

# 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



# Big Sky Trail - Mongolia, Asia

Tour Code: IT-MNRT11

11 days / 10 nights ~\$3,950.00

Dates: June to Aug

Trip Rating: ●●●●●

Difficulty: ●●●●●

Lodging: 🏠

Tack: Mongolian Buryat Soldier

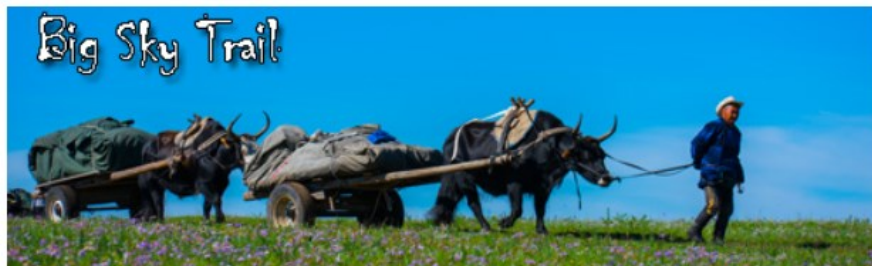
Saddles

Horses: Mongolian

Pace: Competent rider. Fit and capable of ri...

Airport: Chinggis Khaan

International Airport (UBN)



## Introduction

Khan Khentii, Mongolia

On this horse riding tour, you can ride Mongolian horses and gallop through the Genghis Khan's (Chinggis Khaan) homeland. Luxury camping in a Mongolian yurt (ger) makes it truly unique experience!

Group size is half of that of our regular horse riding tour, giving you a more personalized and intimate experience. We will start this horse ride by a short drive to the taiga life zones of Khan Khentii and we will be dropped off at the Upper Tuul River to meet our local crew of horsemen. They have deployed our personal Mongolian yurt (ger) at the site already. All riders overnight in Mongolian yurt (ger), which are being moved to a new location – by yak cart caravan – every two days. This allows us to explore deeper into the nomadic lands. For the outdoor camping you will be able to stay in the basic comforts of a bed (sturdy cot) with full linens and a ger heated by a stove, ensuring a good night's rest from long riding days. After a day trial ride in the vicinity (two overnights) we continue to ride our Mongolian horses in a truly nomadic way, e.g. without vehicle support in wild terrain. We are supported by a caravan of yak carts and local nomads. Our luggage and a fully collapsible ger lodge will be loaded on to yak carts. We will ride in daily big loops while the caravan makes its way to our next night scenic night stops. We will ride over mountains, steppes, forests and wooded meadows, mostly camping stream side along rivers. This horse riding tour will cover the southern fringes of the Khan Khentii in scenic interior of Gorkhi Terelj National Park, which is mountain forest taiga zones. We will ride on the same path as the famous Genghis Khan (Chinggis Khaan), reliving history.

## Accommodation



### Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so you will be staying in different locations during the trip.

### Description

You will be staying in a hotel for 2 nights, a low-impact ger camp for 2 nights, and ger outings for 6 nights (changing location every 2 nights), making a total of 5 different locations. All accommodations are based on double occupancy. Private bathrooms are only available for nights spent in Ulaanbaatar. On all other nights, facilities are shared.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Bayangol Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

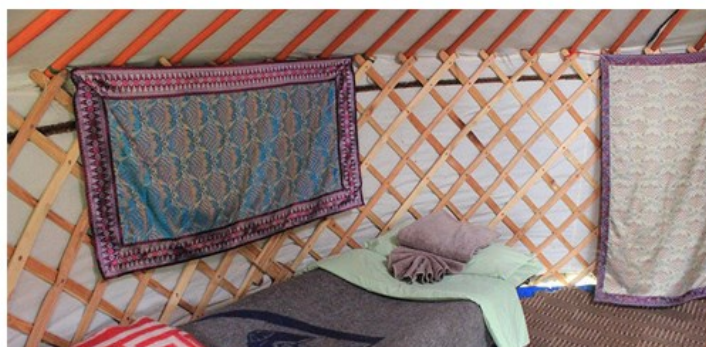
Night 2-7: Ger Outing

Night 8 and 9: Low-impact ger camp in Jalman Meadows

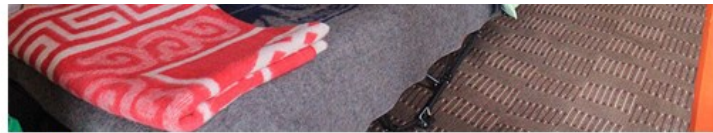
Night 10: Bayangol Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

### Bayangol Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

Ideally located in the city center, this hotel offers elegant and comfortable ensuite bedrooms. Each room is equipped with air conditioning, a TV, free Wi-Fi access and tea and coffee making facilities. Laundry is available for an additional cost.







