

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

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



Sand Dunes Horse & Camel Ride - Morocco, Northern Africa

Tour Code: PG-MRSP
8 days / 7 nights ~\$1,250.00
Dates: March

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

Tack: English trekking
Horses: Arab, Berber stallions & mares
Pace: 4-6 hours and up to 50 km.
Riders must...
Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Ouarzazate Airport (OZZ)



Introduction

Morocco, Morocco

Experience the spectacular sand dunes of Morocco and majestic red-gold desert landscapes in the most natural and traditional way - on horseback and astride a camel!

This adventure combines the experience of the passionate horse culture here with the local camels use with a mix of nomadic camping and charming Moroccan inn and hotels with local character. This tour begins in Ouarzazate from where we must travel to meet our string of horses and saddle up for a week of adventure in the desert. Escaping into the mystery of a new and foreign land, we know that the next few days will bring thrilling canterers, new and interesting cultural experiences, amazing vistas of golden sand dunes as far as the eye can see, and peaceful grazing camels and tall pink flamingos.

Along the way we visit exciting destinations such as the Oasis of Thinghras (the set of many desert movies), the Mausoleum of Moulay Al Cherif, the lake of Dair Srij (where birds flourish and pink flamingos can occasionally be spotted), desert villages such as Erg Chebbi, sand dunes that reach heights of over 200 meters, and small Moroccan settlements where we experience Gnawa music, a mix of sub-Saharan African, Berber and Arabic religious songs and rhythms that is both a prayer and a celebration of life. We will ride camels into the heart of the sand dunes and travel and camp like the nomads. We will wake each morning by a kaleidoscope of reds, oranges and golds of the sunrise as we set off for the day's voyage. Come enjoy the desert of Morocco on horses and camels – the unique people, animals and their land will make you never want to leave! Near the end of the trip you will be also afforded free time for independent exploration and shopping.

Accommodation



Accommodations

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

Description

Camp option: 4 nights in hotels and 3 nights camping

Hotel option: all nights in hotels/ riads

Camp Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 7: Hotel in Ouarzazate

Night 2: Camp near Erfoud

Night 3: Guesthouse in Ergchebbi

Night 4: Camp near Merzouga

Night 5: Hotel in Rissani

Night 6: Camp near Fezna

A riad is a old house turned into a guest house. They often have very beautiful mosaics and wooden decoration. They are old homes from very rich people which often look like little palaces. They have few bedrooms but in style of 4* to 5* hotels. Hotel rooms are mostly naturally air-cooled and most of the hotels have their sun-warmed swimming pool! The average hotel has a small bar. Please note that hotels are subject to change based on availability. Laundry can be arranged in hotels. Inquire at the hotel for price.

Hotel Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 7: Hotel in Ouarzazate

Night 2: Hotel in Erfoud

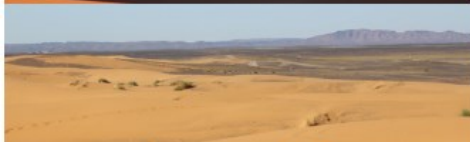
Night 3: Guesthouse in Ergchebbi

Night 4: Hotel in Merzouga

Night 5: Hotel in Rissani

Night 6: Hotel in Erfoud





Hotel in Ouarzazate

Since 2005, the hotel « Les Jardins de Ouarzazate » welcomes guests in a warm and friendly atmosphere. It offer 31 air conditioned rooms, a pool, an enclosed garden with trees, a large terrace and free Wi-Fi.

Guesthouse in Ergchebbi

This authentic guesthouse offers simple rooms, all with private bathrooms with hot water. Free WIFI is available at this property.

Hotel in Merzouga

This traditional Moroccan-style lodging offers bedrooms with ensuite facilities and air conditioning. The hotel also has a relaxed restaurant, an outdoor pool & gardens. Free Wi-Fi is available at this property.

Hotel in Rissani

This charming hotel displays a traditional Moroccan architecture and offers simply furnished bedrooms that come with air conditioning, mosquito net, a patio and private facilities with free toiletries. Hotel amenities include an outdoor pool, a terrace, and hammam where guests can relax. Free Wi-Fi access is provided at this property.



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. In general, tap water should not be used for drinking but only for washing.

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.

