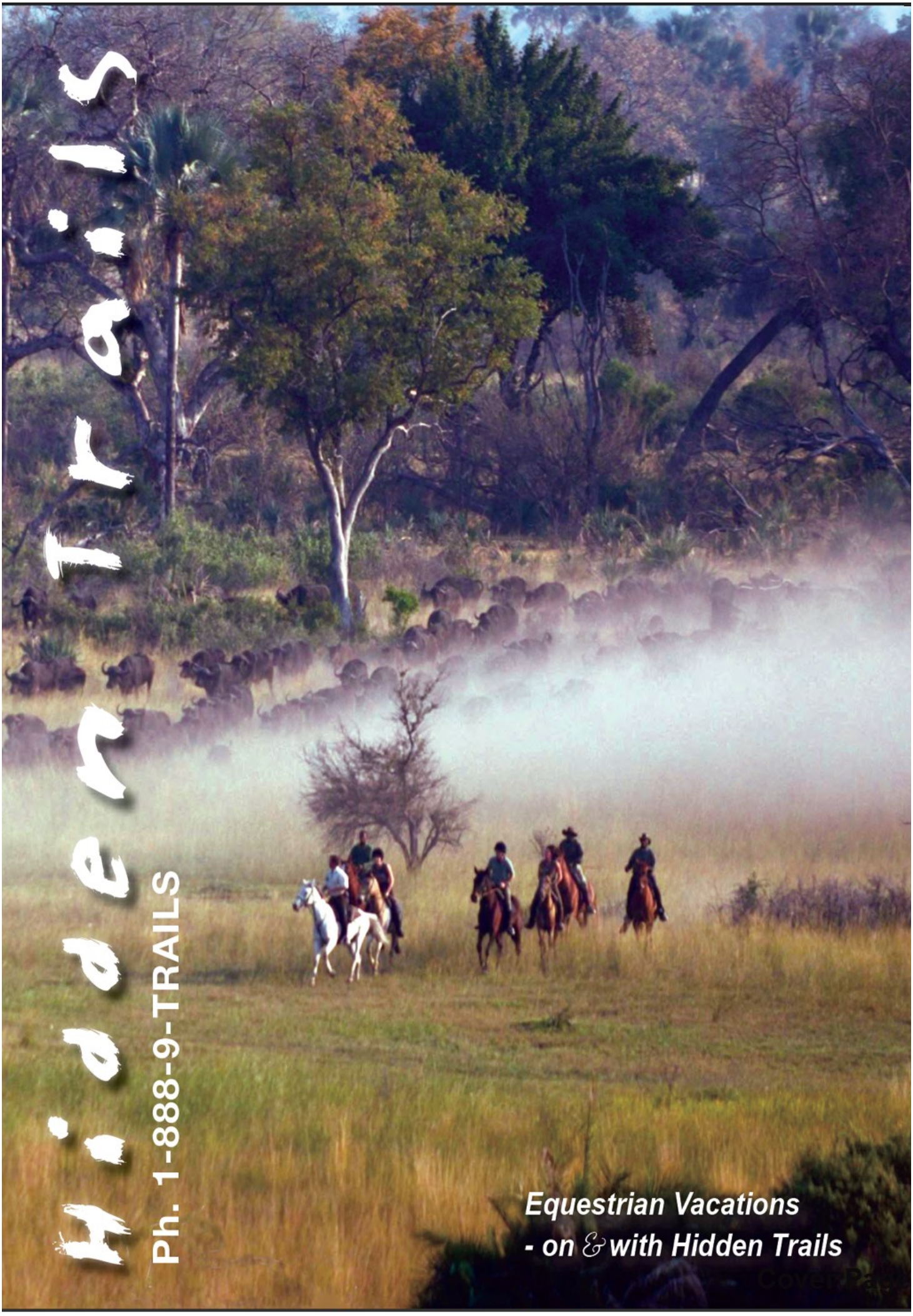

Hidden Trails
Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS
Equestrian Vacations
- on & with Hidden Trails

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
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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