#### Ger Outing

On most nights, we sleep in temporary camps in 1 to 3 gers set up. The gers are each equipped with cot beds (including full linen), chairs and a table, and a wood burning stove. We take along a Mongolian ger (yurt) to serve as our mobile restaurant. Toilets tents with a drop toilet with wooden seat and separate shower tents are on site. We ask our clients to bring bio-degradable toiletries only.

#### Low-impact ger camp in Jalman Meadows

This is a permanent camp where each ger is equipped with cot beds (including full linen), chairs and a table, and a wood burning stove. There are also toilets tents with a drop toilet with wooden seat and separate shower tents are on site. Showers are also on site. We ask our clients to bring bio-degradable toiletries only.

#### Room Occupancy

Triple occupancy is possible.

Single riders listed as 'willing to share' do not have to pay the single supplement cost if we are unable to find another rider to share.



#### Meals

All meals except lunch in Ulaanbaatar are included in the trip.

Our cook will prepare the meals. We pride ourselves in having excellent cooks adept at both western and Mongolian cooking on our trips. We can usually buy fresh milk and yogurt from local herdsman. Traditional Mongols mostly eat meat and milk products. Mongolians who live in the city have adopted Russian and Western food habits. Although, they still like the traditional foods of the countryside, and frequently also eat these. The cuisine features lamb and mutton, the Kazakhs in western Mongolia prefer goat. We usually boil water all the time, and your water bottle may be filled in the evening. Alcohol is not allowed on this trip.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater for vegetarians. Please make sure to advise us in advance of any dietary requirements that you may have.

### Riding



Mongolia is probably the most equestrian nation in the world. Not only is the Mongol heritage and lifestyle intimately connected with the horse, Mongolia is an exceptionally inviting place for keen horse riders. The absence of fences and the vast expanses of the steppes and forests are ideal for uninterrupted and scenic riding at its best!

We emphasize the quality of human contacts and encounters with local people and respect for the horse and local equestrian traditions, from which many lessons can be learnt.

On this tour, apart from the short drive to the starting point of our horse riding adventure and back to the city we will not rely on any motor vehicle support. Instead we utilize traditional wooden carts, that Mongolian families still use moving from one pasture to another.

#### Riding Experience

You should be a competent rider, fit and capable of riding at all paces confidently. Varying terrain, in the saddle for







several hours on most days.

#### Tack

We will provide you Russian saddles, which are more convenient for "western bottoms" than the Mongolian equivalent. We provide a saddle bag if needed.

#### Staff

A Mongolian English speaking guide will accompany the group at all times. A cook will follow with the yak cart caravan. In addition, the services of local herdsman will be employed along with their animals. The horsemen follow a traditional lifestyle in the areas where we will be riding. If the group consists of 4 riders or more, we will also have a Mongolian doctor come along as part of the crew. We are supported by a caravan of yak carts and local nomads.

### Itinerary



#### Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

##### Day 1: Arrival

Arrive in Ulaanbaatar. Transfer to your hotel. Tour briefing, followed by dinner and entertainment.

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel in Ulaanbaatar*

##### Day 2: To Bosog Meadows

Visit the Gandan lamasery, possibly in time for the prayers, center for the Buddhist revival in Mongolia. The Mongols follow the Tibetan version of Lamaism, Dalai Lama being the supreme theocratic leader. We then drive out of the city, and gradually the Mongolian landscapes unfolds before our eyes. By the time we come to the Hadan Hoshuu steppes valley, there are no traces of the so-called civilization any more. Another world of pastoralist nomads with their horses, gers and livestock are making use of this summer pasture. Picnic lunch en route. We will cross across the forested Zamtiin Pass into the Upper Tuul River Valley. We will meet the yak carts and the horses at Bosog Meadows, streamside of the Tuul River. We will spend two overnights here. Each ger will have a stove and strong cots with full bedding.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

