

# 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](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)

Website: [www.hiddentrails.com](http://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





# Pantaneiro Ride in the Pantanal - Brazil, South America

Tour Code: IT-BRRT03  
8 days / 7 nights ~\$4,855.00  
Dates: May-November

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

**Tack:** Gaucho saddles with sheep skin  
**Horses:** Pantaneiro and Quarter mix  
**Pace:** Moderate, trots and canters. 5 to 6 hr...  
Walk, Trot, Canter,

**Airport:** Campo Grande



## Introduction

Pantanal, Brazil

Pantanal is the largest continuous wetland in the world. It has an area of 140,000 square kilometers of floodplain in Brazil and it also spreads through Paraguay, Bolivia and Argentina. It was formed between 02 and 05 million years ago, as a large sedimentary basin and now is an isolated plain surrounded by several mountain areas. An area more than a third the size of France. The name translates loosely as "big swampy place," pântano being the Portuguese word for swamp, but the Pantanal is really an alluvial plain, one so nearly flat that rainwater just loafs across it, flooding it in the full season, draining away in the dry. It is a World Heritage Site.

Pantanal has a diverse aquatic animal life, hundreds of different fish guarantee a rich bird population (more than 600 species live in the area). There are also huge population of reptiles and mammals such: caimans, capybaras, monkeys, jaguars, armadillos, coatis and anteaters.

Over a period of more than 200 years of occupation by farmers, the Pantanal's biodiversity and landscape are basically the same as they were in their ancestor's time. The Pantanal is an untouched and beautiful wilderness with open grasslands, "vazantes" (low-lying areas that are often seasonally flooded), "brejos" (swamps), "capões" (which in the Tupi Indian language means: caa = forest + pon = round that are patches of slightly elevated ground that are not subjected to inundation), "cordilheiras" (larger than capões), "corixos" and bays which are permanently flooded areas.

In these uncommon Pantanal habitats, there is a rich flora and exuberant fauna which delights everyone. Those who have the opportunity to visit this hidden tropical paradise in the heart of South America and to experience even for a little while, its wildlife and lush vegetation as well as to get to know the people, will see the world with different eyes.

## Accommodation

### Accommodations

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

### Description

Accommodations have been chosen for the exceptional natural environment.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1, 2 & 3: Fazenda Baia

Night 4: Primavera Refuge

Night 5: Fazenda Eldorado

Night 6 & 7: Cattle Farm

### Fazenda Baia

The lodge sits beside a massive floodplain called the Vazante do Castelo. The main house of the lodge is very charming and spacious. There are communal areas both inside and out – whether you choose to stretch out in a hammock under a mango tree, or read one of the lodge's many interesting books, there are several ways to relax in this beautiful and serene environment. There is a TV room and a small shop at the lodge.

The guest rooms (5 guest rooms in total) are comfortable and all include air conditioning and private bathrooms.



### Primavera Refuge

This refuge is located in the heart of Pantanal and features very rustic accommodation. Guests will be sleeping in hammocks\* located inside the main lodge, which features screened windows. Washroom and toilet facilities are shared and there is no internet and no electricity. At night, candles illuminate the lodge, giving it a special charm.

\* it is very nice to sleep in hammocks under a fixed roof. For those who don't like it, we can provide a mattress (let us know at time of booking)

### Room Occupancy

Single supplement is mandatory if we are unable to find another rider to share the room with you.





#### Meals

All meals are included with this trip from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 7. Breakfasts and dinners are eaten at the accommodations and lunches are eaten on the trail.

Breakfasts usually feature bread, yoghurt, jams, cakes and other treats, mostly homemade.

For lunch and dinner, typical Brazilian dishes (both regional and national) will be served. The beef and some of the vegetables and fruits are produced seasonally at the farms. There is a lot of variety, and we always include vegetarian dishes. Fish from Pantanal, like dourado (gilded catfish) and others are cooked in stews or even deep fried and served with manioc.

Some specialities include: Porco Monteiro (Feral pig), Fried pork casings, Rice with Pequi (a local fruit of the Brazilian Savannah) "Chipa" - a type of cheese bread and Sopa Paraguaia (a typical corn pie that takes white cheese).

At dawn, you can participate the cow milking and later eat the milk caramel (dolce de leite). In the morning, riders can see the preparation of "Quebra-Torto", the local plentiful breakfast of the Pantaneiros cowboys composed of macarrão tropeiro (noodles with beef jerky).

Alcoholic drinks are not included in this trip but guests are welcome to bring their own if they wish.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions with prior notice.



#### Riding

##### Riding Level

You should be a competent rider, comfortable at all paces and confident enough to try a different style of riding. There is a variety of terrain to cross; from wide sandy trails to forests, you should be used to riding in open spaces.

##### Horses

The Pantaneiro horses are well mannered, forward going, sure footed and very obedient. The horses respond to neck reining and are used to a loose rein wherever possible.

##### Guides

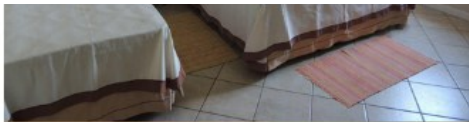
You will be accompanied by an English speaking guide and a local guide. Both guides have good knowledge of the local area.

##### Cattle Work

You will be able to accompany the cowboys in their work routine with the cattle. Move the cattle to other parts of the farm (cattle drive), take care of the calves or see the cowboys working at the corral. (\* this will happen according to their season work with the cattle) It is also a good opportunity to learn a little bit more about the culture and habits of the people from Pantanal.

