Riding approx. 3 hours (about 20 km)*

*Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner*

*Overnight at Guesthouse in Mimizan*

#### Day 3 (Tuesday): Bias to St Julien

After breakfast (around 8 am) we are transferred to the horses and we expect to start our ride around 10am. Today's ride will be through forests and along the coast. We will ride among high sand dunes (up to 150 m above sea level), and if tides allow us, we will enjoy some riding on the beach. We take our lunch break around 1:30 pm and take some time to relax. We start riding again around 4pm and make our way to St Julien. There, once we have taken care of the horses, we are transferred (only about 10 minutes drive) back to the guesthouse, around 7pm, in time to relax before going out for dinner.

*Riding approx. 5 hours (about 30 km)*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Guesthouse in Mimizan*





#### Day 4 (Wednesday): St Julien to Lesperon

After breakfast (around 8am) we pack our luggage and get transferred to the horses to continue our ride. We will stop for lunch (around 1:30pm) in Levignacq. On today's ride we will discover the ever changing landscape of the Landes with wonderful ground for canters and gallops.

We get back in the saddle around 4 pm, riding along a river until we reach the Moulin de Caremonge. The horses will stay in a nearby field for the night and the riders will be transferred (about 5 minutes drive) to their accommodation: the Manor of Tireveste (arrival around 6:30 pm).

*Riding approx. 5 hours (about 35 km)*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Manor of Tireveste*

#### Day 5 (Thursday): Lesperon to Orvignac

After a good night's sleep and a delicious breakfast, we are transferred back to the horses (around 8:30 am). We will ride through beautiful and wild landscapes until we reach Mezos, where we stop for our lunch break in a small restaurant (around 1:30 pm).

In the afternoon, we will ride for a few more hours through varied landscapes. We will reach Bias after crossing a lovely forest. The horses spend the night in Orvignac while riders are transferred back to the guesthouse (only about 10 minutes drive).

*Riding approx. 5 hours (about 35 km)*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Guesthouse in Mimizan*

#### Day 6 (Friday): Orvignac to the Ocean

Today's riding schedule will depend on the tides. We will ride during half of the day (either in the morning or afternoon) and relax during the other half.

Our trail includes a ride through the forest leading to the Ocean. If the conditions are right we will enjoy some gallops on the beach. Weather permitting, from June to September, we have the opportunity to swim and play in the Ocean with or without the horses.

*Riding approx. 4 hours (about 20 km)*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Guesthouse in Mimizan*

#### Day 7 (Saturday): Aureilhan Lake Ride

After breakfast, we prepare the horses on go for our last ride. We will discover the protected area surrounding Aureilhan Lake and ride along the river to Mimizan beach. We end our ride with a sunset ride in the forest or the beach.

Today's program is tide dependent.

*Riding approx. 5 hours (about 30 km)*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Guesthouse in Mimizan*

#### Day 8 (Sunday): Departure

After breakfast transfer to Bordeaux airport or train station.

*Meals included: Breakfast*



Non-Riding activities - inquire for extra cost

- Tennis
- Bicycle
- Swimming pool
- Numerous water sports
- Yoga
- Wellness (sauna & massage)

### Other Info

**Meeting:** Mimizan

**Airport:** Bordeaux

**Train station:** Morcenx

**Transfer:** Bordeaux airport

**Distance:** 110 km / 68 miles

Pick-up from Bordeaux airport (Hall A.) at 4:00pm on day one. Drop off on departure day at Bordeaux airport after 11:00am.

**Tack:** English saddle with saddle bag

**Horses:** Anglo-Arab, Thoroughbred and Totters

**Pace:** Moderate pace with lots of fast sections.

Riding approx. 5 hours per day (30 to 40 km daily)

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

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

**Age:** Min 13 Max 81

**Weight:** 210 lbs / 95 kg

**Riders:** Min 4 riders Max 10 riders Max Capacity 15

max 10 riders  
(per riding group)

## Wellness Activities

It is possible to add yoga classes, a relaxing massage or a sauna session for an extra fee, paid locally (please inquire).

Sandrine is our Yoga therapist and Yin Yoga teacher, graduated by Annie AU (Thailand and India). As an energetician, Sandrine offers holistic body re-harmonization treatments (Reiki, Lahochi) as well as Ayurvedic Massages. She also trained in Sono therapy and studied in India with Rajev Pant, an Indian Ayurvedic Master.

