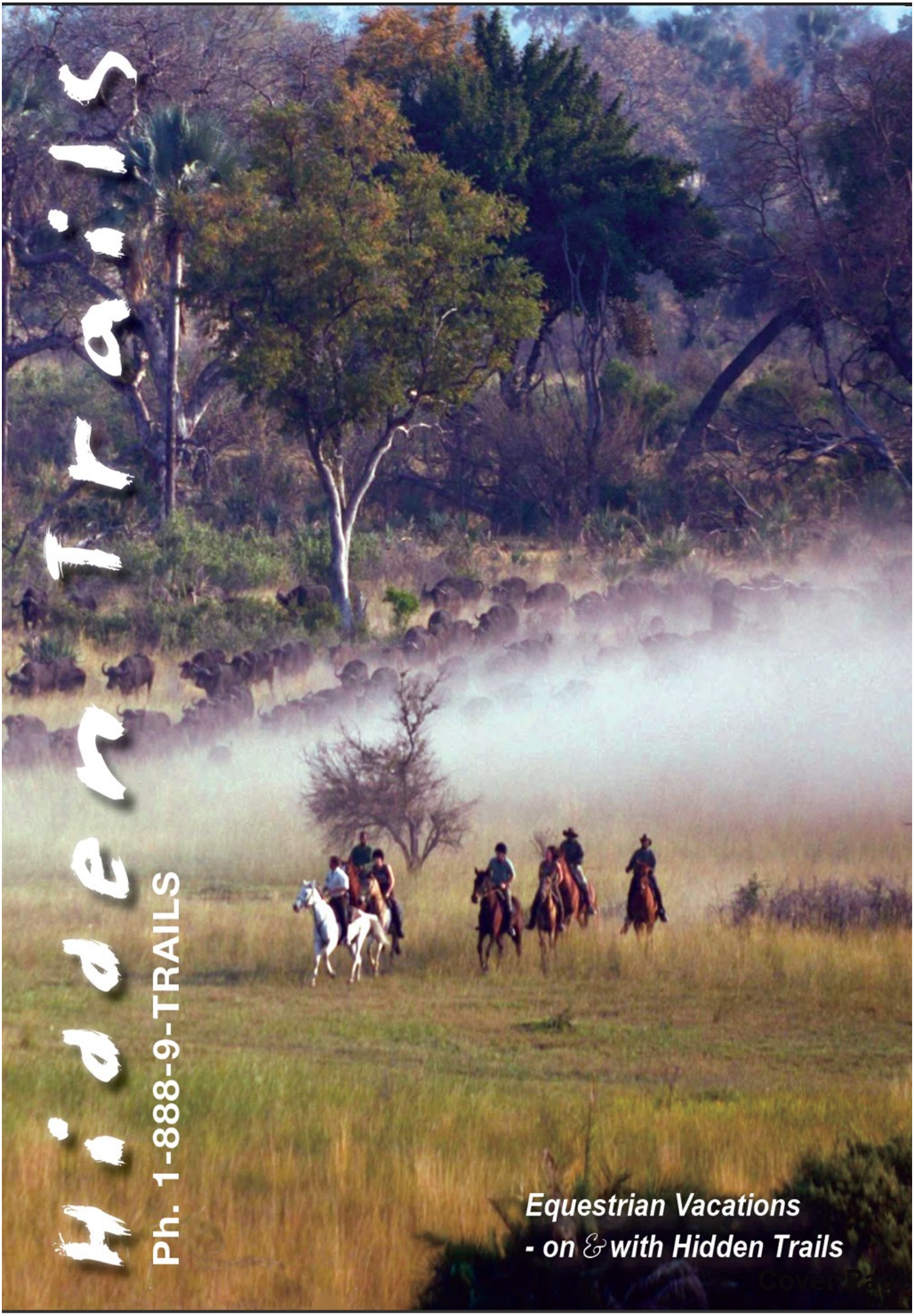

Hidden Trails
Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS
Equestrian Vacations
- on & with Hidden Trails

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, 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

Sierra Chicas Country Polo Clinics - Argentina, South America

Tour Code: IT-ARRT11-P
8 days / 7 nights ~$0.00
Dates: Available all Year (except May & June)

Trip Rating :
Difficulty :
Lodging:

Tack: English Style with English polo saddle...
Horses: Criollos, Peruvian Pasos, Quarter Hors...
Pace: Moderate, trots and canters. Walk,Trot,Canter,

Airport: Cordoba













Introduction

Cordoba/Mendoza, Argentina
Swathed in 15,000 acres of secluded grassy wilderness at the top of the Córdoba hills, Estancia Sierra Chicas is an idyllic retreat for horsemen, hikers and nature lovers. This working ranch breeds Aberdeen-Angus cattle and Paso Peruano pacing horses. It has been in the Anglo-Argentine Begg family for four generations and offers the possibility of combining the pleasures of British-style estancia life with long-distance riding in one of Argentina's most interesting riding areas. On the distance rides, participants can camp if they wish, but lodging is generally in cozy hostels and local cottages. The main house is steeped in family history with many references to the days of the Jesuits who first organized farming in the area.

