

# 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

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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



# Provence Lavender Road - France, Europe

Tour Code: IT-FRPV04

6 days / 5 nights ~\$1,870.00

Dates: July

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●●●●

Track: Trail Saddles

Horses: Arab/Spanish cross

Pace: Moderate - with walk, trot and canters...

Walk,Trot,Canter,

Airport: Marseille



## Introduction

Provence, France

A Unique Trail in Provence - On the Road of Lavender

A trip itinerary rich in fragrance and color, from the South Luberon to Provencal areas famous for their production of lavender: Plateau of Claparèdes, Plateau of Albion, the Country of Banon, and the foothills of the Lure Mountain. A perfumed trail ride among the lavender, but also sage, widely cultivated in the region. We will ride in the garrigue filled with herbs of Provence. This is a colorful horse riding trip: the white limestone cliffs of the Luberon, the greenery of the pine and oak forests, the ochres of the Provence Colorado, the blue of the sky and lavender... Varied landscapes from Mediterranean Provence to the upper Provence, as far as the foot of the Giant of Provence: the Mont Ventoux.

*Please, note that the peak of the lavender bloom is around mid-July. Harvests generally start mid July. Later, this riding trip remains beautiful, but with less and less blooming lavender fields as the summer progresses.*

## Accommodation

### Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so you will be staying in different locations during the trip. You will be staying in 4 different locations total.

### Description

Accommodations during the trail will be in guesthouses and country inns. They are basic, but clean. We select our accommodation according to its beautiful setting and friendly atmosphere, for riders to enjoy a pleasant stay. There are no laundry facilities while on trail. All accommodations have WIFI.

If you choose to sleep in dorms, you will spend 1 night in a large dormitory up to twenty people, three nights in 6-people dorms and 2 nights in shared bedrooms.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Auberge des Seguins in Buoux

Night 2: Auberge de Rustreou or Le Chateau in Rustrel

Night 3: Le Petit Labouret in Revest du Bion

Night 4: Le Mas de Reilhanette in Reilhanette

Night 5: Les Gargoulettes in Lauris

### Auberge des Seguins in Buoux

This 16th-century stone house building offers a total of 27 rooms plus a dormitory that can host up to 20 people. The rooms are simple but comfortable and all come equipped with heating and free Wi-Fi. Bathrooms can be private or shared depending on the room. There is a garden and an outdoor pool where guests can relax and enjoy the view. There is no cellphone coverage here.

Because of the limited number of rooms, in case this accommodation is not available, you will be transferred to Lauris instead.

### Auberge de Rustreou in Rustrel

This old relay station dating back to the 18th century now offers 7 bedrooms equipped with a TV, free Wi-Fi and a private bathroom. Guests can also relax on the outdoor patio.

### Gite Le Chateau in Rustrel

This beautiful 17th-century castle has recently been renovated to offer dormitory style bedrooms (2, 5 and 6 beds in each dormitory) with shared bathrooms. There is free Wi-Fi access in some parts of the Gite.

### Le Petit Labouret in Revest du Bion

This guesthouse provides accommodation in private bedrooms featuring antique furniture and private bathrooms. There is a garden and an outdoor swimming pool where guest can relax and free Wi-Fi access is available anywhere on the property.

### Le Mas de Reilhanette in Reilhanette

This charming stonewall farmhouse offers 5 recently renovated bedrooms. Each bedroom has its own bathroom, air conditioning, a TV and free Wi-Fi access. There is a beautiful garden with some trees, providing the perfect environment to relax.

### Les Gargoulettes in Lauris

Your host welcome you in their lovely country house. Each room has its own theme and decor with air-conditioning, a TV, free Wi-Fi access and ensuite facilities. There is an outdoor swimming pool, a Jacuzzi and a sauna that guests are welcome to use.

### Room Occupancy

Triple occupancy is available at most accommodations. If not available, we can book one double and a single without the supplement.

If traveling as a single rider willing to share and we don't find anyone to share, then the single supplement will apply.







#### Meals

All meals are included in your package and typical Provençal meals are on the menu.

Breakfast will be provided by the accommodations we stay in. It features hot drinks with bread, butter, jam and honey.

At lunch, our assistant will prepare a substantial buffet. A "pastis", a glass of red wine, a barbecue by a mountain stream, a refreshing salad, a nap before leaving again : many small pleasures which will add to the enjoyment of our rides.

In the evening everyone meets around the table, to discover local food - or should we say "cuisine" - don't count on losing any weight.

Wine is included with lunch and dinner for the standard accommodations.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to dietary restrictions with prior notice.

