

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

Website: 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

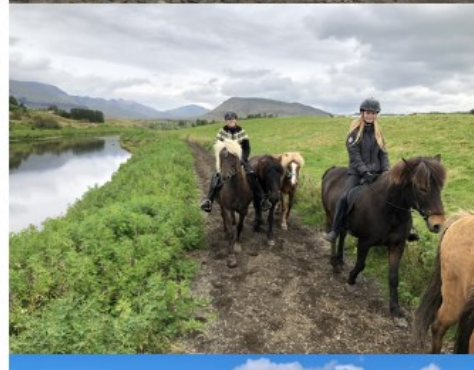
Reykjavik's Secret Trails - Iceland, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ICEIL2
4 days / 3 nights ~\$2,280.00
Dates: June & August

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

Tack: Icelandic tack with saddle bags
Horses: Icelandic Horses
Pace: Riding 15-25 km per day (3-6 hours in ...
Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Keflavik Airport



Introduction

Iceland Shorts, Iceland
Great riding trails with unexpected scenery!

Tölt with us through an exciting landscape made up of pseudocaters, glittering lakes and salmon rivers, with high mountain tops towering over us. Explore secluded black lava trails only accessible on horseback and let your mind wander over endless green moss covered fields of breathtaking landscape. Riding from place to place this is a proper riding tour where you will get to explore the beauty of the incredible remote landscape in Reykjavik's backyard.

During this ride we start at Álfanes Peninsula with a ride along Bessastaðir (the Icelandic President's residence) with stunning views of the Reykjavik skyline and Mt. Snæfellsjökull. We ride through Heiðmörk Nature Reserve with its endless arctic birch forests and bizarre lava formations and tölt along the grounds of the famous Landsmót competition site.

Join us on this extraordinary ride with great attention to detail and friendly personal service!

Accommodation

Accommodations

This is a stationary ride so all nights will be spent at the same accommodation.

Description

You will stay at Hotel Kriunes, featuring stunning mountain and lake views in the outskirts of Reykjavik. The hotel is close to the stables.

The hotel offers comfortable rooms with private bathroom (walk-in shower and toiletries). The room comes with a free access to the hot tub and sauna.

Each room has Air conditioning, a SmartTV and free WiFi.



If you want a more budget-friendly accommodation you can join this riding tour without hotel and book your own accommodation in Reykjavik.

Note that your guide will not be staying at the hotel during the tour.

Room Occupancy

Triple rooms might be available on request (please inquire).

The single supplement fee is mandatory for single travelers.





Meals

During the ride half board is provided with breakfast and lunch. Dinner is not included on this tour.

A Breakfast buffet is served at the hotel every day from 7 am to 10 am.

Lunch is usually eaten on the trail and features a variety of dishes including: sandwiches, hot dogs, lobster soup, lamb BBQ...

We also provide coffee and cakes at the end of the day, usually home baked or assorted Icelandic cheese etc.

Dietary Restrictions

It is possible to cater to special diets with advance notice.

Riding



We usually ride with some spare horses as we ride at least 2 horses every day. We mostly ride at a tölt but also walk, trot and canter.

We operate our horse riding tours in Iceland in cooperation with local partners that are horse people through and through.

They breed their own horses and train them themselves. They operate their tours in their home region where they know each and every mountain, creek and canyon.

Riding Gear

Our tack is very similar to the one used by English style riding. But don't worry if you come from a Western Riding background, we will assist you and you will get used to the tack in no time. We use safety stirrups on all our saddles and will ask you to wear a helmet at all times. You can bring your own helmet (please disinfect your riding gear) or you can borrow one locally.

Our bridles are very practical, they have clip on reins that you can release so that your horse can have some grass while you enjoy your break! We also provide you with a saddle bag, big enough for your picnic, gloves and a small camera.

Riding with the Herd

One of the things that makes riding tours in Iceland completely different from tours in other countries is the fact that we take lots of spare horses along when we travel. The sight of 40 – 80 horses running free over the mountain trails with the wind in their mane is a view you will not forget – we promise! On each tour you can expect to ride different horses every day. That means that we need at least three to four horses per person. The horses we are not riding run along freely in a herd.

