

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

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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

Atlas Mountains Ride - Morocco, Northern Africa

Tour Code: PG-MR10

10 days / 9 nights ~\$1,180.00

Dates: Jul-Aug

Trip Rating: ●●●●●

Difficulty: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾

Lodging: 🏠🏠

Tack: English trekking

Horses: Arab, Berber – stallions & mares.

Pace: 5-8 hours in the saddle every day

Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,

Airport: Fès-Saïs Airport (FEZ)



Introduction

Morocco, Morocco

Discover a lush and mountainous Morocco on this exciting 10 day tour. Beginning in Fez, a city still reminiscent of the Middle Ages, you explore French villages, Moroccan lakes, stark mountain ranges, rocky plains, fresh water springs and waterfalls, and volcanic stone that sprouts grass. Along the way you encounter animals such as sheep, goats, camels, monkeys, and a multitude of birds. Explore the land of the Nomads and make note of their legendary lifestyle as we pass by Berber villages of clay huts established miles from anywhere. This amazing trip takes you toward the Lake Afenourir Nature Reservation, where you spend one last peaceful night in the wilderness.

Highlights

- Swimming with the horses!
- The 40 springs of Oum Erbia
- The city of Ifrane
- Cedar forests with wild monkeys
- Racing over abandoned prairies

Accommodation



Accommodations

This is a wilderness ride, so nights will be a mixture of hotels and camping.

Description

You will spend 2 nights in a hotel and 7 nights camping. You will change camp sites 6 times.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 9: Hotel Riad El Yacout in Fes

Night 2: Camping in Ifrane

Night 3: Camping near Lake Afenourir

Night 4: Camping near Lake Ouiouane

Night 5: Camping near Lake Aguelmam Aghiza

Night 6: Camping near a salty river

Night 7: Camping near Lake Aguelmam Sidi Ali

Night 8: Camping near smaller lake

Riad El Yacout in Fes

This beautiful 16th century Riad used to be the home of a rich merchant and has recently been restored in order to provide comfortable accommodation to guests. The architecture of this Riad is very typical of the area with water fountains and beautiful mosaics. Each room is tastefully decorated in the Moroccan style and comes equipped with air conditioning, satellite TV, free Wi-Fi access and ensuite facilities. The hotel also has a spa and a swimming pool. Laundry can be arranged for an additional fee.

*Please note that hotels are subject to change based on availability. Double check at the time of booking!

Camping

You will overnight in comfortable dome tents with ground mats. There are rustic portable toilets (no flush) on site and no showers. There will be some rivers along the ride where you can bathe and wash up. Make sure to bring your own sleeping bag!

Room Occupancy

Single supplement is mandatory if we are unable to find another rider to share.





Meals

All meals are included from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on the last day.

You will enjoy a mix of food: some "western food" and some very good local specialties! Some days a car will meet us for lunch and on some days we will have a picnic on the trail - you will take the food with you in your saddle bags.

Drinks in hotels or restaurants and alcoholic drinks on the ride are not included.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to dietary restrictions if given prior notice.

Riding



Horses

You will ride small but very surefooted Arabian Berber horses with a great courage and stamina. Mares and stallions go together on the ride. Stallions and mares go well together, but some of the stallions need extra space when two are in the same area. A whip is suggested for the stallions, as they need strict orders. This does not make them difficult to ride, they just require more firm direction and more attention. These horses can get very attached to their riders and are always ready to please.

Riding Experience

Riders must have at least 5 years experience and hacking experience is a plus. We might have to lead our horses in some difficult mountain pass.

Tack

Mostly English and some military tracking saddles. Some people bring their own gel-cushion or sheep-skin cover to put over the saddle since we ride for long hours.

Staff

Driss and Rena have been organizing treks on horseback in Morocco since 1982. Rena, once a schoolteacher in Switzerland, came to Meknes in the year 1984 to realize her dream of living in harmony with horses and nature. In love with Morocco and its inhabitants, she will help you discover another Morocco, away from the beaten track, authentic and enchanting, as your guide on the treks. Driss is a riding instructor who used to work for the National Studfarm of Meknes. He has more than 25 years of experience with horses and he has taught a great many students (a lot of them French) who for the most part have gone on to be high level riders).

Itinerary





Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1 (Friday): Arrival in Fes

Transfer to Riad (traditional Moroccan house or palace).

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Riad El Yacout in Fes

Day 2 (Monday): Introductory Ride

In the morning you will visit the medina of Fes. This old medina is very spectacular. Built in 808 by Moulay Idris II, you will feel like you're in the Middle Ages. You will see the old University, the Souk with its small shops, the magnificent mausoleum of the founder of Fes, the huge mosque of Karaouin, the tanneries, and so much more that you won't want to blink! An hour drive by car will bring you up to the Atlas Mountain, where you will have picnic beside a lake. Moroccans often come here to enjoy the nature.

Afterwards we will transfer you to Ifran, built in 1929 by the French. This little town, with its pointy rooftops and flowery alleys sits at a height of 1700 meters (approx. 5500 feet) above the sea. Ifran is very popular for his agreeable climate in the summer. The horses are waiting for us outside Ifran, near Azrou. We will go for a short ride during which you will get to know your new friend. We'll spend the night in tents.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping in Ifran

Day 3 (Tuesday): Ifran to Lake Afmourir

The day will start on a high plain, with beautiful view over the Atlas. The local farmers have bees and the region is very famous for the lavender honey. Big cedar trees grow beside the hills. In the forest are living many kinds of birds, the famous berber monkey of the Atlas and a few wild boars, which you may see occasionally. We will stop for lunch in an oak tree forest, enjoying the shade.