#### Itinerary





## Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

### Day 1: Arrival

After the long journey, arrival at the fazenda located in the most preserved region of the Pantanal, with abundance of wildlife and nature.

In the afternoon, you'll get to meet the horses. You will stay the next 3 nights on this traditional Pantanal farm with approximately 16000 acres and 4000 head of cattle. On this farm will have the opportunity to become a Pantaneiro for one or two days.

*Meals included: Dinner  
Overnight at Fazenda Baia*

### Day 2: Pantaneiro Cattle Work

You will be included in the real work of the farm, a true life experience. Expect the unexpected because at each time of the year there are different tasks to be carried out in the daily routine of a Pantaneiro cowboy: pulling calves apart, curing cattle, lassoing, rounding up the cattle, changing the wintering or farm cattle as in a cattle move.

At the end of the day, you will need to rest in order to keep up with the heavy workload of the next day so you will have good accommodation and good food.

*Riding approx. 6 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Fazenda Baia*

### Day 3: Pantaneiro Cattle Work

As you help with cattle work, you will have the opportunity to see many of the countless species of birds and animals that inhabit this region and will be experiencing the legitimate Pantanal traditions. In the Pantanal, the pace of activities is dictated by nature, which does not prevent livestock from observing all the necessary managements that over time have been adjusted to be carried out in harmony with the energy balance and sustainability of the region.

*Riding approx. 6 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Fazenda Baia*

### Day 4: Ride to Refuge Primavera

This morning, you leave early for a full day in the saddle, riding along the banks of Vazante Castelo. Ride until you reach the Fly Camp Refuge Primavera, which as the name implies, is a wooden bush camp in the middle of the Pantanal.

Tonight, you will have a unique experience sleeping in a hammock\* with lighting lanterns. The Refuge has comfortable infrastructures: screens to protect against insects, 2 bathrooms and a kitchen.

\* it is very nice to sleep in hammocks under a fixed roof, for those who don't like it, we can provide a mattress (let us know at time of booking)

*Riding approx. 6 hours  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Refuge Primavera*

### Day 5: Refuge Primavera to Fazenda Eldorado

You will wake up with the sounds of the birds in the trees around the Refuge. After an early breakfast, depart to Fazenda Eldorado. You will ride across the beautiful Pantanal landscape, where will enjoy the lush flora and varied fauna. Great opportunity for bird and wildlife watching.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Fazenda Eldorado*

### Days 6 & 7: Cattle Farm

To bring to a perfect end to this great experience, your last 2 days will be spent in a large breeding farm with thousands of cattle. On this farm you may have the rare opportunity to witness the morning fishing of a giant otter family as dawn breaks, observe the ritual of alligator mating and, with luck and patience, to look into the eyes of the biggest cat of the Americas: the jaguar.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at cattle farm*

### Day 8: Departure

Depending on your flight time, you still will be able to do some activity in the morning before return to Campo Grande.

*Meals included: Breakfast*

## Other Info

**Meeting:** Aquidauana

**Airport:** Campo Grande

**Transfer:** Transfer from Campo Grande

**Distance:** 121 miles

Transfers from Campo Grande possible by air (1-hour trip / all year round), by vehicle (6-hour trip / only from May to November), or a combination of the two

**Tack:** Gaucho saddles with sheep skin

**Horses:** Pantaneiro and Quarter mix

**Pace:** Moderate, trots and canters. 5 to 6 hrs per day

Walk | Trot | Canter |

**Level:** 🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3 to 5 out of 5) Intermediate

**Weight:** 220 lbs

**Riders:** Min 4 riders Max 12 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-BRRT03

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals with drinks, 6 riding days with English speaking guide & Activities as described in the itinerary

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	8 day trip	\$4855

Rates Note:Note that transfer rates can vary due to several factors including fuel cost

Transfer Option

Description

2024	Transfer from Campo Grande by land, on Day 1, per vehicle (1-4 pax)	\$470
2024	Transfer to Campo Grande by land, on last day, per vehicle (1-4 pax)	\$530
2024	Transfer from Campo Grande by plane, on Day 1, per plane (1-3 pax)	\$1625
2024	Transfer to Campo Grande by plane, on last day, per plane (1-3 pax)	\$1625
2024	Combo transfer (land+air) from Campo Grande, on Day 1 (1-3 pax)	\$1150
2024	Combo transfer (land+air) to Campo Grande, on last day (1-3 pax)	\$1150
2024	Please inquire about transfer pricing for groups of 3+ pax	
2024	Single supplement + 20 % (if requested)	
2024	Small group supplement (3 pax only), pp	\$250
2024	Small group supplement (2 pax only), pp	\$750
2024	Group discount (6+), pp	

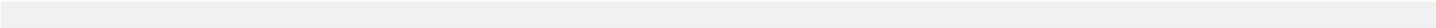
Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/17/2024 - 06/24/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2024	07/21/2024 - 07/28/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2024	08/15/2024 - 08/22/2024	8d / 7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 4/12

This ride is available on request for groups of 4+ pax between May and October (we need the booking at least 1 month in advance).

Rates do not include:Gratuities, Additional non-riding activities, Insurance (mandatory) & Airport transfers





# 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](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)

Website [www.hiddentrails.com](http://www.hiddentrails.com)

Office hours:

Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm

Pacific Standard Time