Our partners and their staff will take care of the herd and if you want to, you can help them with the herding. But please note that you should always follow the instructions by the staff. We will go over the safety procedures on the first day of the trip. Riding with the herd is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for every rider!

Riding Experience

You do not need any prior knowledge of Icelandic Horses or the special gait tölt. We will explain our way of riding and will take time and patience to teach you how to ride the tölt. However, you might get more out of a multi-day trip if you know already a little bit about tölting. This is why we offer a pre-tour for our multi-day tours in cooperation with our partners (inquire for more information). We especially recommend this pre-tour for riders that are used to Western Riding. But as already mentioned above, this pre-tour is just a service to make sure you enjoy the tour even more but it is not a requirement. We will take good care of you either way!

Horse Welfare

Horse Welfare is not just a slogan for us. All of our Team Members own horses and ride on a regular basis. Some of us even breed horses. We love horses - in fact they are everything to us! That is why we carefully pick and choose our partners. We visit them on a regular basis – even without prior notice - to make sure that their horses are kept in good conditions all year round. That is also the reason why you will not find many departures in a row for our tours.

We want to make sure that both horses and the human team behind each tour gets a good rest in between departures so that they can deliver 100% service once you arrive.

During a typical year our horses are kept outside 24/7 during summer on usually rather large fields with access to good grazing and fresh water. If they are close to the stable or a paddock we will keep them there for a few hours during the day when we want to ride them in order to have them nearby and dry. Also in some cases to prevent them from eating 24 hours! Obesity can be a problem in Icelandic Horses. During autumn (usually from Mid September to December) we take their shoes off (all horses in Iceland are ridden with shoes) and they are turned onto big autumn fields where they live nearly „half-wild“ in large herds. During this time they are completely „on vacation“, they are not ridden but we visit them regularly to make sure that every horse is doing well. End of December/beginning of January we take the young and competition horses into the stable for training. Then they are kept in stalls but the Icelandic Law for Horse Welfare states clear regulations regarding stall sizes, daily playtime outside, paddock fencing, food... Older fully trained horses, breeding mares, untrained youngster and horses that are not ridden during wintertime like many of our horses that we use for the tours usually stay outside



on winter fields in large herds where they are fed with hay and where sufficient water and wind protection is provided, either natural or man made. From May/June all horses again are on summer fields where they stay outside 24/7 feeding on grass. A few exemptions from these rules are made regarding stallions due to their nature.

Travel Insurance

Individual travel insurance is not included in the tour prices. We urge our guests to purchase relevant travel insurance before visiting Iceland. Guests from Europe should bring their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

We reserve the right to alter routes, itineraries or timetables should the necessity arise. The estimated duration of tours as indicated by km can change according to road or weather conditions.

Day 1 (Thursday): Álfanes Peninsula & Heiðmörk Nature Reserve

Pick up from your accommodation in the Reykjavík capital area at 10 am. Please be ready in your riding clothes for pick up time. We transfer you to the beautiful Álfanes peninsula, only a short drive from downtown Reykjavík.

After an introduction into the safety issues, tack and gaits of the Icelandic horse we set off for a lovely gentle ride on good tölting tracks along the shoreline (and beach if tide allows) with magnificent views of Snæfellsnesjökull, Mt. Esja, the Reykjavík skyline and striking Bessastaðir, the residence of the Icelandic president. Wonderful birdlife and an amazing scenery accompany us for this first ride.

Afterwards, we enjoy a light lunch at a local café with views of grazing horses. After lunch we take a short drive to the stable area of Hafnafjörður's riding club Sörli for a ride through narrow tracks, lava and birch forests! Beautiful and again completely different mountain views take us via the Nature Reserve Heiðmörk to Riding club Sprettur, the stable area of Kópavogur village, where we leave our horses before driving you to your accommodation in Reykjavík.

Dinner and evening on your own.