##### Day 3: Tuul River Ride

After a night under the stars in our luxurious ger (yurt) tented camp, we will make a full day trial ride on the southern side of the Tuul River, up the valleys, forests and on to the ridges with stunning panoramic views of the habitat of southernmost Siberian forests as it makes the transition to Mongolian steppes. We will now ride along with the yak carts downstream along the tiny Baruunbayan until we come to the large meadows by the Tuul River. Again cross the Tuul River with the horses while our caravan heads straight for our Bosog Meadows, which will be our last night stop. Full day ride loop out of Bosog Meadows will bring us up the valleys and ridges on the southern side of Tuul River.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

##### Day 4: Bosog Meadows to Baruunbayan Valley

The day before our entire camp of gers (yurts) have already been loaded on the yak carts, and now our luggage is being loaded before breakfast. Our support structure is free from vehicles. All our provisions, camping equipment, luggage's will be loaded on to yak carts. We will ride and make way north towards the Hentii Mountains, across the forested ridge into the next valley, the Baruun-bayan, where we will again spend another two overnights. Riders will separate at some point and ride a most scenic loop.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

##### Day 5: Gunjin Sum Ride

Today, we will make a full day ride excursion from our new base camp at Baruunbayan River, to Gunjin Sum, a temple ruin hidden in the forest.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

##### Day 6: Baruunbayan Valley to Zuunbayan Valley

Pack up and load the caravan for the last time. We set out separating ourselves from the yak carts caravan riding up the partly forested ridges. Most trees as larch, however some of the ridges there are larger patches of pine, there is a real possibility to come across the rare black-billed capercaillie. Black grouse are more common. Our ger camp will be built next to the Zuunbayan River, a tributary of the Tuul River. We spend two nights at this place.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

##### Day 7: Khentii Mountains Ride

We will ride up towards the treeline of the Khentii Mountains, with spectacular scenery and views in all directions.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

##### Day 8: Zuunbayan Valley to Ialman Meadows





#### Day 8: Sharbulag Valley to Jalman Meadows

Today we say goodbye to the herders and their yak carts caravan, and head on horse back to the Sharbulag Valley, crossing the uppermost parts of the Tuul River. We reach the small ger camp at Jalman Meadows midafternoon. Stay overnight in the ger camp.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

#### Day 9: Jalman Meadows Ride

A full day to enjoy the setting of Jalman Meadows Ger Camp. You may use the day for an additional half or full day ride. Or lean back in the library ger with good reads on Genghis Khan, contemporary Mongolia or horses for that matter. If you like to replace the ride with a float on Russian catarafts down-stream using inflatable rafts which will be loaded to a yak cart and taken to the river side. There is also a possibility of a river side sauna at streamside.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Ger Camp*

#### Day 10: Back to Ulaanbaatar

A.m. Return to Ulaanbaatar and check into the hotel. See the capital city on your own. Distances are short. The local guide is standing by to assist where your points of interest are located. We will have a farewell dinner in a local restaurant and entertainment.

*Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel in Ulaanbaatar*

#### Day 11: Departure

Transfer out to your next destination.

*Meals included: Breakfast*



#### Naadam Games Extension (mandatory for July 9th, 2020 departure)

##### July 9th Ulaanbaatar

Arrive in the Mongolian capital by flight. If you arrive today we provide transfer to your hotel. You may explore the city on your own for the rest of the day. Distances are short and nearly all points of interest can be reached by foot. Minor archery competitions and trainings will already start today such as children's archery, Buryat style archery, etc. Training sessions allow for good photography. In the evening the horse trainers arrive with their horses and pitch their mobile camps at Hui Doloon Hudag, a steppe area 40 km away from the city center. In the evening we meet for a festive welcome dinner.