Polo
Fun, fast and exciting, polo is a competitive team sport that combines good horsemanship with tactics and ball skills. Often too expensive or inaccessible to try at home, these polo weeks allow you to try this fabulous game in a truly unique environment, whilst not breaking the bank at the same time. Argentina has the best polo players in the world and so what better place to start? If you have never tried it, we should warn you that polo is highly addictive, and it may be the start of an extremely expensive habit . . . Using the estancia as your base, explore the Sierras Chicas on a trail rides and play polo 'country-style'. This is an 6,000-acre working farm that has remained in the same Anglo-Argentine family for four generations.
The Estancia is very secluded and located on the top of the "Sierras Chicas" at an altitude of 3,000 feet. Nestled between the pampas and the Andes, the Estancia lies the heart of the beautiful region of Cordoba. Steeped in family history, there is much local evidence of the pioneering work of the Jesuits who first organized farming in the area, before they were forced to leave in the 1760's.

Here we provide you with the opportunity to get involved with the sport of Polo for a week - Country Polo to be specific. Country Polo is an introduction to polo. It is aimed at the novice or occasional player who would like to improve their Polo skills, but also enjoy varied and interesting rides in fabulous countryside.

Who are the polo weeks for?
These polo weeks are aimed at the beginner, novice or occasional player who wishes to learn how to play, brush up their skills or just have some fun in an informal and friendly environment. Half-day polo sessions are combined with stunning trail rides out into the estancia on our fabulous horses, so combining two amazing holidays in one! We would like polo to be cheerful and fun, with no pressure or embarrassment, a starter rather than main course.
Sierra Chicas Country Polo Clinics offer a fun holiday in beautiful scenery, with excellent horses and all within the context of a real farm environment.

This is a place for people who appreciate fine horses and know how to ride. However, there are horses for every ability.

Accomodation



Accommodations
This is a stationary ride where are all 7 nights are spent at the estancia.

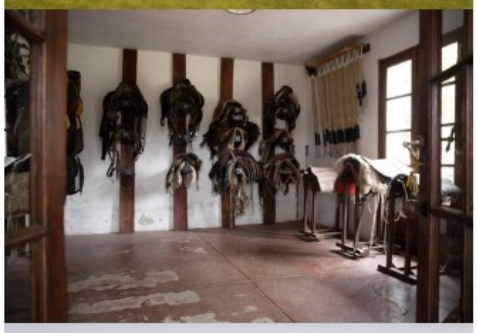
Description
The estancia has a rustic elegance and is very comfortable providing you with all creature comforts. Many of the estancia buildings are several hundred years old, and have been lovingly restored with traditional materials to reflect the history of the area, with every room unique and individual. Antiques and books abound and cooler winter nights are warmed by log fires and wood-burning stoves. Deep roll-top baths in most of the rooms provide the perfect antidote to a long day in the saddle. One of the original cattle brands and symbols of the area, 'The Bell', can still be seen etched into the fireplace in the sitting room.



















A 'pool with a view' provides a perfect place to relax, along with hammocks on the verandahs. The estancia has an eclectic range of books in virtually every room for guests to enjoy, and an artist's box is provided for the creatively minded. The sierras are a photographer´s delight and with 10 friendly dogs there is always a companion for a walk.

The majority of energy we use at the estancia is generated from renewable resources (wind and solar power). We are also working to make the estancia a plastic-free zone. We provide guests with re-usable thermo water bottles and we use solid shampoo and conditioner made with gentle products.

There is free Wi-Fi in the main building but as it is satellite based it can be slow and intermittent. In addition Wi-Fi is turned off during mealtimes on the estancia.
There is no cellphone coverage on the estancia.
A complimentary clothes washing service is available.

Room Occupancy
Single supplement is only mandatory if you are unwilling to share a room.
We have 2 cottages with interconnecting rooms ideal for families.



Meals
All meals are included during this trip.
Breakfast, and dinners are eaten at the estancia while, lunches are eaten on the trail.