Riding approx. 4-5 hours.

Meals included: Lunch

Overnight at Hotel in Reykjavík

Day 2 (Friday): Lake Rauðavatn & Leirvogur Beach

Pick up from your accommodation at 10 am. Today's ride will have us exploring the backyards of Reykjavík. We will start by riding through the breathtaking Heiðmörk Nature Reserve, passing the Reykjavík stables of Fákur Riding club and the grounds for the famous Landsmót competition. We then continue via Lake Rauðavatn and ride along the shore of Leirvogur beach towards Mosfellsbær underneath mighty Mt. Esja. During the day, we will serve you a luxury picnic lunch!

Leaving the horses at Vonarholt farm we enjoy some coffee and cakes Icelandic style before we take you back to your accommodation.

Riding approx. 4-5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at Hotel in Reykjavík

Day 3 (Saturday): Around Mt. Mosfell on Saga trails!

Pick up from your accommodation in the capital area at 10 am. Today we ride around Mt. Mosfell in the charming Mosfellsdalur valley. We are literally travelling on Saga Trails as we ride over the meadows where the famous medieval Viking Warrior Egill Skallgrímsson once lived and buried his gold! While Mt. Esja towers over us we tölt through the beautiful area where Icelandic Nobel writer Halldór Laxness grew up and found his inspiration for his famous novels.

Riding approx. 4-5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at Hotel in Reykjavík

Day 4 (Sunday): Lake Hafnavatn and Elliðavatn

Pick up from your accommodation in the capital area at 10 am for your last ride with us. Riding along the shores of lakes Hafnavatn and strikingly beautiful Elliðavatn we cross the spectacular Rauðhólar area. The 5,200 years old remnants of a cluster of fiery red Pseudocraters make a wonderful backdrop for our last tölt through Reykjavík's gorgeous backyard! Here our ride ends at the stables but we are happy to transfer you to your accommodation within the Reykjavík capital area or drop you at the BSÍ busterminal to catch the flybus to Keflavik airport.

Other Info

Airport: Keflavik Airport

Pick-up / drop-off for this trip is from downtown Reykjavík. Transfers can be arranged from/to your accommodation in Reykjavík or at the BSÍ bus terminal.

Tack: Icelandic tack with saddle bags

Horses: Icelandic Horses

Pace: Riding 15-25 km per day (3-6 hours in the saddle)

Notes: Riding 10-20 km per day (3-6 hours in the saddle)

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (4 out of 5) Strong Intermediate

Age: Min 12

Weight: 210 lbs / 95 kg

Riders: Min 2 riders Max 4 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

[View Map](#) [View Photos](#) [View Details](#)

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-ICEIL2

Rates include: Accommodation with half board, Transfers & 4 riding days according to program

Packages and Options

Season	Description	ISK	~US\$
A 2024	4 day trip	ISK292000	\$2280

The US Dollar Rate is based on a ISK Exchange Rate of 0.0078 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

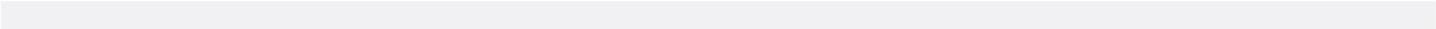
2024	Transfer from/to downtown Reykjavik is included at set times		
2024	Single supplement	ISK63800	\$500

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/06/2024 - 06/09/2024	4d / 3n	4 day trip
A 2024	07/01/2024 - 07/04/2024	4d / 3n	4 day trip

Min/Max: 2/4

Rates do not include: Dinners, Travel insurance (mandatory) & 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"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<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

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659A Moberly Road
Vancouver, BC
Canada V5Z 4B2

Toll Free: 1-888-9 TRAILS
(1-888-987-2457)

Phone: 604-323-1141

FAX: 604-323-1148

From the U.K.:

Phone 020-323-96201

Fax 0203-004-1200

Skype hiddentrails

E-mail info@hiddentrails.com

Website www.hiddentrails.com

Office hours:

Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm

Pacific Standard Time

