

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 Website: www.hiddentrails.com

Address

659A Moberly Road, Vancouver BC Canada V5Z 4B3 or 4406 Tennyson Road, Willmington, DE 19802 USA

Toll Free from the U.K.:

Ph: 0-808 189-0420 Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Ajusco Volcanoes and Wilderness Adventure - Mexico, North **America**

Tour Code: IT-MXRG03 8 days / 7 nights ~\$2,275.00 Dates: Available all Year

Trip Rating: Difficulty: Lodging: 🏚 🏚 🏚

Tack: Mostly Mexican Charro or Western Tack, Horses: Warmbloods, Quarter Horses, Haflinger Pace: 4-6 hours in the saddle per day on ave Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,

Airport: Mexico City





Introduction

Central Mexico, Mexico

This extended program includes six riding days, from half-day rides to full days in the saddle. We will take you to some of the most amazing volcanoes near Ajusco Natural Park and other long trails to small, unknown, towns and villages, where you can grab a cold beverage and interact with the locals. You will see breathtaking views from the highest points of Ajusco- all this riding a well-trained horse. We recommend this for intermediate to advanced riders; we will be going through narrow paths and steep hills, mixed with open fields with fast canters. The longest rides you will be participating can take up to 12 hours! (Chalma or Tepoztlán upon request for expert

Accomodation



On this stationary ride, all nights are spent at the same location.

There are limited number of rooms at the ranch so we can guarantee quality of service, privacy and a relaxing stay. All rooms are decorated Mexican style with unique paintings, antique furniture and beautiful details in each one of them. All rooms and suites have a private bathroom with hairdryer, shampoo, body wash, conditioner and bathrobe. Each room is also equipped with a heater, safety-deposit box, and extra blankets for your convenience.



We have a heated swimming pool, steam room, Jacuzzi, squash, mini basketball court, riding paddock, bar area and lots more for you to have an unforgettable stay! Laundry facilities (extra charge) and Wi-Fi are available at the ranch.

For solo travelers willing to share, no single supplement fee is charged, even if we don't find you any roommate.





Meals

All meals are included in this trip.

Usually, breakfasts and dinners are at the ranch and then lunch is on the trail.

Meals are often buffet style, mixing Mexican and international cuisine, with ingredients from the region.

This trip includes some wine with dinner.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions with prior notice.

Riding



Riding Experience

This trip has been designed for intermediate to experienced riders. Some of the horses are less energetic than others but mainly they are not for people who have never gotten on a horse. At times, we can cater to beginners but they pay for a private wrangler who is there at all times to attend and help them with the horse. We have rides of varied length (from 1 hour to 12 hours) and of different difficulty levels (from beginners to experienced).

Pace

Because the terrain of our riders is mostly in mountainous areas, we mostly go at a fast walk pace. However, we do also go at a trot and canter when the terrain allows. There are open fields and flat areas suitable for canters on the trails. On our rides, guests do not have to stay in line, following each other.

This trip includes 6 riding days with an average of 4 to 6 hours spent in the saddle each day. We will cover about 130km in total.

Horses

We have many breeds at the Ranch: Warmbloods, Quarter Horses, Haflinger and Friesians mostly.

The Friesian horses can be used in the paddock and on short trails (less than 2 hours) but, because they are very heavy horses, they get tired easily and are not made for cantering in the fields.

The warmbloods, quarter horses and other breeds are more suitable for long trails in the mountainous areas.

All of the horses are very experienced in the fields and they do not get scared easily. However, you should always keep in mind that they are animals with their own thoughts and can be unpredictable.

The horses are fed twice a day and each one of them gets their very own portion of oat and alfalfa with abundant hay.

After a very long trail (7 hours or more), we usually let the horses rest the next day and we give them a nice bath and their mane and tail are braided. We like to keep our horses pretty and in a good shape because they are the one who makes all these amazing horse-riding experiences possible.

