

# 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

# Canyons and Waterfalls in Brazil - Brazil, South America

Tour Code: IT-BRRT10  
7 days / 6 nights ~\$3,945.00  
Dates: Available all Year

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

**Tack:** Gaucho saddle  
**Horses:** Criollos  
**Pace:** Moderate, trots and canters.  
5-6 hours...  
Walk,Trot,Canter,

**Airport:** Salgado Filho International Airport (POA) in Porto Alegre



## Introduction

Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil  
The spectacular mountain scenery, huge canyons and bottomless waterfalls of this region will take your breath away. Imagine the Grand Canyon covered in lush vegetation, cascading waterfalls and thriving biodiversity. Nestled along the southern coast of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul, among Brazil's most impressive canyons, the 28,000 nature conservation area where this adventure occurs. This area is renowned for its gigantic canyons, sheltering a type of geological step dug into the mountain by the tectonic movement and by the work of rivers throughout the eras. Different from most canyons in the world, like the Grand Canyon of Arizona or the Fish River Canyon of Namibia, Brazil's canyon country is in a lush green area of rich grassland and huge Araucaria forests.

Over the next few days you will ride along these steep mountains and canyons and the Atlantic coastline. Staying on traditional ranches, you will have the pleasure of sampling typical southern Brazil gaucho culture, including some of the region's famous culinary delights. In the afternoon you may see the mysterious fogs drift in.

During the ride you will encounter several ecosystems of rare beauty and important biodiversity. The Mata Atlantica runs along the lower portion of the canyons, while fields spread across the plateaus, interspersed in the damp areas by peat bogs, that are rich in moss, lichen and bamboo. Vegetation such as ferns, lilies and bromeliads, sprouts from the slopes. And a curious species the 'Bigsting Nettle', with its enormous leaves measuring up to 1.5 meters, attaches itself to the rocks along the slopes.

The whole area was formed from intense volcanic activity that happened millions of years ago. Successive lava hemorrhages created the Planalto Sulbrasileiro, covered by clean fields, forests of araucarias and countless of crystalline rivers.

There are many canyons distributed throughout the region, some of them are very impressive, prevailing where enormous rocky cliffs outline the undulating landscape of the sloping foothills (coxilhas) giving the feeling of surprise and fascination when approaching their edge

The sharp vertical hillsides of basalt, present a coloration of resultants tones of the liquens and of vegetation of herbs and small bushes that alter with the nude rock.

The regional fauna is also varied and includes some rare species such as the lobo-guará (Chrysocyon brachyurus), the suguarana or puma (Felis concolor), the graxaim-bush and the rural deer- (Ozotocerus bezoarticus). Foxes, skunks, armadillos, wildcats, woodpeckers, hawks and bugio monkeys also make up part of the local fauna.

Canyons and Waterfalls – a surprising Brazil with a cold weather accent and the legitimate gauchos' traditions; an expedition for peaceful adventurers and an opportunity to live a unique experience.

## Accommodation

### Accommodations

This is a progressive ride where nights are spent in 4 different locations. Our lodging are in fazendas (ranch style) accommodations. All these lodgings have been visited and pre-approved.

### Description

Our lodging are in fazenda (ranch style) accommodations. All these lodgings have been visited and pre-approved.

### Accommodation Itinerary for 7-day tour - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 2: Pousada Fazenda Potreirinhos  
Night 3 & 4: Tio Tonho Farm  
Night 5 & 6: Santa Catarina Farm

### Accommodation Itinerary for 9-day tour - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Canoas Lodge  
Night 2 & 3: Mountain Cabin  
Night 4 & 5: Pousada Fazenda Potreirinhos  
Night 6 & 7: Tio Tonho Farm  
Night 8: Santa Catarina Farm

### Canoas Lodge

You are accommodated in small cabins equipped with a bed, a private bathroom, a TV and free Wi-Fi. The cabins are simple but comfortable.

### Mountain Cabin

This is a very rustic accommodation surrounded by beautiful nature. Facilities might have to be shared.

### Pousada Fazenda Potreirinhos

The fazenda is set in a beautiful environment, by the Rio do Silveira. It offers cozy accommodations with comfortable beds, internet access and private bathrooms. Laundry services are available for a small charge.