Cotopaxi and Quilotoa Loops - Ecuador, South America

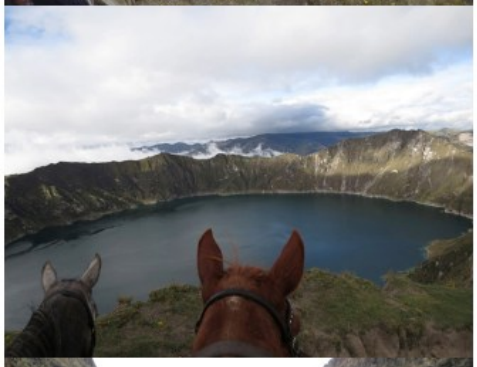
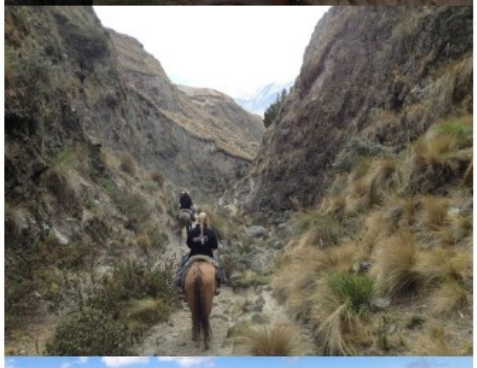
Tour Code: IT-ECRT10
12 days / 11 nights ~$3,500.00
Dates: Available all Year

Trip Rating :
Difficulty :
Lodging:

Tack: North American style, English style, M...
Horses: Mixed Criollo (native South American),...
Pace: 4-7 hours of riding daily, moderate tr...
Walk,Trot,Canter,

Airport: Quito






Introduction

Highlands Riding Tours, Ecuador
Ride through volcanoes, valleys, forest, and pre-Inca sites with comfortable overnights traditional Highland Haciendas!

Come experience the stunning beauty of the Ecuadorian Andes on horseback! Each morning will bring us new experiences and a chance to contemplate the unique beauty of the impressive mountain range and valleys on the region. Friendly "chagras", the local Ecuadorian horsemen, often pause from their work to greet you, to exchange local news, or some will even offer a drink as they wish you luck on your travels.

This ride incorporates visits to the Corazon, Ruminahui, Quilindana, and Chalupas volcanoes, and, of course, you will see the majestic Cotopaxi volcano from as many different angles as possible throughout our journey. The only form of transportation during your trek will be your horse. They will be your partner and friend throughout this authentic adventure. Our itinerary incorporates trips through dozens of authentic working haciendas dedicated to the production of regional dairy products, potatoes, broccoli and flowers. Around the cozy fireplace of each hacienda we will reminisce about the day's events and discuss local traditions of the culture here, especially those related to the chagras.

Accomodation

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

Description
Hacienda Alegria has very nice and comfortable accommodations. The accommodations along the way are more basic, but all authentic and comfortable. There are 2 people per room with private showers in every accommodation. There is access to free Wi-Fi almost everywhere (except when camping) and laundry services are available at Hacienda La Alegria for a small gratuity.

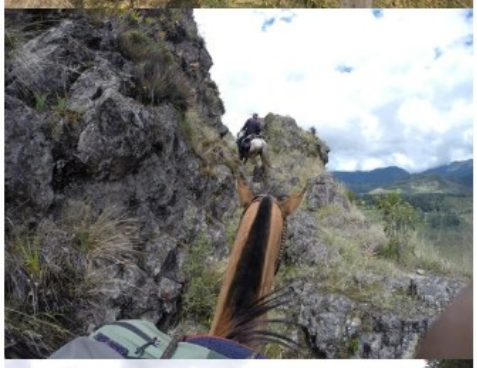
Accommodation Itinerary - *subject to changes based on availability*
Nights 1 & 2: Hacienda La Alegria
Night 3: Hacienda Bomboli
Night 4: Hacienda La Alegria
Night 5: Hacienda in Pedregal Valley
Night 6: Tambopaxi refuge
Night 7: Hacienda La Alegria
Night 8: Lodge in Insilivi
Night 9: Samay Kirutoa Lodge at Quilotoa crater
Night 10: Hacienda San Jose
Night 11: Hacienda La Alegria



Hacienda La Alegria
The Hacienda was built in 1910 in Franco Italian Style and has been renovated and restored. It is made out of adobe and stones and its walls are over 80 cm thick! It is nestled amidst lush surroundings in the typical fertile and green farmland of the Ecuadorian inter Andean plain at an altitude of 2880m (9449 ft).
The Hacienda is a family-run organic farm and the hospitality of the Espinosa household is remarked upon by visors who return year after year. You will be welcomed with a roaring log fire in the sitting room, and in your bedroom when the nights are cold.
The farm can accommodate up to 24 people both in the farmhouse and a recently completed extension. The extension has been tastefully restored with solid cypress floors and beams and modern en-suite bathrooms with plenty of hot water and powerful showers. Split-level family rooms sleep five comfortably. Wi-fi internet is available at this property.

