

# 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

# Champagne Vineyards Ride - France, Europe

Tour Code: IT-FRABR09  
8 days / 7 nights ~\$3,095.00  
Dates: July & August

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

**Tack:** Trail saddles custom-made for each hor...

**Horses:** Arabian, Paint horses, and Arabian/Pai...

**Pace:** All paces. About 5-6 hours in the sadd...  
Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,

**Airport:** Paris CDG airport



## Introduction

Champagne, France

We offer an exciting trail on horseback to explore the Champagne region and its variety of vineyards. Our trail will take you around the « Montagne de Reims » – a wooded plateau whose slopes are the so-called "Pinot Noir kingdom" (a famous grape variety). We will also ride along the Marne Valley – where the Pinot Noir grape grows side by side with the Meunier variety. We will discover the « Côte des Blancs » too. Some of the most famous Champagne wines, named "Blanc des Blancs" are produced there using the Chardonnay grape. The Champagne region belongs to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites, thanks to its breathtaking setting of the « king of wines ». With its sparkling name, the region is a promise of vineyards, slopes, cantering, prestigious cellars and beautiful landscapes!

Famous properties are the heirs of a unique, festive art of living. Champagne region is an historical region and the cathedral of Reims was witness to several French king's crownings.

## Accommodation

### Accommodations

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

### Description

Accommodation is in B&B or hotels. Double or Twin room, possibility of single but with supplement.

### Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 2: Hotel near Reims

Night 3: B&B in Bouzy

Night 4, 5 & 6: Hotel in Epernay

Night 7: Hotel near Reims

### Hotel near Reims

Located near the train station, this modern hotel offers comfortable rooms, all equipped with free Wi-Fi, TV and private bathroom.

### B&B in Bouzy

You are accommodated in a late 19th century house with 5 bedrooms. Each room has its own decor and private facilities. There is Wi-Fi available at this property.

### Hotel in Epernay

This small hotel offers 29 bedrooms featuring a modern decor, air conditioning, a TV, a safe, free internet access, a phone and an ensuite bathroom.

### Room Occupancy

We try our best to match you with a roommate, but if this is not possible you may be placed in single room with a supplement to be paid.



### Meals

All meals are included.

Continental breakfasts served at your accommodation.

The lunches are buffets with a wide choice (adapted to particular diets) with wine.

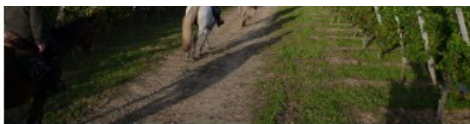
Dinner in the bed and breakfast, restaurant or hotel (wine not included for dinner, and other extras).

### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to most dietary restrictions with prior notice.

For special dietary requirements – especially gluten-free diets:

We kindly ask riders to mention only genuine allergies or intolerances requiring special attention. Our team contacts restaurants, hotels and guesthouses in advance to arrange suitable meals, which involves significant



organization. We sometimes find that guests who requested a special diet ultimately decide to eat normally once they arrive in France. We therefore thank riders for providing accurate and final dietary information in order to help us organize meals efficiently and facilitate the work of our partners.

## Riding

### Riding Ability

This ride is open to riders who are comfortable and in control at all 4 paces (walk, rising trot, canter and gallop in a forward seat) on varied terrain, in open spaces and practice a regular habit of riding. There are certain sections of the trail where we need to lead the horses. It is recommended that you be in good physical condition in order to participate. Previous experience of trail rides over a number of days would be beneficial but is not required.

### Pace

The pace is varied depending on the terrain, with long periods of walk and plenty of opportunities to canter and gallop.

### Horses

Most of our horses were born on the farm. They live in herds in a 70 acre field and this is what makes them strong. This social lifestyle is very close to their ideal living conditions, which is a natural environment.

Every horse has its own character, but all are gentle, balanced, and multi-talented. The horses are a mixture of purebred Arabian and Paint horses as well as Arabian/Paint crossbreds and Thoroughbreds.

The relationship with the riders and our horses is crucial. Above all, we place attention on the welfare and education of our horses.

### Tack

Our saddles are a French trail saddle (JMS brands), which blend the best of English and western styles to make the perfect trail saddle. Horses will work in bridles with Myler bits. Helmets are not mandatory but are strongly recommended.

Our team will take care of tacking up the horses during this ride.

### Logistics

There is a support van for the transport of luggage and riders. It is possible for a rider or a non-riding companion to follow along the horse riders in the van.

We ask the riders to have only one suitcase (size 69x47x27) and one handbag.

### Group Size & Staff

Riding groups have a minimum of 5 and maximum of 10 riders, plus the Guide and the Translator.