### Tio Tonho Farm

There are 6 bedrooms, most with their own bathroom. The rooms are simple but comfortable.

### 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 the last day. Breakfasts and dinners are eaten at the accommodations and lunches are eaten on the trail.

Brazil has a rich cuisine. The country is a mixture of European, Indian, African, and Asian cultures and is reflected in the way the Brazilians cook. Italian and African cuisines have great influence on Brazilian cuisine. Well before Europe spoke about fusion cuisine, Brazil was combining ingredients found from different continents to a new, typical Brazilian cuisine. They also often serve dishes from different countries on one table. The Brazilian cuisine is very good, varied, and serves many naturally made dishes. The main dishes are mostly rice and beans (Feijão) and sauces, with lots of meat or fish and salads. Each region has its own traditional dishes. Very popular is the Churrasco (Brazilian BBQ).

Soft drinks and beers are 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



#### Guide

Your English speaking guide will be Paulo. Paulo grew up in a family (Junqueira) well known in Brazil for breeding Mangalara horses, so he was surrounded by horses since childhood. In 2006, he decided to travel all around Brazil on horseback. He then decided to travel all around the world to get to know the best horseback riding destinations and learn about different riding techniques and cultures. He loves guiding this trip because he finds that every time, the experience is different.

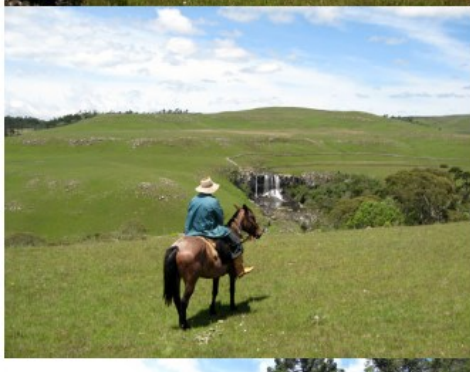
#### Riding Terrain

You are riding through a region of rolling fields, forest trails, river crossings and canyon edges. Although the landscape does invite to a few canters, the pace of this tour is (roughly) about 60% walk, 30% trot and no more than 10% canter - never full gallop.

The guide leads the pace and never allows anyone to overtake him.

#### Itinerary





**Sample Itinerary: 7-day tour- subject to changes**

**Day 1: Arrival**

Reception at Porto Alegre airport and transfer (approx. 5 hours) to the Ranch near Sao Jose dos Ausentes. Imagine arriving in southern Brazil, and finding a farm prepared to receive riders with the hospitality and good gastronomy of the gauchos. It is in a place like this that we will spend this night. Dinner and night at Fazenda Potreirinhos, a traditional farm in the municipality of São José dos Ausentes.

*Meals included: Dinner*  
*Overnight at Pousada Fazenda Potreirinhos*

**Day 2: Cachoeirão**

After breakfast we will go on horseback to visit Cachoeirão, which is wide with a series of falls, very impressive. Then we go to the "rivers gap", an interesting and curious situation in which we are in the middle of 2 rivers that follow at different levels. Then we continue with the landscape of undulating fields, which stretch as far as the eye can see.

*~5 hours on horseback*  
*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Pousada Fazenda Potreirinhos*

**Day 3: Araucarias Forest**

We leave after breakfast for our longest day of riding. We will travel through a region of rare beauty, in typical scenarios of Campos de Cima da Serra, which highlight the grandeur of the Araucarias Forest, until we arrive at the Lopes family farm that produces the most famous mountain cheese in southern Brazil. Produced by the family for 3 generations and nationally recognized. Then we continue the ride until Tio Tonho farm, where are we going to spend the next nights.

*~6 hours on horseback*  
*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Tio Tonho Farm*

**Day 4: Pico do Monte Negro**

After breakfast we start to ride for a special moment, the passage through the Pico do Monte Negro, which at 1,403 ms is the highest point in Rio Grande do Sul. At this height, with a horizon of majestic landscapes, you can't help but be taken by a unique feeling of freedom. Lunch weather permitting, a barbecue in the countryside with a spectacular view.