Yoga (group or private sessions - time varies)

Yin Yoga is a postural practice of openness for the body and the mind, an invitation to let go and to accept the present. Taking its roots from Taoism and Chinese medicine, Yin Yoga works on the skeleton, by stimulating the meridians. Its specificity is to work in stillness, each posture being held for an average of five minutes, in order to clean the energy channels through acupressure. The bones of the joints, the tendons and the ligaments but also the fascias will be solicited and strengthened. These lessons are often accompanied by reading texts leading to reflection, soft music, or instruments for relaxation.

Sonotherapy Treatment (1h15)

It consist in a full sound massage using Tibetan bowls, therapeutic tuning forks and marma points (Indian Ayurvedic medicine).

Lahochi Energy Treatment (45 min to 1h)

Ultra powerful energy healing treatment and rebalancing of different holistic bodies.

Ayurvedic Massage (1h)

Full body massage from the feet to the scalp, both soft and invigorating, relaxing and energizing. It stimulates circulation, relaxes muscles, softens the skin and calms the nervous system.

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-FRAN08

Rates include: Accommodation in shared rooms (3-4 riders per room), Most meals (including 1/4 litre of wine or soda and coffee is provided during lunches and dinners) & 6 riding days  
The riding center provides saddle bags, helmet, sticks and chaps on request

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	8 day trip (High)	€1600	\$1760
	Double/ twin bedroom supplement, pp	€105	\$115
	Single supplement (requested)	€210	\$230
	Non-rider rate in shared room (half board)	€735	\$810
B 2024	8 day trip (Mid)	€1500	\$1650
	Double/ twin bedroom supplement, pp	€85	\$95
	Single supplement (requested)	€170	\$190
	Non-rider rate in shared room (half board)	€665	\$730
C 2024	8 day trip (Low)	€1350	\$1485
	Double/ twin bedroom supplement, pp - no extra fee	€0	\$0
	Single supplement (requested)	€105	\$115
	Non-rider rate in shared room (half board)	€630	\$695

The US Dollar Rate is based on a EUR Exchange Rate of 1.1 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

2024	Transfer from Bordeaux airport or train station (return, pp)	€100	\$110
2024	Pick-from from Morcenx train station (1 pax only)	€40	\$45
2024	Pick-from from Morcenx train station (2+ pax), per car	€20	\$25
2024	Extra nights in Mimizan - please inquire		
2024	5% group discount if 6+ pax booking together		

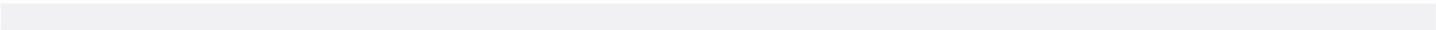
Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
C 2024	02/11/2024 - 02/18/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
C 2024	03/03/2024 - 03/10/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
C 2024	03/17/2024 - 03/24/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
C 2024	03/31/2024 - 04/07/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
C 2024	04/14/2024 - 04/21/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
B 2024	04/28/2024 - 05/05/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Mid)
B 2024	05/19/2024 - 05/26/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Mid)
B 2024	06/16/2024 - 06/23/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Mid)
A 2024	07/07/2024 - 07/14/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (High)
A 2024	07/21/2024 - 07/28/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (High)
A 2024	08/04/2024 - 08/11/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (High)
A 2024	08/18/2024 - 08/25/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (High)
B 2024	09/01/2024 - 09/08/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Mid)
B 2024	09/29/2024 - 10/06/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Mid)
C 2024	10/13/2024 - 10/20/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
C 2024	11/10/2024 - 11/17/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)
C 2024	11/24/2024 - 12/01/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Low)

Min/Max: 4/10

July 8-15, July 15-22, July 29- August 5th, August 12-19, and August 19-26 is 1 night camping and 6 nights hotel.

Rates do not include:Lunch on Day 2, Extra drinks, Gratuities & Transfers from/to Bordeaux or Morcenx





# 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 Inter.	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 \_\_\_\_\_

Hidden Trails Ltd. 659A Moberly Road Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3 FAX: 604-323-1148 Phone: 604-323-1141



## Hidden Trails

659A Moberly Road  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V5Z 4B2

Toll Free: 1-888-9 TRAILS  
(1-888-987-2457)

Phone: 604-323-1141

FAX: 604-323-1148

From the U.K.:

Phone 020-323-96201

Fax 0203-004-1200

Skype hiddentrails

E-mail [info@hiddentrails.com](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)

Website [www.hiddentrails.com](http://www.hiddentrails.com)

Office hours:

Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm

Pacific Standard Time