David (GTE/ BPJEPS TE) is a certified Equestrian Tour Guide. He creates the routes and leads all the riding tours. He is also a trainer of apprentice instructors in Equestrian Tourism.

Britta is your riding companion and translator (English, Dutch, German, and Spanish). She is always available to facilitate any language concerns.

## Itinerary



### Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

*The itinerary may be modified at any time for security reasons, meteorological or other events beyond our control such as blocked roads, rivers in flood, drought, strikes, and local holidays. We will always strive to find the best solution and will alter the itinerary as needed.*

**Important note:** The specific level required is the "confirmed rider level".

As a qualified professional of equestrian tourism in France, it is important for the safety of the groups of riders we receive that everyone has the required riding level (see description below).

A person, who doesn't have the required level, causes difficulties for the staff and other participants, with consequences on the good progress of the stay for everyone.

Therefore, we will test riders on horseback on the 1st day before departure on the trail.

If from the first day we judge that a rider doesn't have the required level for horseback riding, he/she will not continue on horseback. They will continue their stay with the logistics team. They will be able to make all the scheduled visits, and eat with the riders for lunch and dinner.

This decision will be made without any refund on the stay.

If, due to poor physical condition, riders ask to stop riding, they are still liable for the 300 euros we charge for transporting the horse. The rider is also required to pay the 300 Euro fee if the rider decides to stop riding for any other reason. Riders cannot decide to stop riding just because it rains one day, is windy another day, or too hot another day. Only the guide can decide to modify the horseback ride or stop it if he or she considers that the weather or another event may compromise the safety of the riders and horses, for example following a national weather alert.

Our rides are for the experienced rider who has mastered all 4 paces (walk, rising trot, canter/gallop in a forward seat) on varied terrains and in open spaces. The experienced rider rides regularly, has good physical fitness, has good soft hands, a good attitude, and self-confidence. He controls the speed and direction of the horse in all



circumstances. He can ride long distances including gallops of several minutes in open terrain. Participants need to have experience riding on English-style saddles. They need to know how to ride in balance: two point position.

**Day 1: Arrival**

Riders with vehicles may arrive in the late afternoon to the first night accommodation. Riders arriving by train will be collected in the late afternoon (around 6:30 pm) at the TGV train station of Champagne-Ardenne.

*Meals included: Dinner  
Overnight at Hotel near Reims*

**Day 2: Morning Ride Ride & Reims Visit**

Breakfast at 8:00 AM. We will begin the trail ride at 10:00 AM with a beautiful perspective over the vineyards, riding through the forest of Sermiers, also called « La forêt du Chêne à la Vierge » (it means the woods of Virgin Mary's oak). Its name comes from a medieval legend: as loggers would have found a figurine of the Virgin Mary in the heart of a tree... Every year, on the third Sunday of September, a pilgrimage celebrates this miracle. Returns to the guesthouse for lunch.

In the afternoon, we will visit the city of Reims, also known as « the city of coronations » or « the city of the kings ». On December 25th, 496, the first French christian king, Clovis was baptized by Bishop Saint Rémi on the location where the Notre-Dame of Reims cathedral would later be built and all further French kings were baptized in the same cathedral.

As for Champagne wines, they date back to the 17th century and have been one of the main pillars on the local economy for a long time now.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Hotel near Reims*

**Day 3: Chamery to Bouzy**

In the morning, relaxing canterers will lead us through the woods to the heart of the Verzy forest, called « Les Faux de Verzy ». We will enjoy our picnic there. A « Fau de Verzy » is a Dwarf Beech. « Fau » designated « beech » in Old French. Les Faux de Verzy is the world's largest concentration of dwarf beeches standing with about 1000 trees. In the afternoon, we will ride south to Trepaill, a typical wine village of the Champagne region, where the white grape called Chardonnay grows.

We will have dinner and spend the night in the village of Bouzy.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at a B&B in Bouzy*

**Day 4: Bouzy to Epernay**

After breakfast, we will ride through the vineyards to the village of Mutigny, offering a panoramic view on on the Marne Valley, the « Côte des Noirs » - name given to the vineyards which are located on the southeast side of the « Montagne de Reims » - and the « Côte des Blancs » - the vineyards which are located south of Epernay.

We will enjoy our picnic in Hautvillers. This village is the birthplace of the Champagne wines. The monk Dom Pérignon created the method which gave the Champagne its spurs. We will head downwards through the vineyards and we will cross the Marne river at the village of Cumières, inviting us for a nice canter along the river.

We will have dinner and spend the night in the town of Epernay.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at a Hotel in Epernay*

**Day 5: Morning Ride & Epernay Visit**

Today, we ride through forests and vineyards, enjoying a panoramic view on Epernay. We will enter the « Blancs de Blancs » vineyards, after a picnic in the village of Cramant, where we will enjoy some wine tasting.