Itinerary









Sample itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1: Arrival

Our drivers will be waiting for you at the airport to help you with your luggage and then drive you directly to the Ranch where our staff will be receiving you with a margarita. We will give you a tour around the installations at the Ranch and help you get comfortable. If your flight lands early, you will have the possibility to meet and maybe even ride the horses. The dinner will be served later on and you can choose from many of our Chef's specialties. Meals included: Dinner Overnight at the Ranch

Day 2: Ajusco Surroundings

On your first riding day at the Ranch, we will take you up the hills surrounding the Ranch from where you can see the small town of Ajusco. This ride is the perfect opportunity to get to know your horse better. After a delicious lunch at the Ranch we will take you inside the crater of the nearest volcano called "El Arenal". During this ride in the evening you will have an open view to the enormous Mexico City during sunset. Enjoy and relax at the Ranch at night and prepare for the next day's ride!

Riding approx. 4-5 hours Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at the Ranch

Day 3: Cerro Pelado "Bare Hill" Volcano

After a delicious and complete breakfast, we will take you for a ride to Cerro Pelado, a volcano which you can see in the horizon from the Ranch. From the highest point of this inactive volcano you can see all over Ajusco and the surrounding wilderness, this is where forest rangers keep guard on the nature in case of forest fires. We will be back at the Ranch just in time for lunch — in the evening we can take you to downtown Ajusco for some shopping and sightseeing or you can do some more riding before dinner.

Riding approx. 5 hours Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at the Ranch

Day 4: El Capulín Hidden Village and Wild Horses

Now that you got a feeling on the horses and got to do some shorter trails, you should be ready for a half-day in the saddle! Today we will take you to a hidden village called Capulín, where you will have the opportunity to purchase locally prepared beverage called "Conejo" or maybe just an ice-cold "cerveza". This beautiful village has only about 300 habitants and the nearest city is about 2 hour drive away and if we are lucky, there is a possibility to spot a herd of wild horses on our way.

Riding approx. 5 hours Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at the Ranch

Day 5: Historical volcano "Xitle"

Xitle volcano, which engulfed and covered several Prehispanic settlements, including famous Cuicuilco pyramid in the south of Mexico City, is another interesting sight for a ride from the Ranch. This volcano doesn't seem that big from the outside but climbing up to the edge, you can see the enormous 300 meter deep crater. It takes about 2 hours to ride to this crater from the Ranch, and the path is so narrow to the top that we'll have to leave the horses behind and walk for about 10 minutes up to the edge and see the beautiful volcano that destroyed prehispanic settlements in Mexico City several years ago. On our way back to the Ranch, we can take a break for some cold beverages in one of the many "tiendas" and support the local community.

Riding approx. 4-5 hours Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at the Ranch

Day 6: La Marquesa

After some days of "mountain climbing", today's ride will take us to a beautiful park called "La Marquesa". During this ride we have a possibility to see some more wild horses, if we are lucky, and enjoy the rapidly changing scenery of the wilderness; open fields, dense forests, small streams and old wooden villages. When arriving to "La Marquesa" there is a perfect place to do a little race galloping to an open spot where we will have a barbeque and ice cold beverages. After a nice evening of eating and resting, we will load the horses on our horse transportation equipment to be taken back to the Ranch.

Riding approx. 7 hours Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at the Ranch

Day 7: Los Dinamos Waterfalls or Chalma

This last day of riding we want to take you to a special place called Los Dinamos. This is another National Park known for the beautiful scenery with waterfalls, streams and one of the few rivers providing water to Mexico City. Cold beverages, quesadillas and other local snacks and dishes are waiting for us at the end of the trail. You will have the rest of the evening and night to enjoy all the amenities and fine dining at the Ranch.

