

## **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: <u>info@hiddentrails.com</u> Website: <u>www.hiddentrails.com</u>

#### Address

659A Moberty 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

# Oiba Trail Ride To Barichara - Colombia, South America

Tour Code: IT-COL06 10 days / 9 nights ~\$2,800.00 Dates: All year

Trip Rating:

Tack: English, McClellan Horses: Angloarabs, Crosses of Angloarabs and ... Pace: 6-10 hours each riding day, Walking 60... Walk, Trot, Canter,

#### Airport: Bogotá







#### Introduction

Andean, Colombia

Colombia's Vergel and Independence birthplace – Royal Roads, Woods, Waterfalls, Colonial Architecture and Historical Heritage.

#### Accomodation

#### Accommodations

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

#### Description

On this ride, you will sleep in rural hotels or farmhouses where you will always find a clean bed and bathroom (private everywhere).

We suggest you bring your swimsuit as there are swimming pools at the following accommodations: Oiba, Charalá, Paramo and Barichara.

Wi-Fi is available at accommodations in Bogotá, Oiba and Barichara.

Laundry can be done in Bogotá for a small fee.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Hotel in Bogotá

Night 2: Hotel in Oiba

Night 3: Hotel in Charalá

Night 4: Hotel in Paramo

Night 5: Hacienda in El Palmar

Nights 6, 7 & 8: Hotel in Barichara

Night 9: Hotel in Bogotá

#### Room Occupancy

We only charge a single supplement fee for solo riders who want to have their own room.



#### Meals

All meals are included in this trip except for the meals in Bogotá.

You will be served home-style Colombian food. Lunches are usually picnic style while dinners are taken in restaurants.

Breakfasts include eggs, bread, "arepas" (kind of corn cake) coffee, tea, chocolate, milk and fruit or juices of tropical fruits, in which Colombia has a wide variety and availability throughout the year (Pineapple, Papaya, Melon, Soursop, Feijoa. Mango, Grapefruit, Passion fruit, Lulo, etc).

For lunch we carry Sandwiches, accompanied by potato chips, various drinks (soda, beer, water) and brownies or cookies for dessert.

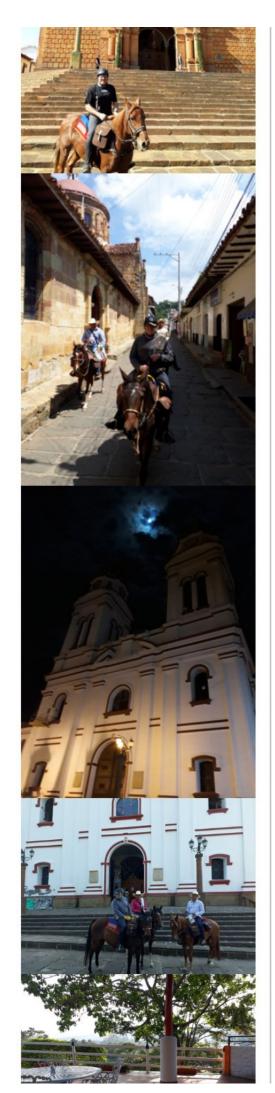
For dinner depending on the place it is possible to have at least two menu options normally including beef or chicken with potatoes, salad and fruit.

### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to vegetarians with prior notice.

## Riding







#### Riding Experience

This trip caters to strong intermediate riders and above as it includes several long days on horseback. Overall, guest should come with a positive attitude and ability to listen to the guide's instructions.

#### Horses

Our horses are the result of a careful selection for more than 25 years, and all of them have some Colombian Criollo in their blood. Our horses have a heart marked on their left forearm. This symbol has been used on cattle and horses in family haciendas for more than 150 years.

For our trails, we like to use angloarabians crossed with Colombian Criollos as they are particularly suited for multi-day excursions and long distance rides.

### Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

\*\* Also available in extended version 12 days / 11 nights / 7 days of horseback riding -- please inquire

#### Day 1 (Saturday): Bogotá Arrival in Bogotá

Transfer Airport / Hotel. Check into hotel and overnight.

Meals included: none

Overnight at Hotel in Bogotá

#### Day 2 (Sunday): Transfer from Bogotá to Oiba

We will drive through the beautiful roads of the departments of Cundinamarca, Boyacá and Santander, up to the town of Oiba (transfer is about 9 hours long) where we will spend the night. On the way, we stop at Puente de Boyacá, where the final battle for the independance of Colombia took place. We will also stop in Villa de Leyva for a mini tour and lunch.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel in Oiba

#### Day 3 (Monday): Oiba to Charalá

The horses, already saddled, will be waiting for us at the hotel, and we will ride from Oiba to Charalá through beautiful woodlands and mountains, surrounded by luxuriant vegetation and clear water streams. We will enjoy an homecooked lunch at a very humble local's house. Be prepared to eat a lot, it is just not possible to have small portions in the countryside in Colombia!

