

# **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

# Missouri Foxtrot Ride in the Ozarks - USA, North America

**Tour Code: IRMO01** 7 days / 6 nights ~\$2,000.00 Dates: Available all Year

Trip Rating: •••••
Difficulty: ••••
Lodging: ••••

Tack: Western, Synthetic Gaited Leather Horses: Missouri Fox Trotter, Tennessee Walke... Pace: 4 to 6 hrs daily according to riding I... Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,

Airport: St. Louis Lambert International Airport (STL)





### Introduction

Missouri, USA

Experience the smooth-speed and agility of the exceptionally even-tempered gaited Missouri Foxtrot Horses while riding in the Missouri Ozarks - south of the glacier line in the heart of Missouri's cattle country. Relax and experience the pleasures of country living and ride over endless trails in the Meramec River Valley.

Your starting point is a small family farm set on the spring-fed Meramec River in East Central Missouri. The surrounding countryside is home to wild turkey, white-tailed deer and many other native Missouri animals. Great Blue Herons nest in the sycamores. Bass and trout flourish in the Meramec River and nearby streams. Your ride begins at your cabin door! Explore rivers, caves, forests and farmlands.

### Accomodation



### Accommodations

This is a stationary ride, so all nights are spent at the same location.

### Description

Our Cabin-Bunkhouse was built in 2005 from cedar logs hauled in by our own team of Percheron draft horses and constructed and decorated with a cowboy theme. Your surroundings will transform you to out west! There is a 6 person hot tub/spa pool to relax in when not riding. On cool evenings gather around the stone hearth, by the fireplace, made from local river rocks. Enjoy the view of our large lake from your porch, a very romantic setting for special occasions. If you want more excitement than just relaxing in the evenings in the quiet, calm of the ranch, you can always head into the nearby towns for movie theaters, music halls (bluegrass and western country music), and local watering-hole pubs. If you want to enjoy some other points of interest, during, before or after you ranch stay, the town of Cuba (12 mi) and Rolla (30 mi) have antique shops with quirky vintage items and there is a winery in the region as well! The Onondaga Cave is 25 minute drive form the ranch - guests favorite!! Meramec Spring Park is beautiful in the spring and has a trout hatchery! Wi-Fi is available and laundry facilities are at the guests disposal.



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There is 1 private double occupancy bedroom in the main ranch house. It has a Queen size bed and its own private bath and shower.

There is a 2-bedroom cabin. The cabin can accommodate 7 riders at the max, one group for the entirety or two groups can each take a bedroom; one room has 1 Queen size bed and the other room has 2 double beds. Finally, there is an optional futon in the living room for a single. The cabin is equipped with a full kitchen and stove, refrigerator, microwave oven, dishes, tableware, pans & cooking utensils and cable TV. The bathroom is shared in the cabin.

### Room Occupancy

There is no single supplement fee if you are wiling to share.



### Meals

Meals are not included in your package.

There are many local restaurants in Bourbon near the ranch which your hosts can recommend for you or else you can bring groceries on your own and make meals in the kitchen of the cabin! Bourbon has a nice grocery & deli open till 9:00pm. Guests are welcome to bring their own alcohol if they wish.

<u>Dietary Restrictions</u>
We can cater to guests with special dietary restrictions with prior notice.

### Riding



### Riding Level

Your mount will be selected with your own riding abilities in mind. Rides are adjusted to each individual's riding abilities for the riders, as well as the horses! "Fox Trotting at its Finest," is what we like to call the special gaited horse rides we offer on our beautiful and healthy Missouri Foxtrotting Horses - they are smooth, quick, sure-footed and kind, able to handle the hilly and rocky 'outlaw trails' in style.

At the ranch we have a very special relationship with our herd of 30+ Foxtrotters, Tennessee Walkers, Quarter Horses and Draft Horses. We have bred, raised and trained them to provide guests with the finest riding opportunities. In addition, the "Big Girls," our Percheron draft horses, can be used for pulling the hayride wagon in the summer and sleigh rides in the winter.









**Itinerary** 



### Sample Itinerary- subject to changes

Below is a sample itinerary only. Upon your arrival your hosts will help you design a riding holiday that is right for you. You have many trail riding options, roping, horse-drawn hayrides or sleigh rides in the winter. In addition to riding there is hiking, bird watching or swimming in the nearby river.

### Day '

In the afternoon you arrive at the 500-acre family-operated cattle and horse ranch. Meet your hosts and settle into your secluded log cabin or room. Take time to admire the view of the sparkling lake from the porch of your cabin. Your dinner is served from an authentic chuck wagon while nearby musicians play Bluegrass music around the campfire. The evening ends with an old-fashioned hayride, behind a team of coal black Percheron draft horses, into the sunset. The following days will offer a variety of riding excursions into the Meramec countryside. Several days will include a short morning transfer for horses and riders, giving you a wide range of trails to explore.