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: camping option - subject to changes

Note: In hotel option, all nights in hotels

Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival in Ouarzazate

Transfer from the airport to your hotel for the evening and rest up from your travels.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Hotel in Ouarzazate

Day 2 (Monday): Tinghir to Erfoud

Drive from Ouarzazate through the valley of thousand Kasbahs to Tinghir by car. Reddish- yellow valleys in the desert and groves of palm trees with the Kasbah castles gives you a first impression of the desert. Drive on through the desert to the horses. After a short lunch you start riding the horses. You ride along the groves of the palm trees through nice little fields of grain or lucerne in direction of Erfoud. Afterwards, you get to the real desert landscape. Sandy ground, dried out river bed and the first sand dunes begin. Towards the evening you reach a little hill range which is covered by sand. Only a few black rocks stick out the top. In these mountains there are many fossils which are old coral reefs.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Erfoud (Hotel or riad if Hotel option)

Day 3 (Tuesday): Erfoud to Ergchebbi

You ride over little hill ranges, you gallop through wide plains, cross dry river valleys and again sand dunes overgrown by halfgrass. Soon you reach the black hills. Even though the ground is stony you're able to do good gallops because the stones are fine. In between, there is red desert sand. From far away you can already see the pink colored sand dunes of Ergchebbi. Finally you are there. Everybody should definitely take the time to enjoy the sunset from the sand dunes.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Guesthouse in Ergchebbi

Day 4 (Wednesday): Ride around Ergchebbi

After an ample breakfast in the guesthouse you ride along a dune in direction to Algeria. At the front side of the big sand dune you can find many little guest houses. But we ride at the other side where it's very lonely. The sight of the huge dunes is always very impressive. You cross the dunes to get back to the flat country side on the other side. A few short gallops leads you to the camp at the lake, which is not always filled with water. Only after a rainy winter it gets filled and attracts many different kinds of birds. Sometimes you can even see flamingos.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



Overnight Camping near Merzouga (Hotel or riad if Hotel option)

Day 5 (Thursday): Ergchebbi to Rissani

In the morning you ride over the black lightly bumpy plain. Endless gallops brings you to a river bed. On the other side, the ground suddenly turns white and sandy. In the distance you can see the groves of palm trees of Rissani. On little paths you ride through an oasis to the hotel. The horses are located right next to the hotel by the palm trees. In the afternoon, you drive to Rissani to the mausoleum of Moulay Ali Cherif, the first king of the dynasty of the Alaouites. Afterwards there is still time left to get to Rissani and have a break in a café. The turbulent life in the desert city is very impressive.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel in Rissani

Day 6 (Friday): Ride to underground canals

Today you ride through groves of palm trees again out to endless plains. Over and over again there are little sand dunes. Endless gallops bring you to the distant mountains. In the afternoon, you reach the area of the underground canals which date from the middle ages. Like molehills the sand of the excavations rises.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight Camping near Fezna (Hotel in Erfoud if Hotel option)

Day 7 (Saturday): Last Ride

You cross a little farmer village. Some of the farmers are quiet rich and built beautiful houses. Then again, we enter in the empty landscape. Little sand dunes alternate with dry river valleys. After that, you can see huge tufts of grass where sometimes rabbits live-in. Soon you get to see something sticking out in the distance. It's the skystairs built by a German artist. This monument made out of natural material is very impressive. A little later, you will see the Orion town and the Golden Spiral (by the same artist). Then long canters brings you back to the cars where the horses are left. After a short lunch you drive back to Ouarzazate.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at a Hotel in Ouarzazate

Day 8 (Sunday): Departure

Individual return trip from the hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast

Other Info

Meeting: Ouarzazate

Airport: Ouarzazate Airport (OZZ)

Transfer: Ouarzazate Airport

Distance: 5km / 3 miles

Pick-up is available from Ouarzazate Airport (OZZ) after 12:00pm on Day 1 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: 4-6 hours and up to 50 km. Riders must have at least 5 years experience

Walk | Trot | Canter |

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

Weight: 190 lbs / 85 kg

Riders: Min 4 riders

Max 9 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - PG-MRSP

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 6 riding days & Pick-up transfer from Ouarzazate airport.

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	8 day trip (Camp)	€1135	\$1250
	Small group supplement (3 pax only), pp	€175	\$190
	Single supplement	€135	\$150
B 2024	8 day trip (Hotel)	€1470	\$1620
	Small group supplement (3 pax only), pp	€200	\$220
	Single supplement	€270	\$300

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

Transfer Option

Description

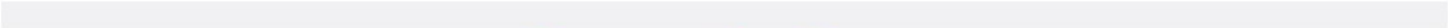
2024	Pick-up from Ouarzazate airport included	
2024	Taxi from hotel in Ouarzazate to Ouarzazate Airport ~ approximate rates	€15 \$15

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	03/03/2024 - 03/10/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Camp)
A 2024	03/03/2024 - 03/10/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Camp)
B 2024	03/03/2024 - 03/10/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Hotel)
B 2024	03/03/2024 - 03/10/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Hotel)
A 2024	03/17/2024 - 03/24/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Camp)
B 2024	03/17/2024 - 03/24/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Hotel)
A 2024	03/24/2024 - 03/31/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Camp)
B 2024	03/24/2024 - 03/31/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip (Hotel)

Min/Max: 4/9

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 (~70 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 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 _____

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

Website www.hiddentrails.com

Office hours:

Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm

Pacific Standard Time