Meals at the estancia reflect both Argentine and international cuisine. They are varied and delicious with home reared beef supplemented by our own organically grown vegetables, fruit and free-range eggs. For those interested in Argentine cooking, the chef is delighted to share and demonstrate knowledge of traditional Argentine dishes from our beautiful farm kitchen, using only fresh ingredients, much of which is provided from the estancia. Meals are taken 'family style' with all guests eating together and hosted by a member of the host family.

Wine is served with dinner at the estancia (included in trip cost). The Estancia has its 'own label' Argentine wines to accompany the meals, and various grape varieties make for interesting wine tasting.

Dietary Restrictions
The excellent chef can cater for a range of special dietary requirements with prior notice. It should be noted that we are not always able to source gluten and lactose free alternatives for some food items.







Riding













Your Hosts
Your estancia stay is hosted by Louisa and her husband, Kevin. They are always thrilled to invite guests into the family farm, where being a part of day-to-day life is encouraged. Kevin delights in regaling visitors with tales of his family and life in Argentina over a glass of Malbec, while Louisa is always ready to chat, surrounded by our other family members - the horses and the dogs!

Horses
Horses on the estancia include sure-footed and tough Criollos, energetic and smooth gaited Peruvian Paso horses, strong and even-tempered Quarter Horses and agile and fast Polo Ponies. The unique quality of the "Peruvians" is that they have the pre-Moorish Spanish Paso, an extraordinary gait that enables them to walk at the speed of a canter. The ride is smooth and feels like sitting in a portable armchair, perfectly suited for the distances required of the landscape. The gait of the Peruvian Paso is similar to the Icelandic horse. It is a four-beat lateral gait. Very comfortable indeed. The Rolls Royce of horses.
The herd of over 130 horses provides something for everyone, and for riders of all abilities.
All horses are soft-mouthed, forward going and with wonderful temperaments, typical of working horses who lead varied lives and are free to roam on the hills in their downtime.
Many of our horses are homebred and raised by us. Horses are our passion, and each and every one is considered part of the family.
Guests are encouraged to get involved with all of the horse activities on the farm, whether that is watching the horse-breaker at work or rounding up the mares and foals to protect them from pumas.

Hard Hats
We strongly recommend that you wear a hard hat for riding, and it is obligatory for playing polo. We have a limited number available at the estancia, but you may prefer to bring your own to ensure the correct fit and comfort.

Non-Riders
For those accompanying riding partners or friends, there is often the opportunity to join for picnic lunches, and to watch polo being played on the Estancia, or perhaps enjoy a ride in one of the antique cars or more traditional horse-drawn carriage. There are a range of non-riding activities available on the estancia (guided walks, farm drives, wine tastings, etc) that can be organized with the hosts on arrival, or guests can express their interest at the time of booking.



Itinerary













Our polo weeks are aimed at the beginner, novice or occasional player who wishes to learn how to play, brush up their skills or just have some fun in an informal and friendly environment. Half-day polo sessions are combined with stunning trail rides out into the estancia on our fabulous horses, so combining two amazing holidays in one!

The week culminates in an in-house tournament, often joined by players from the local area.
We hope to prepare for a mini tournament at the end of the week when local players may visit, or we go to the village and "play away" representing the estancia in the team colors. All of this takes place in a beautiful setting allowing you to explore the hills and a traditional way of life.

The itinerary is flexible and subject to change. It should be noted that polo is weather dependent. If the ground is too wet to play, an alternative ride will be offered, and where possible the sessions will be made up during the week by playing twice per day.

Typical Day:
After a hearty breakfast of bacon and eggs, we take the horses down to the polo ground. A short session on the ground covers the skills and tactics that are going to be focused on that day, and then we mount our polo ponies for a short 'stick and ball' session, followed by some chukkas. Back to the estancia for lunch, a siesta and maybe a swim in the pool, followed by a sunset ride out into the beautiful Sierras Chicas.
A candlelit dinner accompanies the tales of the day, that get longer as the week goes on!

We provide you with polo gear during your stay, however we strongly recommend that you bring your own boots, gloves and helmet to guarantee a comfortable fit.

Our success is that even though accomplished players have their contacts, there is a larger market for riders who have always fancied a "go" at polo. We offer a holiday that far exceeds the average polo estancia - adventure in a beautiful landscape, excellent horses and all within a real country environment. We are not swanky about polo but it would be wrong to underrate our farmers polo.

This concentrated week of polo can be arranged at most times of the year with a minimum of 4 players. Professional polo tuition is also available.



Other Info

Meeting: Cordoba
Airport: Cordoba
Transfer: Cordoba airport
Distance: 1 hour drive
Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is from Córdoba Airport (ODB). Transfer times are available between 8:00am and 8:00pm at no extra charge. Transfers outside of these times are possible, but subject to an additional cost.