*~4-5 hours on horseback*  
*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Tio Tonho Farm*

**Day 5: Canyons Ride**

We leave after breakfast, traveling through the canyons, fields and forests of the region, suddenly interrupted by impressive rocky walls that are up to 1000 meters deep and form a corridor of rocks from the northeast of the state to Santa Catarina. Our lunch will be at a typical farm in the region. Day with about 4 hours on horseback.

*~4 hours on horseback*  
*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Santa Catarina Farm*

**Day 6: Canyons Ride**

Full day ride on rolling hills (coxilhas), reaching some of the impressive canyons of the area.

*~5 hours on horseback*  
*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Santa Catarina Farm*

**Day 7: Departure**

Departure after breakfast with the destination of Porto Alegre airport (3 hours transfer)

*Meals included: Breakfast*

**Note:** in late December for the ride after Christmas and before New Year the itinerary will be one day less with only 6 days 5 nights to allow families at the farm to celebrate the holidays privately.



**Sample Itinerary: 9-day tour - subject to changes**

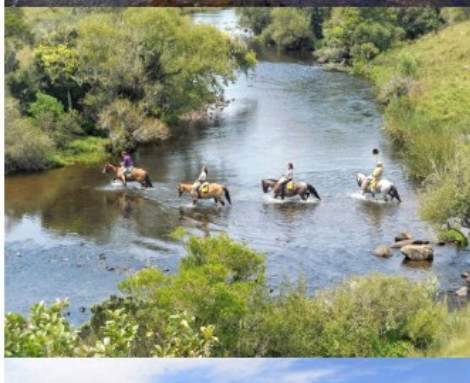
**Day 1: Arrival**

Transfer from Florianopolis. Imagine arriving in southern Brazil, and finding a farm prepared to receive riders with the hospitality and good gastronomy of the gauchos. It is in a place like this that we will spend this night. Dinner and night at Fazenda Potreirinhos, a traditional farm in the municipality of São José dos Ausentes.

*Meals included: Dinner*  
*Overnight at Canoas Lodge in Urubici*

**Day 2: Ride to Espraiado Canyon**

After breakfast, transfer (30 minutes) by car to the corral where horses will already be waiting for the start of the ride towards the edges of the Espraiado canyon. Morning ride with spectacular views. Picnic lunch in the countryside and we continue riding along the edges and altitude fields - between 1600 and 1700 ms of altitude.



After about 5 hours on horseback, we arrive at the mountain refuge which, despite being rustic, offers basic comforts.

~5 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Mountain Cabin

**Day 3: Ride to Campo dos Padres**

Wake up very early to be able to see the sunrise on top of a mountain (1700 ms) that is just 15 minutes on horseback from the Refugio. From the top of this mountain, the view of the sunrise is so incredible that it seems impossible to be there at that magical moment. It is quite likely that you will see clouds far below you covering valleys and between some canyons. You will be able to see on the horizon the coast of Santa Catarina, to the south the Serra do Rio do Rastro and to the west the Morro da Boa Vista, the highest point in the state with 1827 ms. Afterwards, you return to the Refugio for breakfast before heading to the famous Campo dos Padres, the last untouched frontier of southern Brazil. An immense mosaic surrounded by mountains, cliffs and canyons where beautiful waterfalls and rivers spring from the Canoas and Itajaí-Açu. It is in this inhospitable and difficult to access location that the highest elevations in the south of the country are located.

The name of the region, Campo dos Padres (priests region) is an allusion to the passage of Jesuit priests who in the 18th century took refuge in the place fleeing the Spanish missions on the occasion of the persecution incited by the Marquis of Pombal. The region holds many legends of treasures that would have been hidden by the Jesuits. After a long and beautiful day of ride, return to the Mountain Refuge where a dinner around the fire awaits. Day with about 6 hours on horseback

~6 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Mountain Cabin

**Day 4: Ride along Canoas River**

Ride to the Fruta Fina farm where the horses live. The ride is along the beautiful road that borders the Canoas River and an immense area of environmental preservation. Upon arrival lunch. After lunch, transfer (3 hours) to Fazenda Potreirinhos in Rio Grande do Sul.

Imagine arriving in southern Brazil, and finding a farm prepared to receive riders with the hospitality and good gastronomy of the gauchos. It is in a place like this that we will spend this night. Dinner and night at Fazenda Potreirinhos, a traditional farm in the municipality of São José dos Ausentes.

