

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

Chiricahua Apache Ride - USA, North America

Tour Code: RTNM05 5 days / 4 nights ~\$1,500.00 Dates: March to October

Trip Rating : •••••
Difficulty : ••••
Lodging: ÅÅ BASIC

Tack: Western
Horses: Quarter Horses and Mixed
Pace: 6-8 hours in the saddle pace
varies a...

Airport: El Paso





Introduction

New Mexico, USA

The Gila Wilderness is one of the few places left in the United States where one can still serve witness to untouched nature... On a typical day in the Gila Wilderness, you might very well find a herd of pronghorn grazing on the rich grassland... observe a desert tortoise going about his business the way he has for millions of years... Freezing in your tracks while javelina scurry along a migration trail... Feeling the natural soothing heat of a hot spring flowing into the river...

It's all here in the Gila Wilderness... Customized guided wilderness adventures expertly designed to concentrate on the surrounding environment, plant and animal identification methods, as well as seasonal foraging techniques. Your pack trip will provide you with an opportunity to experience fundamental techniques and knowledge of outdoor living skills; experiences essential for a safe, minimum impact, leave no trace, active enjoyment of this rugged and vast country.

Chiricahua Apache people believe these lands were set in prefect foundation specifically for the Chiricahua. Chiricahua Apaches were created here and from time immemorial have been present here. Chiricahua Apache predate all other cultures here in the Gila region, others attempted to settle, unsuccessfully. Your trail guide is Apache Joe Saenz, of Chihe'ne (Warm Springs Apache) ancestry, with extensive guiding experience in horseback and backpacking expeditions throughout the American Rocky Mountains, including Canada, Mexico's Sierra Madre and Alaskan Brooks Range.

The area offers a variety of terrain and trails. Easy gentle trails for the beginning and intermediate riders yet providing ample challenges for the more experienced rider and the adventurer. Ride through open grassy meadows and wandering low canyons. Follow cottonwood lined creeks and dry seasonal arroyos. See ancient pueblo petroglyphs, and stand in "Awe" of the world's largest Alligator Juniper, the "Big Tree". Discuss historical aspects of the Apache, the Pueblo Indians, Buffalo Soldiers, the Miners, and international conflicts, over this sacred, vast and rich land.

Rates include accommodations, meals starting day two, 5 riding days, nature and history guide.

Accomodation

Accommodations

This is a pack trip where all nights are spent camping.

Description

Camping is basic and as close to nature as you can get. Riders sleep directly on the ground under a rain/ fly shelter. There are no washrooms, just pure outdoors (dig a hole in the ground style). You can bathe in the rivers should you wish to freshen up. There is no electricity or WIFI.







Meals

All meals are included.

From "gourmet meals" to trail snacks - all food groups are represented. Meats, vegetables, pasta, dairy, fruits, grains, snacks, tea, coffee, honey, butter, and great sandwiches! We eat breakfast and dinner at the camp and lunches area eaten on the trail.

We ask that you do not bring any alcohol since you are riding on private reservation land.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to most dietary restrictions given prior notice.

Riding

Guide

Your guide is of Chihe'ne (Warm Springs Apache) ancestry with extensive guiding experience in horseback and backpacking expeditions, throughout the American Rocky Mountains including Canada, Mexico's Sierra Madre and Alaskan Brooks Range.

Powwow & Horseback Riding trip

Any tour can be combined with another Native American cultural experience: the visit to a local regional powwow or Native American gathering and ceremony. We offer to visit a powwow in the Southwest with you, which will make this a very unique experience for you, and do a wilderness tour preferably after that powwow. Please, inquire for more information.

Bringing your own tack and horse

We invite you to bring your own tack and horse(s).

Itinerary

Nature provides plentiful variety in the Gila National Forest, in southwest New Mexico. The United States Congress designated the Gila Wilderness in 1964 and it now contains over 3,300,000 acres and is managed by U.S. Forest Service making it the sixth largest National Forest in the continental United States.

Travel on horseback through this rugged countryside, the region and homeland of the Chiricahua Apache, who when pursued, would just dissolve into its landscape, taking routes through these mountains... the trails and routes that we'll retrace.

Discover the raw beauty of Gila's sunrises, sunsets and the endless miles of challenging trails, varied terrain and Gila's ever changing weather.

Participants must be in relative good health. Trips consist of daily intensive riding, and routes are always in a loop to avoid riding same trails. These rides emphasize philosophies of minimal environmental & Leave No Trace impact.

This trip, with its authentic guide, presents Native American historical indigenous perspectives and interpretive services in regards to American western history and to the appreciative relationship of the natural resources of Dzil, which were once preserved and protected by Ndee ancestors. So for your group getaway, an educational journey, your solo wilderness trek, a romantic wilderness escape, or a family reunion, come join us for an experience your heart and senses will never forget!