By mid-afternoon we will arrive in the noble town of Charalá, birthplace of our independence, where we will admire the Cathedral and the precious Arabian Saman tree planted in the main square in 1910, in honor of the martyrs of Independence. On August 4, 1819 more than 300 men and women were executed in this square, just 3 days before the final battle of Independence. This fact, no doubt, contributed to Bolivar's victory at the Battle of the Bridge of Boyacá on August 7, 1819, since it prevented the troops of the Spanish General Gonzalez, which had destroyed Charalá, from joining those of General Barreiro in Tunja.

At Sunset, we will visit an artisanal cotton workshop run by women who use the same techniques coming from the Guane indigenous tribes. After that we will have a short city tour and historical talk along Charala's beautiful cobblestone streets. We spend a food night's rest at a local hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel in Charalá

#### Day 4 (Tuesday): Charalá to Páramo

We will leave at 9 am, and ride along the path that borders the majestic Fonce River. We can see on the left-hand side how the river is formed by the confluence of the Pienta and Táquiza Rivers, under a natural arch of trees and bushes. To the right-hand side we can see mountains planted with sugarcane and grass pastures. We will cross the Fonce River by the bridge that goes to Ocamonte, in the place called Palenque, and then continue to the Juan Curi falls where we can see water falling more than 50 meters into a natural pool. Here, we can refresh ourselves from the midday heat, and enjoy a traditional lunch prepared in the local restaurant. Afterwards, we will climb the mountain and has along the ton of the Juan Curi falls on our way to the village of Páramo, where we will be able









to see one of the most beautiful churches in the region, made of stone and wood. The night will be spent at a nice hotel with a pool.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel near Paramo

#### Day 5 (Wednesday): Páramo to El Palmar

On the way to the village of El Socorro, another breeding ground of patriots and martyrs of the Independence at the end of the 18th century, we will see coffee plantations and spectacular mountains. After crossing the paved road that leads to Bucaramanga, at the municipality of El Socorro, we will proceed towards the voluminous suarez River, famous for its rapids where Level V rafting is practiced. We cross it on a suspension bridge and start our descent towards the town of El Palmar. On this journey, we can fully appreciate the magnificent basin of the Suarez River, a geographical formation carved over thousands of years by this river that is born in the Fúquene Lake, and which serves as a preamble to the spectacular canyon of the Chicamocha River, which we will appreciate further on. In the afternoon, we will arrive in the beautiful town of El Palmar which features, on its main square, an enormous ceiba tree of approximately 10 meters in diameter. We will spend the night at a beautiful local hacienda.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at Hacienda in El Palmar

#### Day 6 (Thursday): El Palmar to Barichara

After crossing the Suárez River again, we will take the path to Cabrera, a small village where colonial architecture has been exceptionally well preserved. From here, the trail continues to the Barichara plateau by way of the old royal road, and enters this emblematic jewel of colonial architecture through the royal bridge. We will walk along its beautiful cobblestone streets, observing its parks and churches, on our way to a spectacular country house in the outskirts of town.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at Country House in Barichara

#### Day 7 (Friday): Barichara Cañón

We will have a 3 hour ride trough beautiful tobacco plantations on the way to the Chicamocha Canyon, a Colombian natural attraction nominated as part of the group of 261 destinations in the campaign to select the top seven natural wonders of the world. This paradise-like place is a not-to-be-missed visual spectacle. Imposing, majestic, and fascinating is how tourists describe the Chicamocha Canyon, a geographic accident located in the department of Santander. After having a light lunch we will return to Barichara to enjoy a delicious dinner and a well deserved rest.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at Country House in Barichara

#### Day 8 (Saturday): Sightseeing in Barichara

The real treasure of Barichara is its pristine colonial architecture. Many come to this pueblo just to wander its flagstone lanes, snapping photos of the white-washed, red-tile-roofed buildings. Start your exploration at the Templo de la Inmaculada Concepción y San Lorenzo on the main square. It is built of local stone carved by the village's artisans. The "Capilla de San Juan de Dios" is a beautiful church with a noteworthy cemetery. The "Capilla de San Antonio" is a famous attractive with a small shaded plazuela. The "Casa Aquileo Parra" was once-home of a former Colombian President (1876-78). It's presently a museum. The "Capilla Santa Bárbara" is an amazing place to visit, now used for cultural events.

The afternoon is free to walk around Barichara or simply rest at the hotel or enjoy the pool, but most of our visitors enjoy doing rafting (level 2) in the Fonce river (optional - extra fee applies).

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at Country House in Barichara

#### Day 9 (Sunday): Transfer from Barichara to Bogotá

Return to Bogota and accommodation in a comfortable hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast Overnight at Hotel in Bogota

### Day 10 (Monday): Departure

Transfer Hotel / Airport. End of this great adventure.

Meals included: Breakfast

#### Non Riders

Non-riding companions are welcome on this trip. We can arrange some activities for them. Please inquire for more information.