~3 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Fazenda Potreirinhos in Rio Grande do Sul

**Day 5: Ride to Cachoeirão**

After breakfast we will go on horseback to visit Cachoeirão, which is wide with a series of falls, very impressive. Then we go to the "rivers gap", an interesting and curious situation in which we are in the middle of 2 rivers that follow at different levels. Then we continue with the landscape of undulating fields, which stretch as far as the eye can see. Dinner and night at Fazenda Potreirinhos.

~5 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Fazenda Potreirinhos in Rio Grande do Sul

**Day 6: Ride to Araucarias Forest**

We leave after breakfast for our longest day of riding. We will travel through a region of rare beauty, in typical scenarios of Campos de Cima da Serra, which highlight the grandeur of the Araucarias Forest, until we arrive at the Lopes family farm that produces the most famous mountain cheese in southern Brazil. Produced by the family for 3 generations and nationally recognized. Then we continue the ride until Tio Tonho farm, where are we going to spend the next nights.

~6 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Tio Tonho Farm

**Day 7: Ride through Pico do Monte Negro**

After breakfast we start to ride for a special moment, the passage through the Pico do Monte Negro, which at 1,403 ms is the highest point in Rio Grande do Sul. At this height, with a horizon of majestic landscapes, you can't help but be taken by a unique feeling of freedom. Lunch weather permitting, a barbecue in the countryside with a spectacular view.

~4-5 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Tio Tonho Farm

**Day 8: Canyons Ride**

We leave after breakfast, traveling through the canyons, fields and forests of the region, suddenly interrupted by impressive rocky walls that are up to 1000 meters deep and form a corridor of rocks from the northeast of the state to Santa Catarina. Our lunch will be at a typical farm in the region.

~4 hours on horseback  
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Santa Catarina Farm

**Day 9: Departure**

After breakfast transfer to Porto Alegre  
Meals included: Breakfast

Note - The itinerary can be changed due to weather conditions and availability on the ranches.

**Other Info**

**Meeting:** Salgado Filho International Airport (POA) in Porto Alegre  
**Airport:** Salgado Filho International Airport (POA) in Porto Alegre  
**Transfer:** Salgado Filho International Airport (POA) in Porto Alegre  
**Distance:** 313 km / 195 miles

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is available from Salgado Filho International Airport (POA) in Porto Alegre. Arrival should be no later than 3 PM on Day 1. It is best not to book a flight departing before 2 PM from Porto Alegre on the last day of your trip.

**Tack:** Gaucho saddle  
**Horses:** Criollos  
**Pace:** Moderate, trots and canters. 5-6 hours per day going up to an altitude of 1,200 m above sea level. Approximately 60% walk, 30% trot, 10% canter.

Walk | Trot | Canter |  
**Level:** 🐎🐎🐎 (2.5 to 3.5 out of 5) Intermediate to Strong Intermediate

**Weight:** 220 lbs / 100 kg

**Riders:** Min 3 riders

Max 10 riders



## Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-BRRT10

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals with soft drinks, 1 welcome drink every day before dinner, 5 riding days & Transfers from/to Porto Alegre at set times

## Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2026	7 day trip	\$3945
B 2026	6 day trip	\$3945

## Transfer Option

### Description

2026	Transfer from/to Porto Alegre are included at set times	
2026	No single supplement if available	
2026	Small group supplement (1-2 pax), pp	\$630

### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	04/07/2026 - 04/13/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	05/12/2026 - 05/18/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	06/09/2026 - 06/15/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	07/07/2026 - 07/13/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	07/21/2026 - 07/27/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	08/11/2026 - 08/17/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	09/15/2026 - 09/21/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	10/06/2026 - 10/12/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	11/03/2026 - 11/09/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	11/24/2026 - 11/30/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	12/08/2026 - 12/14/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
B 2026	12/26/2026 - 12/31/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip

Min/Max: 3/10

Inquire about custom tour dates. We need the booking at least 1 month before the date of the ride.

Rates do not include: Gratuities & Insurance (mandatory)

# 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"/>
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"/>
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"/>
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"/>

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

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Office hours:  
Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm  
Pacific Standard Time

