

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

Rift Valley Ride - Iceland, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ICEIL3

4 days / 3 nights ~\$3,200.00

Dates: September

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●●

Tack: Icelandic

Horses: Icelandic Horses

Pace: Riding 15-25 km per day (3-6 hours in ...

Walk,Trot,Canter,

Airport: Keflavik Airport



Introduction

East and South, Iceland

This tour takes you straight into the Rift Valley in Þingvellir National Park. While riding on secluded lava and birch lined trails in between the North American and Eurasian continental plates you will get a magnificent insight into the fascinating geology and history of Iceland!

Imagine tölt on our soft and gentle horses through lava fields, over highland plateaus and along lovely lake shores as you will discover the wonderful natural wonders of the South. Explore the ancient parliamentary place which is the birthplace of the Icelandic Nation. Your tour also includes visits to Geysir hot spring, the Golden Waterfall Gullfoss and to the geothermal Fontana SPA, where you can sweat in the steam of a natural hot spring and jump into Lake Laugarvatn to cool off!

Accommodation



Accommodations

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

Description

You will stay at Hotel Grímsborgir. Each of the 68 beautiful and spacious bedroom has a nice terrace, free Wi-Fi access, a TV, a safe as well as a private bathroom with bathtub/shower and hairdryer. Guests have access to hot tubs in a common area.



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

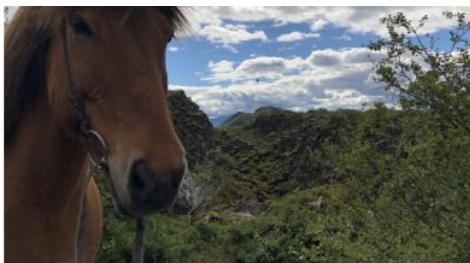
Room Occupancy

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.

The hotel serves a beautiful breakfast buffet featuring a selection of freshly baked breads and pastries, cheeses, cold cuts, vegetables, jams as well as yogurts and muslis, lots of fresh fruits and hot items such as breakfast sausages, bacon and scrambled eggs. The breakfast buffet is open from 07:00 to 10:00 am every day.



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).

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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): Riding toward the National Park

Pick up at 10 am at your accommodation in Reykjavik by your wonderful Icelandic hosts! Today's ride will take you through a stunning mountain landscape with basalt columns, Tröllafoss waterfall and beautiful mountain views. The ride ends at a local farm. We drive the horses to Thingvellir National Park and go by car to your hotel accommodation for next 3 nights.

Riding approx 15 km

Meals included: Lunch

Overnight at Hotel Grímsborgir

Day 2 (Friday): Rift Valley Ride

Today we spend the whole day riding in the beautiful National Park. We begin with riding the new Bláskógaleið where we will be riding with a herd of loose running spare horses to the farm ruins of Gjábakki. Here we will enjoy a hearty lunch. After lunch we will take you on an exciting ride „in between the continents“ as you will be riding in the rift valley between the dividing plates of North America and Eurasia! We then ride into and over one of the many rift zones which will be for sure an adventure to remember! After the ride we will go visiting the famous historical sights of Þingvellir National Park. This place is really the heart of the Icelandic Nation. Here the Icelanders met for their annual Thing meetings from 930 to the end of the 18th century, it is here where they decided to take on Christianity in the year 1000 and declared independence in 1944. We end the day by driving to Fontana Spa for soaking in the geothermal pool and enjoy the oldest sauna in Iceland.

Riding approx 20 km

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at Hotel Grímsborgir

Day 3 (Saturday): Gullfoss – Geysir – Friðheimar - Riding through Game of Thrones scenery

After breakfast we go on a fascinating sightseeing tour to the famous Golden Circle i.e. we will admire the Golden Waterfall Gullfoss and enjoy the hot spring area of Geysir with spouting Strokkur (the churn). Before heading back to Thingvellir we enjoy lunch and a stable visit at Friðheimar greenhouse restaurant which is absolutely lovely and unique in the world! We enjoy a great ride through the National Park in the afternoon with stunning trails through old farms and famous Games of Thrones scenery.

Riding approx 15 km

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at Hotel Grímsborgir

Day 4 (Sunday): Riding back towards Reykjavik

Today we will ride back towards Reykjavik. We ride along and over river Öxará (the Ax River) and over heaths and meadows towards the capital area. There are several routes to choose from as riding to/from the National Park was the most popular route during centuries. When we are getting closer to Reykjavik we take you by car to your accommodation in Reykjavik in the late afternoon. (ca. 35 km) Exploring Iceland reserves the right to alter routes, itineraries or timetables should the necessity arise.

Riding approx 35 km

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Non Riders

Non-Riding companions are welcome to join this tour (please inquire for rates). The area offers great opportunities for self-drive tours while your travelling partner is out trail riding.

Other Info

Airport: Keflavik Airport

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

Tack: Icelandic

Horses: Icelandic Horses

Pace: Riding 15-25 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.

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-ICEIL3

Rates include: Accommodation with half board (breakfast and lunch), Transfers, 4 Riding days according to program & Visit to Fontana Spa including entrance and towel

Packages and Options

Season	Description	ISK	~US\$
A 2026	4 day trip	ISK399900	\$3200

The US Dollar Rate is based on a ISK Exchange Rate of 0.008 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Transfer from/to downtown Reykjavik is included at set times		
2026	Single supplement	ISK63000	\$505

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	08/25/2026 - 08/28/2026	4d / 3n	4 day trip
A 2026	09/03/2026 - 09/06/2026	4d / 3n	4 day trip
A 2026	09/10/2026 - 09/13/2026	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"/>					
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

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