Tack: English Style with English polo saddles and military saddles, covered with sheepskins
Style of Riding, Western, one handed with soft reins

Horses: Criollos, Peruvian Pasos, Quarter Horses, Polo ponies and some crossbreeds

Pace: Moderate, trots and canters.

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: (2.5 to 5 out of 5) Intermediate

Age: Min 10

Weight: 200 lbs / 90 kg

Riders: Min 2 riders | Max 10 riders (per riding group) | Max Capacity 12

Local Events

Rural Exhibition - Country Fair July 24th - August 5th, 2009
Buenos Aires
The 'Rural' is the largest agricultural show in Argentina. Lasting a week, it combines fixed exhibitors and a range of native breeds (including horses, cattle, etc) with a full programme of events and exhibitions.
Find out more at www.exposicionrural.com.ar

Argentine Polo Open Championships November 14th - December 5th (weekends only)
Buenos Aires
The only place to see polo played at the highest level in the world. This extraordinary sporting event takes place over 4 weekends, with only 8 teams taking part. Each team plays once each weekend, and so any weekend ticket will guarantee that you see all of the top players in action. Not just for polo lovers, go along to people watch!

Find out more at www.aapolo.com.ar

National Rodeo and Folkloric Music Festival January 8th - January 17th, 2010
Jesus Maria (approx 1hr from the Estancia)
This festival combines two of the gauchos biggest loves – horses and music. The national rodeo championships are combined with the best in Argentine folklore music at this annual spectacle. In addition to the scheduled events there is a large fair outside of the arena selling all sorts of local goods. If you are staying at the Estancia this week we take guests down one evening for supper and to watch the rodeo.
Find out more at www.festival.org.ar

Folklore Music Festival Last week in January
Cosquin, Cordoba (approx 2hrs from the Estancia)
This normally fairly low-key town transforms for the last week in January into one of the biggest folklore music festivals in Argentina.
Find out more at www.aquicosquin.org

Dia de Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria February 2nd, 2010
La Estancita, the local church
This very local and rural event is a celebration to the Virgin Mary. A mass is followed by a procession, carrying a statue of the Virgin Mary, with both followers on foot and a gaucho cavalcade on horseback. As part of the local community, we always attends this ceremonial day, arriving by horseback, and allows guests to witness a truly unique local celebration. You don't have to be religious to enjoy this wonderful event that brings the town together!

The 'Yerra' or cattle branding First weekend of March *(subject to change)*
Estancia Los Potreros
Estancia Los Potreros is one of the increasingly few estancias in Argentina that still carries out the annual cattle branding in traditional style. Taking place over a full weekend, this a true community event where local gauchos gather to show-off their prowess in the corrals, lassoing the young stock for branding in preparation for the sales.

Rates and Dates 2027 - IT-ARRT11-P

Rates include: Accommodation, All meals including alcoholic beverages with dinner, 6 riding days (Polo equipment, daily polo tuition and trail ride), In-house tournament on final day & Corc
airport transfers at set times
Limited supply of hard hats and half chaps available

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US$
A 2027	Country Polo Clinic -- please inquire	$0

Rates Note: Passport info required at time of booking

Transfer Option

Description

2027	Transfer is included from Cordoba Airport or bus station at set times (8:00am-8:00pm)
2027	No single supplement if available, +30% if requested

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2027	01/01/2027 - 04/30/2027	8d / 7n	Country Polo Clinic -- please inquire
A 2027	08/01/2027 - 12/31/2027	8d / 7n	Country Polo Clinic -- please inquire

Min/Max: 2/10
A Polo Holiday Week can be arranged at most times of the year with a minimum of 2 players

Rates do not include:Travel and medical insurances (mandatory), Gratuities at your discretion, Off-estancia activities & Cordoba airport transfers outside of set times

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-ARRT11-P

Rates include: Accommodation, All meals including alcoholic beverages with dinner, 6 riding days (Polo equipment, daily polo tuition and trail ride), In-house tournament on final day & Cord airport transfers at set times
Limited supply of hard hats and half chaps available

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US$
A 2026	Country Polo Clinic -- please inquire	$0

Rates Note: Passport info required at time of booking

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Transfer is included from Cordoba Airport or bus station at set times (8:00am-8:00pm)
2026	No single supplement if available, +30% if requested

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	01/01/2026 - 04/30/2026	8d / 7n	Country Polo Clinic -- please inquire
A 2026	08/01/2026 - 12/31/2026	8d / 7n	Country Polo Clinic -- please inquire