### Riding

#### Riding Level

In order to make the most of the ride, we require riders to be at ease with walk, trot and canter, in outdoor riding.

#### Pace

This program includes 2/3/5 riding days depending on the option you choose. You will ride an average of 5 hours every day (about 2-3 hours in the morning and again 2-3 hours in the afternoon). The pace will vary according to the terrain.

#### Horses

Most of our horses are Barb and Spanish crosses. They have been trained for trail riding and are sure-footed. They live together as a herd, all year long.

During the ride, we advise you to take care of your horse, in order to get to know him better, and to create a special relationship with him.

#### Riding Group

Groups are made out of 5 to 8 riders. This limited amount of riders, often including several nationalities, allows each person to make the most of the trip.

#### Staff

Two members of staff will accompany you on your trip: 1 guide on horseback who speaks English and French and 1 person in charge of transporting luggage and setting up the lunch buffets.

Guides are certified, and friendly. They made a job out of their passion and enjoy sharing their passion with guests. Whether on the Alpes or on the beaches of Camargue, amongst odorant thym, rosmary and lavender, our guides are here to keep riders safe. All guides speak English.

### Itinerary



*Please, note that the peak of the lavender bloom is around mid-July. Harvests generally start mid July. Later, this riding trip remains beautiful, but with less and less blooming lavender fields as the summer progresses.*

#### Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

##### Day 1 (Monday): Lauris to Buoux

Meet in Lauris at 12 pm (noon). You will have an introduction to the trail ride and lunch. In the afternoon, you will be introduced to your horse and will start the trip through the Luberon rolling hills, towards the beautiful perched village of Bonnieux. Some superb residences dating back to the 16th, 17th, and 18th century serve as a reminder that Bonnieux was a wealthy village when this region, the Comtat Venaissin, belonged to the Papacy. Several





that Bonnieux was a wealthy village when this region, the Comtat Venaissin, belonged to the Papes. Several bishops also chose to live here and as you ride through the village streets you will no doubt marvel at the architecture and history on display. After crossing the picturesque village of Bonnieux, the trail goes down in the Valley of the Aiguebrun.

Overnight in a nice Auberge along the river. Depending on the date, exceptionally, you may be transferred to Lauris for the night.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Auberge in Buoux*

#### **Day 2 (Tuesday): Buoux to Rustrel**

This morning you are riding up on the Plateau of Claparèdes, follow lavender fields, dry stone walls and "bories" (small shepherds' pen). You will ride down towards the Valley of Apt on ancient paved trails. After lunch, you will ride down to the "Colorado Provençal" old ochre mines. You will visit on horseback this exceptional site before leaving your horse and reach your hotel in the village of Rustrel.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Auberge in Rustrel*

#### **Day 3 (Wednesday): Rustrel to Revest du Bion**

You quietly get into a valley shaded by oak trees, onto the Albion Plateau, high spot for lavender. Picnic near a chapel before browsing the plateau, former nuclear missiles site for the French nuclear force from 1971 to 1996. We leave the Luberon natural park and enter in the Ventoux natural park, riding among the lavender and sage fields with a break at a distillery where your guide will explain the production of basis for the perfume manufactures.

Arrival at the guesthouse where you can relax and take a swim in the pool before visiting the village of Sault, lavender capital, do some shopping and visit the lavender distillery.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Guesthouse near Revest du Bion*

#### **Day 4 (Thursday): Revest du Bion to Montbrun-les-Bains**

This morning, you will ride in direction of Saint-Trinit. The lunch will wait for you in the shade near Sault. In the afternoon, you will leave in the direction of Aurel, charming medieval village at the foot of the Mount Ventoux. In the afternoon, the colors of lavenders, fields of cereal and the shadows of the Mount Ventoux may tempt you to imitate the numerous painters who felt in love with this region. You will arrive the afternoon near Montbrun-les-Bains, surrounded with green hills and dominating a plain of perfumed lavenders: one of the most beautiful villages of France.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Guesthouse in Reilhannette*