Hacienda Bomboli
This property offers basic accommodation for up to 16 guests. It is set in a beautiful rainforest and each room has its own bathroom with hot water. Due to its remote location, cell phone service is very limited and there is no electricity. The house is kept warm and lit with fireplaces and candles and your hosts even puts a warm water bottle in your bed before you go to sleep.










Lodge Tambopaxi in Cotopaxi National Park
This newly constructed mountain lodge recreates the traditional building style of the paramo houses in order to reduce their impact on the environment.
There are 6 bedrooms, each equipped with a private bathroom with hot water, an individual heating system an warm eiderdown.
WiFi is available in all areas and is free of charge. Laundry service is available for a surcharge.

Hacienda San Gabriel (part of Hacienda San Jose) in Sigchos
The accommodation features simple rooms with a variety of arrangements (single, double, twin, triple or quadruple). Facilities include free Wi-Fi access and an indoor swimming pool.

Samay Kirutoa Lodge at Quilotoa crater
This lodge offers comfortable accommodations with spectacular mountain views. There are only 7 rooms and each are simply decorated with respect to the surroundings. There is a garden where guests can relax and free Wi-Fi internet is also available.

Llullullama Lodge at Insilivi
This Eco Lodge offers cozy accommodation in the heart of the Ecuadorian Andes. It is housed in an old farmhouse that has been renovated with respect to the environment. The Lodge offers a wide variety of rooms, each simply decorated with local artifacts. There are common areas with fireplaces as well as a terrace offering beautiful mountain views, where guests can relax and chat with fellow travelers. There is no internet at this property.

Room Occupancy
Single supplement is mandatory is we cannot find another rider to share.



Meals
All meals are included from lunch on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 12.

Meals are featuring delicious, gourmet international and Ecuadorian food. You will never go hungry with 3-4 courses offered per meal. Soups are a specialty in the highlands that we will use to warm our bodies after a good ride. Main courses can be chicken, pork, beef, trout, tilapia, pasta and more. Don't forget to save room for dessert!

This trip includes some wine/ beer with dinner.

Dietary Restrictions
We can cater to most dietary restrictions with prior notice.

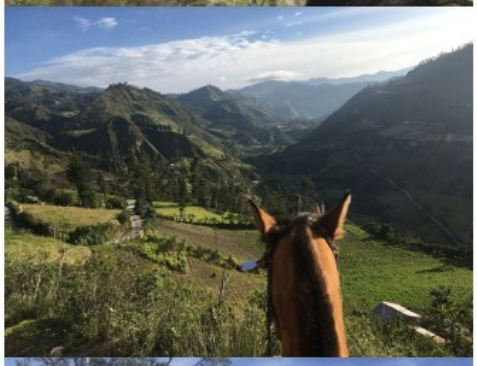
Riding



















Horses
Our horses are very important to us. We have more than 35 riding-horses as well as about 30 mares and foals. Most have been bred here on the farm from mixed Criollo (native South American), English Thoroughbred and Arabian stock, resulting in a near perfect combination of toughness, agility, calm temperament and "mountain sense". Beginners and experienced riders alike have found them easy to ride, willing and good mannered.
We are happy to follow the Natural Horsemanship principles when training our horses.

Tack
There is a range of tack including North American style, English style, McClellan cavalry, Chilean and traditional Ecuadorian "Chagra" style with its intricate leatherwork and saddle horn.

Host
Your host Gabriel comes from a family steeped in equestrian tradition. His grandfather bred racing horses close to Quito and his father, was a keen polo player.
Gabriel and Paty's three daughters are all keen riders, and the enthusiasm of the whole family is reflected in the quality of the horses at the farm. We are proud to share that Gabriel was recently nominated as MAESTRO GUIA ECUESTRE -- there are currently only 3 in the world with this title.