Min/Max: 2/10
A Polo Holiday Week can be arranged at most times of the year with a minimum of 2 players

Rates do not include:Travel and medical insurances (mandatory), Gratuities at your discretion, Off-estancia activities & Cordoba airport transfers outside of set times

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	Beginner	Novice	Intermediate	Strong Interm.	Advanced	ride English	ride Western	mostly arena	mostly hacking
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) _____

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 maling address): _____

I have enclosed a check for the deposit ◯

Additional Signatures:

2. _____

3. _____

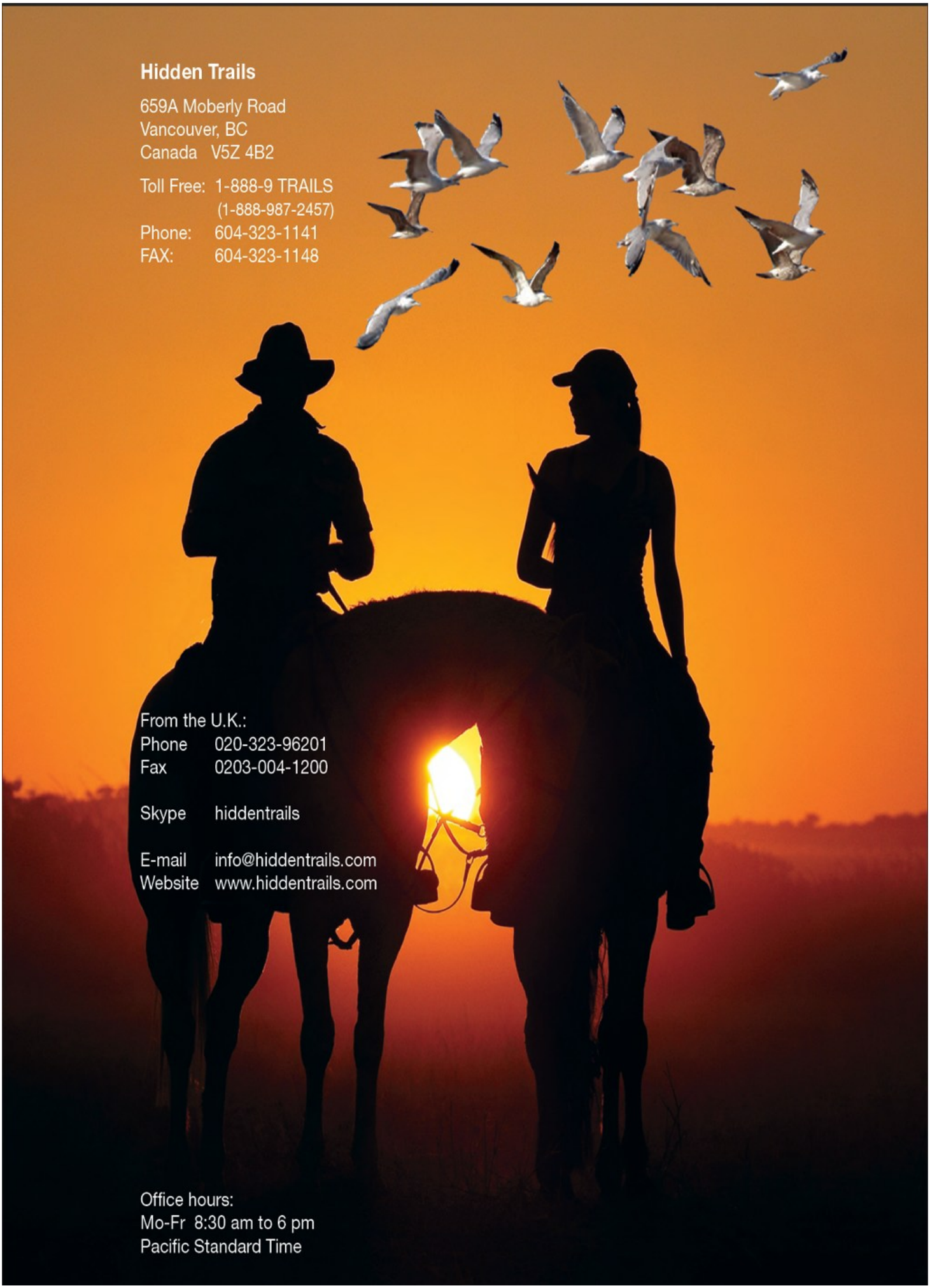
4. _____

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)
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E-mail info@hiddentrails.com
Website www.hiddentrails.com
Office hours:
Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm
Pacific Standard Time