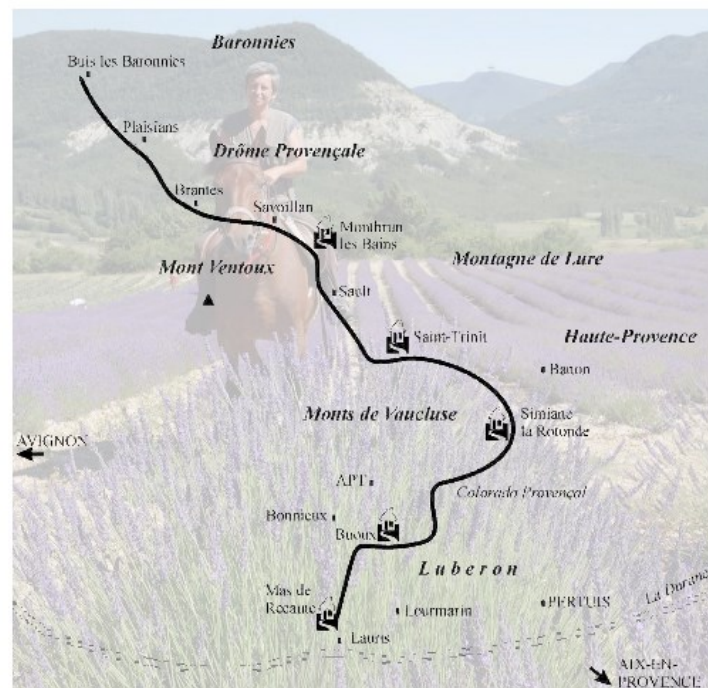
#### **Day 5 (Friday): Montbrun-les-Bains to Mévouillon**

This morning, you will follow the foot of the Giant of Provence: the Mount Ventoux. We follow the Toulourenc, a pleasant refreshing stream, cross some typical villages, and enter the Drôme Provençale (wooded hills and lavender fields). In the afternoon, we head to Mévouillon, where the truck and minibus await us, for the transfer back to Lauris.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*  
*Overnight at Les Gargoulettes in Lauris*

#### **Day 6 (Saturday): Departure**

End of the trip after breakfast. Transfers to Aix-en-Provence train stations and Marseille airport.  
*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:** Lauris

**Airport:** Marseille

**Train station:** Aix-en-Provence

**Transfer:** Marseille

**Distance:** 45 miles

Pick-up / drop-off for this trip is available from Aix-en-Provence TGV train station, Aix-en-Provence central train station or Marseille airport.

**Tack:** Trail Saddles



**Horses:** Arab/Spanish cross

**Pace:** Moderate - with walk, trot and canters  
5 hours a day on horseback on average

Walk | Trot | Canter |

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

**Age:** Min 12 Max 80

**Weight:** 200 lbs / 90 kg

**Riders:** Min 4 riders Max 8 riders



Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-FRPV04

Rates include: Standard accommodation, All meals with wine for lunch and dinner, Transfer from/to Marseille Airport or Aix-en-Provence Train Station at set times & 4 riding days

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	6 day trip (2-3 pax shared bedrooms)	€1700	\$1870
	Single supplement	€335	\$370
B 2024	6 day trip (dorms)	€1600	\$1760

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

Rates Note:  
For 1 pax booking as willing to share: 25% off single supplement rate will be applied if we don't have anybody to share with you  
It is possible to book extra nights before or after the tour - please inquire

Transfer Option

Description

2024 Free transfer from/to Marseille Airport or Aix-en-Provence Train Station at set times for 7-day trips	
2024 Non-rider – 50% discount	
2024 Taxi transfer from/to Marseille airport, one way, per car (3-4 pax)	€150 \$165
2024 Taxi transfer from/to Aix-en-Provence TGV station, one way, per car (3-4 pax)	€130 \$145
2024 Taxi transfer from/to Aix-en-Provence central train station, one way, per car (3-4 pax)	€100 \$110
2024 Discount if coming by car ( Monday morning arrival & Friday afternoon departure)	

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	07/01/2024 - 07/06/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (2-3 pax shared bedrooms)
B 2024	07/01/2024 - 07/06/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (dorms)
B 2024	07/08/2024 - 07/13/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (dorms)
A 2024	07/08/2024 - 07/13/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (2-3 pax shared bedrooms)
A 2024	07/15/2024 - 07/20/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (2-3 pax shared bedrooms)
B 2024	07/15/2024 - 07/20/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (dorms)
B 2024	07/22/2024 - 07/27/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (dorms)
A 2024	07/22/2024 - 07/27/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (2-3 pax shared bedrooms)
A 2024	07/29/2024 - 08/03/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (2-3 pax shared bedrooms)
B 2024	07/29/2024 - 08/03/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (dorms)

Min/Max: 4/8

Rates do not include:Beverages outside of mealtimes & 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 Inter.	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 Ltd. 659A Moberly Road Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3 FAX: 604-323-1148 Phone: 604-323-1141



## Hidden Trails

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