Test Ride
Before starting our program, riders receive instruction and ride under strict surveillance by the guides and helpers. We start by riding in a circle where riders must demonstrate their confidence and ability to adapt to the horse, saddle, and equipment. After this, they move up to a larger arena (70x70 meters/200x200 feet), where they will be observed and guided before going out. The rider has the option to switch horses, saddle, or equipment upon request.



We enjoy a special relationship with chagras, participating with them in rodeos and festivals and visiting them in their homes each month, and so we want to share this closeness with you, our guests. You will come to appreciate theirs traditions and customs. The chagras' skill on horseback and knowledge of the Andean paramo are legendary. They are the true inspiration for our trek.

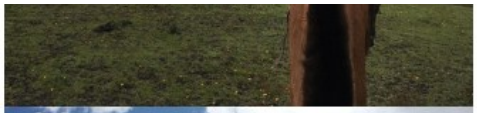
Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - *subject to changes*

Day 1: Arrival
Depending on your arrival time you can have a short ride at the hacienda, dinner included.
Meals included: Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda Alegria

Day 2: Introductory Ride







Day 2: Introductory Ride
Ride in the arena and try horses to get acquainted with the horse, tack that we will be using the next days, we ride around the neighboring Haciendas at the west Andes. Our first contact with the heights starts this first day. Lunch at the Hacienda, visit the milking barn, the aging cheese cave, and at the end of this interesting day enjoy the hot tub and fireplace.
Riding: 4 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda la Alegria

Day 3: Ride to Bomboli
Crossing extensive pastures and eucalyptus forests, we will have a nice view of the "Volcanoe Avenue". From there we can appreciate the green and fertile Machachi Valley and we can also see the routes we will take the next day at the east mountain chain. We will ascend the Corazon volcano up to 4,000 meters and descend through the Cloud forest reserve.
At the cloud forest we can observe a great biodiversity of plants and flowers, including giant guneras, orchids, and birds such as the turkey of the forest. In the afternoon we arrive to Hacienda Bomboli at 3,000 m and relax by the fireplace enjoying the sunset and see the lights of the villages near the coast. We will arrive at tea time, then enjoy a delicious dinner.
Riding: 6 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda Bomboli

Day 4: Back to Hacienda La Alegria
In the morning we will walk at the Hacienda's gardens and learn and see an incredible variety of the most beautiful orchids and cloud forest plants.
We ride up hill admiring the forest and the hundreds of flowers and plants. We will use the old road that was built in 1873 to connect Quito with the coast.
Arrive to Hacienda la Alegria for lunch, relax and enjoy the hot tub and the fireplace.
Riding: 4 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda la Alegria

Day 5: Ride to Ruminahui Volcano
We ride to the west mountain range and through the valley toward Machachi. We stop at the Machachi market (on Sundays), continue toward the Ruminahui volcano and stop at a beautiful Hacienda for a snack.
We then continue riding until we arrive to the Pedregal valley and stay overnight in a Hacienda at 3,500 meters
Riding: 8 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda in Pedregal valley

Day 6: Cotopaxi Volcano Ride
We enter the Cotopaxi National Park, riding towards the Sincholagua volcano. We make a large loop downhill to the valley and after a snack, we continue crossing the different lava flows, ascending north of Cotopaxi up to 4,100 mts to the highest plains, where we complete the Highest Canter in the World.
We ride in close proximity to wild horse herds that live in the park and are descendants of the horses brought by the Spanish in the 16th century.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight camping near Tambopaxi refuge

Day 7: Ride back to the plains
We start riding towards Ruminahui volcano, continuing west. On the way, we pass to the highest point of our ride (4,250 m) on the edges of the Ruminahui Volcano. We continue our ride toward the green Machachi valley. We cross the Machachi plaza where horsemen are always welcomed; continuing our ride to the town of Aloag before arriving back at Hacienda La Alegria for a pleasant dinner.
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda La Alegria