In the afternoon, we will leave the woods and ride over big lonely planes (volcanic ground). Soon, we will reach a big forest of zedewood and the landscape changes completely. Later on, we reach a high plane where we find the natural reservoir of Afmourir lake. The lake gets water only from the rain. Many birds, frogs and small fishes populate the area.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Lake Afmourir

Day 4 (Wednesday): Lake Afmourir to Lake Wiwane

Our ride starts over the big plains and soon, forests can be seen on top of the mountains on both sides of the valley. When we reach the end of the plain, we go down the valley through the forest to reach the river of Zaouiet Ifran. Monkeys live in this region, and sometimes we will find them jumping from tree to tree. We cross the pretty village of Zaouiet Ifran and climb up on the other side of the valley, through the oleander bushes, which are in bloom in summer. We will take our picnic lunch around there.

In the afternoon we ride up again, crossing through beautiful forests and arriving by lake Wiwane in the evening.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Lake Wiwane

Day 5 (Thursday): Lake Wiwane to Lake Aguelmam Aghiza

In the morning, we ride around the lake. Our trail then continues on small mule paths across green pastures. Little rivers can be spotted from time to time. At one point, we will reach a river full of salt and the ground looks like it is frozen. Finally we reach the 40 springs of Oum Erbia. After a cool drink we climb up the hill. Once at the top we will have our picnic lunch by the river.

In the afternoon, we follow the river through the forest and again over green pastures with sheep, cow, horses and mules. Then, we cross through another beautiful forest with cedarwood and make our way down to the lake of aguelmam aghiza.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Lake Aguelmam Aghiza

Day 6 (Friday): Ride across forests and grassy plains

After leaving the lake behind us, we ride across another beautiful forest populated by monkeys. Beautiful grassy plains invite us for gallops.

In the afternoon, we enjoy beautiful views over the valleys and the mountains. We will eventually reach a green valley and soon we will find our camp beside a salty river.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Salty river

Day 7 (Saturday): Ride to Lake Aguelmam Sidi Ali

After following a small rocky trail, we reach a plateau and follow a small mule path through the forest. Later on, long gallops bring us over grassy planes. Along the way, we find a well so our horses can drink.

The picnic break will be taken in the mountains. There is not a lot of shade, but a cool wind might blow and bring us some fresh air.

After lunch, we go down to the lake of Aguelmam Sidi Ali. This is the biggest lake in the region and its water comes from underground.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Lake Aguelmam Sidi Ali

Day 8 (Sunday): Lake Aguelmam Sidi Ali to smaller lake

In the morning we take some time to enjoy the lake and swim (with the horses if possible). We will start riding in the afternoon, making our way through a lonely valley with very old tuya trees. We will enjoy some gallops on the way, and cross a few rivers. Our camp will be beside a smaller lake this evening.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping

Day 9 (Monday): Ride to Azrou

For our last riding day, we climb up the mountain. We come across a small salty spring and then we cross a huge valley. Big herds of sheep are grassing here. At one point, the ground changes into volcanic stones. Herewe will carefully stay on the designated path. Some lonely farmhouses can be spotted from time to time. We will eventually reach Azrou where we say goodbye to the horses. From there, a car will bring us back to Fes in the Riad.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Riad El Yacout in Fes

Day 10 (Tuesday): Departure

Individual return.

Meals included: Breakfast

Other Info

Meeting: Riad El Yacout Hotel

Airport: Fès-Sais Airport (FEZ)



Train station: Fes Railway station

Transfer: Fes Airport

Distance: 17km / 10.5 miles

Pick-up is available from Fès-Sais Airport (FEZ) after 9:00am on the first day of the trip. Check-out on the last day is at 12:00pm. Drop-off transfers are not included on the last day of the trip.

Tack: English trekking

Horses: Arab, Berber -- stallions & mares.

Pace: 5-8 hours in the saddle every day

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3.5 to 4 out of 5) Strong Intermediate

Weight: 190 lbs / 85 kg

Riders: Min 4 riders Max 10 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - PG-MR10

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 7 riding days & Pick-up transfer from airport or hotel in Fes

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	10 day trip	€1070	\$1180

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

Transfer Option

Description

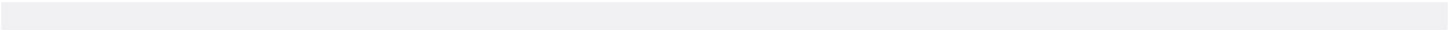
2024	Pick-up from airport or hotel in Fes included. Individual return.		
2024	Small group supplement (3 pax only), pp	€135	\$150
2024	Small group supplement (2 pax only), pp	€270	\$300
2024	Single supplement	€135	\$150
2024	Taxi from hotel in Fes to Fes Airport ~ approximate rates	€25	\$30

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/28/2024 - 07/07/2024	10d / 9n	10 day trip
A 2024	08/16/2024 - 08/25/2024	10d / 9n	10 day trip

Min/Max: 4/10

Rates do not include: Drop-off transfer, Entrance fees and sightseeings (1-2 Euros per place), Alcoholic beverages, Drinks in hotels & Gratuities for porters (~5-10 Dirham) and grooms (~80 Euros)



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 _____

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