## Other Info

Meeting: Bogotá Airport: Bogotá Transfer: Bogotá

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is included from El Dorado Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento International Airport (BOG) in Bogota. Transfers can also be organized from hotels in Bogota (please inquire).

Tack: English, McClellan

Horses: Angloarabs, Crosses of Angloarabs and Criollos

Pace: 6-10 hours each riding day, Walking 60% Trotting 30% Cantering 10%

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Age: Min 12 Max 70

Weight: 190 lbs / 85 kg

Riders: Min 8 riders Max 12 riders
Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.



## Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-COL06

Rates include: Accommodations, Most meals, 5 days riding, 1 city tour in Barichara, Taxes & Transfers Saddlebag provided

**Packages and Options** 

Description	~US\$
10-day trip	\$2800
Small group supplement (2-3 riders), dbl, pp Small group supplement (4-7 riders), dbl, pp Single supplement	\$900 \$300 \$280
13-day trip	\$3700
Small group supplement (2-3 riders), dbl, pp Small group supplement (4-7 riders), dbl, pp Single supplement	\$1200 \$600 \$370
	10-day trip  Small group supplement (2-3 riders), dbl, pp Small group supplement (4-7 riders), dbl, pp Single supplement 13-day trip  Small group supplement (2-3 riders), dbl, pp Small group supplement (4-7 riders), dbl, pp

## **Transfer Option**

## Description

2024 Non-rider rate - please inquire
2024 Transfers from/to Bogotá included

## Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	02/09/2024 - 02/18/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	03/08/2024 - 03/17/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	05/17/2024 - 05/26/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	06/14/2024 - 06/23/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	07/12/2024 - 07/21/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	08/09/2024 - 08/18/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	09/13/2024 - 09/22/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	10/18/2024 - 10/27/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	11/15/2024 - 11/24/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	12/12/2024 - 12/21/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip
A 2024	12/13/2024 - 12/22/2024	10d/9n	10-day trip

Min/Max: 8/12

Rates do not include:Meals on first and last day at the hotel in Bogotá, Alcoholic drinks & Gratuities

# **Reservation Form**

Tour:	Code #:	from:	to:	
The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)	Male Fernale Single room / or tent Birth MM/Di	Height Weight	3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	ge de
1.				
3. 4.				
Special Diets:  Your fitness level: Excellent  Moderate	[] p[] u	ow long have you be	on riding?	
How often do you ride?				when?
If Hidden Trails offers a transfer from the loc	al airport/station:	would like the trans	fer to be included: YE	s No
In an emergency, name and phone number o	f contact:			
Attention: Please, if there is more than one p	oarticipant, all have	to sign the reservati	on form - make copies i	if needed
With my signature I confirm my reservation of I made all participants aware of the risk involuding the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and the Hidden Trails Bo	ved with these outo	loor adventure activ	ities. All participants ha	ive read and agree
brochure or as listed on the Internet.  I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,		Indemnity Agreemer	nt at least 10 weeks befor	re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A		Indemnity Agreemer	nt at least 10 weeks befor	re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler)		_e-mail_	nt at least 10 weeks before	re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street		_e-mail_		re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street		_e-mail_		re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street  City		_e-mail_ tate	Postal/Zip Code	re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street  City  Phone (wk) (hm)	Signature (ma	_e-mail_ tate	Postal/Zip CodeFax	re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler)  Street  City  Phone (wk) (hm)  Date  Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 pe	Signature (ma	_e-mail_ tate  Cell  ndatory) 1.  Additional S	Postal/Zip CodeFax	re trip starting date.
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street  City  Phone (wk) (hm)  Date  Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 pe full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to m	Signature (ma	_e-mail_  tate  Cell  Indatory)  Additional S  2.	Postal/Zip CodeFax	
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street  City  Phone (wk) (hm)  Date  Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to m  For payments by VISA () or Mastercard	Signature (ma r person) now and y credit card.	_e-mail_  tate  Cell  additional S  2.  3.	Postal/Zip Code Fax signatures:	
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street  City  Phone (wk) (hm)  Date  Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 perfull payment 10 weeks before the travel date to m  For payments by VISA () or Mastercard (Cardholder:	Signature (ma r person) now and y credit card.	_e-mail_  tate  Cell  additional S  2.  3.	Postal/Zip Code Fax signatures:	
I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational A  Last Name and First Name (The Traveler,  Street  City  Phone (wk) (hm)  Date  Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to m  For payments by VISA () or Mastercard of Cardholder:  Card #	Signature (ma r person) now and y credit card. (i) (no debit cards	_e-mail_  tate  Cell  Additional S 2.  3.  4.  Travel C	Postal/Zip Code Fax signatures:	1C@ Credit Card required

Hidden Trails Ltd. 659A Moberly Road Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3 FAX: 604-323-1148 Phone: 604-323-1141