Day 8: Ride to Isinlivi
We will start today's ride one hour south of Hacienda La Alegria (transferred by car to this point). We will ride by the Inca trail and dirt trails that will take us to Isinlivi.
From here, it is possible to admire the nice scenery from one valley to another. The colors and the mountains make the changes from "Paramo" to eroded land full of different color patches. In the distance, we will see the Eastern Mountain Chain.
The ride continues through several hills, arriving to a small village called Isinlivi, founded in 1857. Here we will find our Lodge for the night.
Riding: 5 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Lodge in Isinlivi

Day 9: Quilotoa
In the morning, we will take a small walk to get the horses on a hill. There is a viewpoint of the Canyon formed by several eruptions of Quilotoa volcano. We will then start our ride up hill to reach the Quilotoa crater lake.
Crossing a few villages and paths, we discover an agricultural landscape with fields of lupines, potatoes, quinoa and barley. Volcano pumice and dry soil hinder agriculture thus, just a few people live in this region.
Quilotoa volcano erupted 1,280 years ago, the volcano summit is at 4,000 meters above sea level, where our Lodge is awaiting. At the edge of the volcano we will enjoy and amazing view of the breathtaking Quilotoa Crater Lake. The 3-kilometer-wide caldera was formed by the collapse of this volcano after the last eruption. The water color changes with the light.
Riding: 5 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Quilotoa hostel, next to the crater lake

Day 10: Quilotoa to Sigchos
Today is a long journey on the saddle. We ride to Sigchos, the village that was known as the "last home" of the Inca general Ruminahui.
After breakfast, we head north by the ridge of Quilotoa Crater Lake. The trail goes across the highest mountain heading north-west. There, we will find some small dairy farms and a couple of artisanal cheese makers, we will stop for a short visit and cheese taste.
This afternoon, we arrive to Hacienda San Jose, a working dairy farm and guesthouse. Our horses will have lush fields of fresh grass.
Riding: 7 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda San Jose

Day 11: Sigchose to Wingopana
We will ride through a dramatic landscape, including steep ravines. We start at 3900 meters and will ascend to 4000 meters high.
Even though we can visualize where we are heading and it seems close, we will have to cross several mountains chains to get there. This area is a combination of forest, rock peaks and eroded land from the past centuries.
We finish the ride on the sacred Wingopana Rock at 4000 meters. We will make our way back to Hacienda La

We finish the ride on the Sacred Wingopana Rock at 4000 meters. We will make our way back to Hacienda La Alegria by car for dinner and overnight.
Riding: 6 hours
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Hacienda la Alegria

Day 12: Departure
Breakfast and finish our services. Transfer to airport.
Meals included: Breakfast



Other Info

Meeting: Quito Airport or Hotel
Airport: Quito
Transfer: Quito
Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is from Mariscal Sucre International Airport (UIO) in Quito or any hotel or bus stop in Quito. Transfer times are available anytime on any day of the week.

Tack:	North American style, English style, McClellan cavalry, Chillean and traditional Ecuadorian "Chagra" style with its intricate leather-work and saddle horn.	
Horses:	Mixed Criollo (native South American), English Thoroughbred and Arabian stock	
Pace:	4-7 hours of riding daily, moderate trots and canters	
Walk | Trot | Canter |		
Level:	(3 to 4 out of 5) Good Intermediate	
Age:	Min 12	Max 70
Weight:	190 lbs	
Riders:	Min 4 riders	Max 8 riders
	Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.	

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-ECRT10

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals including wine/ beer with dinner on some nights & 10 riding days with bilingual guide (English, Spanish). Wool ponchos, rain ponchos, chaps, saddle bag and helmets are provided - let us know in advance if you would like to borrow one of these items

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US$
A 2026	12 days (10 riding days)	$3500

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Small group supplement (2-3 pax only), pp	$200
2026	Single supplement (when not sleeping at Hacienda Alegria), price per night	$150
2026	Transfer from Quito Airport, return, per car (1 - 4 pax)	$100
2026	Transfer from Quito City, return, per car (1 - 4 pax)	$50
2026	Extra day with meals and riding at the hacienda, dbl, pp	$250
2026	Extra day with meals and riding at the hacienda, sgl, pp	$330
2026	Child discount (12-17)	

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	11/09/2026 - 11/20/2026	12d / 11n	12 days (10 riding days)

Min/Max: 4/8
** Quilotoa Ride is possible to book all year -- please inquire for availability