##### July 10th Ulaanbaatar

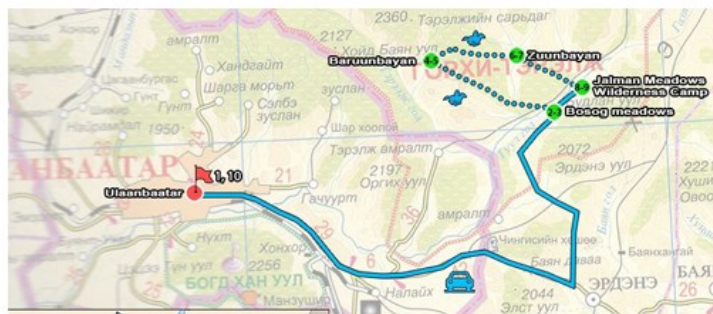
Today, one day before the National Naadam officially begins, we will drive out of the city and attend smaller, more intimate "country-style" Naadam festivals, usually held in three communities some 50-60km away. This failing, the big horse races also start on the Hui Doloon Hudag plains today. In the countryside you have the chance to get up close to the horse races, and also to the wrestling matches. Local people usually wear their finest traditional dresses, adding to the colorful, festive atmosphere. We have a picnic lunch nearby and head back to Ulaanbaatar in the afternoon.

##### July 11th Ulaanbaatar

Today Naadam is officially opened by the President of Mongolia. Soldiers on horseback, dressed in warrior regalia, ceremonially bring Genghis Khan's nine white horsetail banners from the parliament, where they are normally displayed, to the stadium. We will attend the impressive opening ceremony, after which the first round of wrestling will immediately follow. In most years 512 wrestlers from all over Mongolia compete, but in some years there are 1024! There are no judges, no time limits and no weight limits. We may try and attend the archery competitions (if not done the previous day) and later make our way out to the steppe area on the fringes of the city, where the horse races take place. We visit the nomadic tented camps that have sprung up, and experience a concentrated version of nomadic Mongolia. Herdsmen have come with their horses and all provisions for the festivities, which of course include airag (koumiss; fermented mares milk) for the merry making. Stroll around the area and you are likely to be invited in somewhere. You may also try your luck at the finals of the horse races, but prior instructions are necessary, since the finishing line of a full horse race of several hundred, is a potentially hazardous environment.

##### July 12th Ulaanbaatar (same as Day 1 for the standard itinerary)

Our services end after breakfast for the Naadam Games. You will be staying at the same hotel. Free day to explore Ulaanbaatar. Tour briefing after dinner.





## Other Info

**Meeting:** Ulaanbaatar

**Airport:** Chinggis Khaan International Airport (UBN)

**Train station:** Ulaanbaatar railway station

**Transfer:** Ulaanbaatar

**Distance:** 15km

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is from Chinggis Khaan International Airport in Ulaanbaatar (UBN). You will be met for your arrival flight on Day 1 of the trip. Check-out from your hotel on the last day: 12:00pm.

**Tack:** Mongolian Buryat Soldier Saddles

**Horses:** Mongolian

**Pace:** Competent rider. Fit and capable of riding at all paces confidently. Varying terrain, in the saddle for several hours for several days.

**Level:** 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3 to 4 out of 5) Intermediate+

**Age:** Min 12 Max 75

**Weight:** 200 lbs

**Riders:** Min 2 riders Max 6 riders

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Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-MNRT11

Rates include: Accommodations, Most meals, 8 riding days & Transfers  
There are other language guides such as Russian, French, German, Italian, Korean etc. available at additional cost

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	11 day trip	\$3950
B 2024	13 day trip, incl. Naadam Games	\$4850

Transfer Option

Description

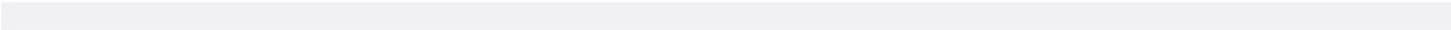
2024	Transfers from/to Ulaanbaatar airport included	
2024	No single supplement if willing to share	
2024	Private trip supplement (2-3 people) per trip	\$600
2024	Private trip supplement (4+ pax) - no extra charge	
2024	Single supplement for room in UB and ger in Jalman Meadows (4n)	\$160
2024	Single supplement for ger (6n)	\$1800

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/02/2024 - 06/12/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip
A 2024	07/09/2024 - 07/19/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip
B 2024	07/09/2024 - 07/21/2024	13d / 12n	13 day trip, incl. Naadam Games
A 2024	08/01/2024 - 08/11/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip

Min/Max: 2/6

Rates do not include:Gratuities, Airport departure tax, Lunches & Dinners in Ulaanbaatar (except for welcome and farewell dinner), Alcoholic drinks & Health and accident insurar (mandatory)





# 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

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Office hours:

Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm

Pacific Standard Time