### Day 2

The morning ride introduces you to the gait of the foxtrot horse so that you will enjoy a smooth ride across the ranch, returning for a cowboy lunch at the house. After lunch it is back on the trail to explore rock bluffs decorated with drawings by the Osage Indians.

### Day:

Ride across country and over a ridge to a neighboring homestead that raises buffalo and other animals. Our host Fran will give you a tour of her farm, after which you will enjoy your lunch on the front porch of her log house while watching buffalo graze nearby. A fast-paced foxtrot ride returns you in time for dinner.

## Day 4

Time to Cowboy Up! You can help saddle and load your horse before heading to Blue Springs Ranch. From Blue Springs Ranch you can see some of the most spectacular lookouts over the Meramec River. Your ride today will cover miles along river frontage and through farms, ranches and hardwood forests. You climb the landscape for impressive views from bluffs over looking the river. You will enjoy a saddle bag lunch overlooking the Meramec River. This is a challenging all day ride that you will not want to miss.

### Day !

It is time to saddle and load up to head deeper into Ozark country for today's ride. We will be unloading our horses at the Brazil Campground to ride the Berryman Trail. You will be riding switch backs and thru thick stands of pine forest. You'll enjoy your saddle bag lunch overlooking the forest.

### Day

Transfer horses and riders to a completely different area: Dry Fork Creek. Ride on the Lenauer Farm, settled by German immigrants in the late 1800s. This unique farm still has huge stands of virgin timber though you will ride under huge stands of oak and maple and through pastures of cattle along Dry Fork Creek. Let you horse gait back to the woods to a natural rock bridge, complete with a cave and spring-fed pool of water. This is where you will have lunch today. Afterwards, a short ride takes you back to the ranch for the evening. Relax, fish, or reflect on the great day you've had.

### Day 7

Departure after breakfast.





### Non-riding Activities

When you aren't riding, you can choose to just sit back and relax in the hot tub or a rocking chair on the front porch with a beverage, or keep active and go fishing, hiking or bird watching. Nearby in the summer, the cool and refreshing waters of the Upper Meramec River provide great swimming holes and cool serenity amongst the scenic background of gravel bars, sand bars, and towering bluffs. Canoeing, Kayaking or Rafting down the Meramec River is easily available.

If you like star gazing or moonlight activities by campfire, we offer a BBQ grill and fire pit, and wood to make a marshmallow roasting fire nightly!

We can also arrange stagecoach rides, a tour of our cattle pastures and a tour of a local historic cemetery dating back to 1869.

Onondaga Cave in Leasburg Missouri is also just a 20 minute drive from the ranch.

### Other Info

Meeting: Bourbon

Airport: St. Louis Lambert International Airport (STL)

Train station: --Transfer: --

Distance: 146.5 km / 91 miles

Transfers are not available for this trip. Best to rent a car from St. Louis Lambert International

Airport (STL) and drive. Check-in for 3:00pm. Check-out for 11:00am.

Tack: Western, Synthetic Gaited Leather

Horses: Missouri Fox Trotter, Tennessee Walker, Quarter

Pace: 4 to 6 hrs daily according to riding level. No posting required. Walk, foxtrotting, some

canters, foxtrot mostly at 6-8 miles per hour. Very smooth and comfortable gait for al

riding levels.

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

Level: (2.5 to 4 out of 5) Low Intermediate+

Age: Min 8 Max 90

Weight: 250 lbs

Riders: Min 1 riders Max 8 riders Max Capacity 9

(per riding group)

## Rates and Dates 2025 - IRMO01

Rates include: Accommodation, 1 night of Blue Grass live music, 1 hay wagon ride & 5 guided horseback riding days

**Packages and Options** 

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2025	7 day trip	\$2000

# **Transfer Option**

Description

2025 Transfer not available - rental car mandatory!

Tour Dates

 Season
 Tour Dates

 A 2025
 01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
 7d / 6n
 7 day trip

Min/Max: 1/8

Extra days possible - please inquire.

Rates do not include: Meals (there are many nearby local restaurants the ranch can recommend for you), Transfers & Gratuities

# **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	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4			
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
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)						
Stree <u>t</u>	tree <u>t</u> e-mail					
City	State_		Postal/Zip Code			
Phone (wk) (hm)	Cel	ı	Fax			
Date	Signature (mandato	ry) 1.				
Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per person) now and full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to my credit card.  Additional Signatures:						
For payments by VISA ( or Mastercard ( no debit cards)						
Cardholder:						
Card #						
Card #3 di	igit Security #	4.  Travel Cal				

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