Rates do not include:Departure tax, Transfers ferom/to Quito, Insurance & 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	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. _____

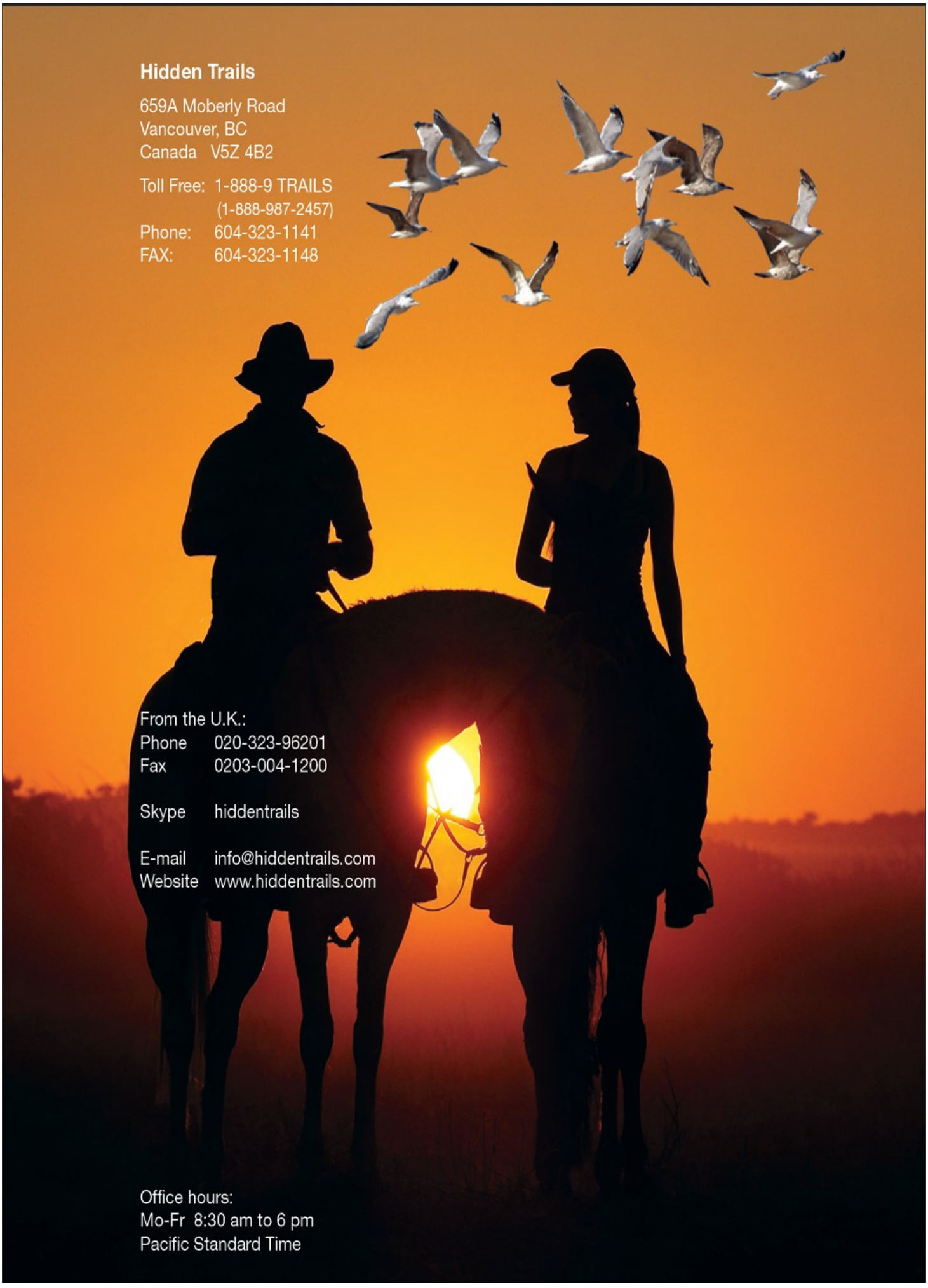
4. _____

Travel Cancellation Insurance Credit Card required

Sign me (us) up ◯ initial _____

No, we will provide our own ◯ initial _____

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


Back Cover