Other Info

Meeting: Gila National Forest Trailhead

Airport: El Paso Transfer: Silver City

Distance: 180 mi from El Paso

Fly into Albuquerque and then fly to Silver City or we can arrange a private transfer from El Paso, TX or Tucson, AZ to Silver City. To arrange transfers, call Juan reynon

Shuttle Service (575 590 4426)

We recommend to rent a car in El Paso and drive in.

Tack: Western

Horses: Quarter Horses and Mixed

Pace: 6-8 hours in the saddle pace varies accordingly to skill level and terrain

Age: Min 7 Weight: 220 lbs

Riders: Min 1 riders Max 4 riders

Local Events

Wild Wild West Pro Rodeo (June 17-20 2020)

This annual Rodeo features high-flying bull riding, fast riding and roping and much more, all under the cool New Mexico evening skies. Our rodeo competition features some of the nation's toughest Cowboys & Cowgirls and wildest bulls & broncs. Enjoy watching the little ones in the nightly mutton bustin'.

Events are held at the Southwest Horseman's Park, off of US Hwy 180 and Caballero Road just East of Silver City, New Mexico.

Gates open at 6:30 pm, Mutton Bustin' at 7:30 pm and the Rodeo performance gets underway at 8 pm.

2020 Ticket prices T.B.D. and will go on Sale JUNE 2020.

Thursday is Family night - buy 3 tickets get one free! This promotion is only good on Thursday!

The Ancient and Gila Region

Ancient Native Peoples were created here and have inhabited these sacred mountains, valleys and canyons throughout time. The Ndee (Chihe'ne, Chokone'ne, Bida'nku, Ndenai), known as the Chiricahua Apache People predate all other cultures present in the area. The ancient Pueblos, referred to as the Mogollon, Anasazi and Mimbres cultures of the preserved Gila Cliff Dwellings, attempted to settle this region, unsuccessfully.

Traveling through "Dzil" (mountains, the Gila region) offers opportunities to view ancient homesites, and to discuss living conditions and survival philosophies of these ancient builders; and the true inhabitants and inheritors of this country, The Apache People.

The Ndee's fierce defense and nomadic lifestyle allowed this region to flourish and exist in harmony for countless generations in it's purest essence. In more recent history, well known Apache band leaders, war leaders, and warriors, like Cochise, Mangas Coloradas, Nana, Loco, Victorio, Naiche, Chihuahua, Geronimo, Porico and Lozen joined forces to drive all intruders from these sacred grounds.

Located in southwest New Mexico, the Gila Wilderness is America's first and largest designated wilderness. At 3.3 million acres, the Gila National Forest offers one of the continent's most pristine and rugged wild areas known today. Elevations range from desert and 4500 feet, to alpine at 10,000 feet. The Gila River's immense watershed system creates valleys, mesas and canyons only imagined in dreams.

The wildlife present will give visitor a glimpse into an ecosystem desired by your soul. Soaring eagles, hawks, heron and kingfishers haunting the sky, while deer, elk, antelope, black bear, lynx, cougar, bighorn sheep, wolf, coyote and Javelina roam the shadows of the forests, meadows and canyons.

Rates and Dates 2024 - RTNM05

Rates include: Camping accommodations, All meals & 5 (optionally more) riding days

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	5 day trip	\$1500

Gratuity:15 %
Tax:\$ 6.05
Rates Note:Ask about special weeks which includes Native American Cultural Experience (PoW-Wow)

Transfer Option

Description

2024	Please contact John Reynon (575 590 4426) for transfer options	
2024	Daily rate, pp	\$300

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates			
A 2024	03/01/2024 - 10/31/2024	5d / 4n	5 day trip	

Min/Max: 1/4

Shorter trips (min 3 days) and longer trips (max 9 nights) can also be arranged on request. Fully booked in October 2023

Rates do not include: Gratuities & Transfers You need to bring your own sleeping bag

Reservation Form

Tour:	Code #:		from:	to:	
The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)		rth Date WDD/YY	Weight	25 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45	de the state of th
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
Special Diets:					
Your fitness level: Excellent Moderate	Poor	How long hav	e you be	en riding?	
How often do you ride?	Have you been	on other riding	tours?	No Yes last trip w	/hen?
If Hidden Trails offers a transfer from the local	al airport/station:	I would like	the transf	er 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 ha	ve to sign the	reservation	on form - make copies if n	needed
I made all participants aware of the risk involution with the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and brochure or as listed on the Internet. I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A	d the Hidden Trai	ils Recreationa	Activity	Release and Indemnity Ag	greement in this
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