In the afternoon, we will visit Epernay. This town, surrounded by vineyards, is the heart of the Champagne economy and the starting point of several scenic roads. Epernay is also the epicenter of Champagne, with every famous Champagne brand having their headquarters there. Most of them are located on the famous Champagne Avenue and 110 km of cellars run under our feet. We will be able to admire the eclectic architecture of most buildings, dating back from the 19th century.

We will have dinner and spend the night in the town of Epernay.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at a Hotel in Epernay*

**Day 6: Epernay to Montigny**

We will leave Cramant for the Mountain of Avize and its chalk cliffs, arriving in the Darcy valley, where we will have a beautiful view on the village of Monthelon. Crossing Epernay forest, we will be returning in the Marne Valley. After our picnic lunch, we will cross the Marne river at the village of Damery and continue riding through the vineyard slopes. We will have amazing views on the valley, leaving our horses overnight in the village of Montigny.

We will have dinner and spend the night in the village of La Neuville aux Larris - wine tasting of Champagne.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Hotel in Epernay*

**Day 7: Chatillon sur Marne Ride**

This morning, we will continue our trail through the vineyard slopes. We will have a magnificent view on the village of Chatillon sur Marne, at the top of which, there is a gigantic statue of Pope Urban II (33m high), otherwise known as Odo of Chatillon, supervising the Champagne vineyards. We will picnic at the Natural Regional Parc House of the Reims Mountain, located in Pourcy, then returning through the forest to our overnight stay.

We will have dinner and spend the night in the village of La Neuville aux Larris.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight at Hotel near Reims*

**Day 8: Departure**

After breakfast, we will transfer you to Champagne-Ardenne TGV station, depending on train schedule.

*Meals included: Breakfast*

**Non Riders**

Non-riding companions are welcome to join this trip. It is best to have a car in order to do some sightseeing while the rest of the group explores on horseback.

**Other Info**

**Meeting:** La Neuville aux Larris

**Airport:** Paris CDG airport

**Train station:** Champagne-Ardenne TGV train station

**Transfer:** Champagne-Ardenne TGV train station

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is possible from Reims train station for an extra fee. Pick-up is scheduled for 6:00pm on Day 1. On the last day, you will leave the hotel after breakfast, and be dropped off at the train station around 9:00 am.

**Tack:** Trail saddles custom-made for each horse and "Myler" bridle

**Horses:** Arabian, Paint horses, and Arabian/Paint crossbreeds.



**Pace:** All paces. About 5-6 hours in the saddle per riding day

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

**Level:** 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3.5 out of 5) Strong Intermediate

**Weight:** 200 lbs / 90 kg

**Riders:** Min 5 riders Max 10 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

## Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-FRABR09

**Rates include:** Accommodations, All meals, Wine with lunch & 6 riding days  
Saddlebags and water are provided during this trip.

### Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2026	8 day trip	€2815	\$3095

The US Dollar Rate is based on a EUR Exchange Rate of 1.1 and subject to currency fluctuation

### Transfer Option

#### Description

2026	Transfer from/to Reims train station at set times, roundtrip, pp (paid in cash)	€20	\$20
2026	Single supplement	€605	\$605
2026	Non-rider rate	€1525	\$1570
2026	Wine tasting, pp (estimated cost)	€80	\$80

#### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	07/18/2026 - 07/25/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	07/26/2026 - 08/02/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	08/08/2026 - 08/15/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	08/16/2026 - 08/23/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 5/10

Rates do not include: Beverages in hotels and restaurants, Transfers, Entrance fees, Tasting & Gratuities

## Rates and Dates 2027 - IT-FRABR09

**Rates include:** Accommodations, All meals, Wine with lunch & 6 riding days  
Saddlebags and water are provided during this trip.

### Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2027	8 day trip	€3185	\$0

The US Dollar Rate is based on a EUR Exchange Rate of 0 and subject to currency fluctuation

### Transfer Option

#### Description

2027	Transfer from/to Reims train station at set times, roundtrip, pp (paid in cash)	€20	\$20
2027	Single supplement	€570	\$630
2027	Non-rider rate - please inquire		
2027	Wine tasting, pp (estimated cost)	€80	\$80

#### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2027	07/10/2027 - 07/17/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2027	07/18/2027 - 07/25/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2027	07/31/2027 - 08/07/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2027	08/08/2027 - 08/15/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 5/10

Rates do not include: Beverages in hotels and restaurants, Transfers, Entrance fees, Tasting & 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											
						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"/>					
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"/>					
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"/>					
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"/>					

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