In case you are an expert rider and you feel like doing a very intense trail, we have the opportunity to take you for a 12 hour ride to a place called Chalma, a town that is famous amongst pilgrims all around Mexico. This trail is suitable only for advanced and expert riders because of its very long duration; it is almost like a marathon on a horse! But don't worry; our horses are in very good condition. On our way to Chalma, we will see everything from open landscapes to mountains. The lunch will be taken in a small town called Santa Marta and when we arrive to Chalma you will get to know the famous church of this small town and purchase local handcrafts and sweets. If you are more interested in riding to Chalma instead of Los Dinamos, please let us know.

Riding approx. 6 or 12 hours Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner





Day 8: Departure

If you have an early flight to catch - we will serve you a breakfast before it's time to go and one of our drivers will drive you to the airport upon request. In case your flight leaves at night, you will have time to do one last trail nearby the Ranch and we will accommodate with lunch and dinner to your schedule.

Meals included: as needed

** subject to changes due to unforeseen circumstances **

Other Info

Meeting: Mexico City Airport: Mexico City Transfer: Mexico City Distance: 20km

Transfers are available from Mexico City International Airport or hotel any day of the week and any time (although we do recommend morning flight arrivals so riders have a full day the ranch).

Tack:

Mostly Mexican Charro or Western Tack, but we have some other tacks available upor

request (English, Australian, Galápagos and Women's Saddles)

Horses: Warmbloods, Quarter Horses, Haflinger and Friesians

Pace: 4-6 hours in the saddle per day on average. Pace is moderate with trots and canters

some opportunities for galloping

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

Level: (2.5 to 4 out of 5) Intermediate

Riders: Min 1 riders Max 8 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-MXRG03

Rates include: Accommodations in classic rooms, All meals and beverages & 6 riding days Helmets and sombreros can be borrowed at the ranch

Packages and Options

| Season | Description | ~US\$ |
|--------|--|--------|
| A 2024 | 8 day trip | \$2275 |
| B 2024 | 8 day trip - Holidays (during Easter, Christmas, New Year) | \$4165 |

Gratuity:15 % Tax:\$ 16

Transfer Option

Description

| 2024 | Transfer from/to Mexico City airport or hotel (1-4 pax), return, per van | \$250 |
|------|--|-------|
| 2024 | Upgrade to Deluxe Room, dbl, pp | \$175 |
| 2024 | Upgrade to Master Suite, dbl, pp | \$350 |
| 2024 | Single supplement +40% | \$415 |
| 2024 | Private Wrangler, pp, per day | \$100 |
| 2024 | Private Riding Lessons, pp, per hour | \$70 |
| 2024 | Transfer from/to Mexico City airport or hotel (1-4 pax), return, per car | \$140 |

Tour Dates

| Season | Tour Dates | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|-------|------------|--|
| A 2024 | 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024 | 8d/7n | 8 day trip | |

Rates do not include: Transfers, Taxes & Gratuities

Min/Max: 1/8
* minimum 7 nights during Easter, Christmas, and New Year

Reservation Form

| Tour: | Code #: | from | to: | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| The Travelers (Last Name, First Name) | Male Fernale Single room / or tent Birth Da | - Height I Weight I | 20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | State Header defet defet defet | | | | |
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| 3. 4. | | | | | | | | |
| Special Diets: Your fitness level: Excellent Moderate | □ Poor□ Ho | v long have you b | een 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 | al airport/station: I | vould like the tran | sfer to be included: YES | O NO | | | | |
| In an emergency, name and phone number of | f contact: | | | | | | | |
| Attention: Please, if there is more than one p | participant, all have t | sign the reservat | ion form - make copies if | needed | | | | |
| With my signature I confirm my reservation of I made all participants aware of the risk involution with the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and brochure or as listed on the Internet. | ved with these outdo | or adventure acti | ities. All participants hav | e read and agree | | | | |
| I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A Last Name and First Name (The Traveler) | - | ndemnity Agreeme | | trip starting date. | | | | |
| I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A | - | | | trip starting date. | | | | |
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