

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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4406 Tennyson Road, Wilmington, DE 19802 USA

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Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Northern Lights Ride - Iceland, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ICRT15

4 days / 3 nights ~\$1,430.00

Dates: Feb-Mar, Oct-Dec

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging: ●● BASIC

Tack: Icelandic

Horses: Icelandic

Pace: Daily rides are approx 15 km long (45k...

Airport: Reykjavik Airport



Introduction

Iceland Shorts, Iceland

Winter in Iceland means a countryside ablaze with color and the Northern Lights dancing in the Arctic night sky.

Enjoy visiting the best-known sights in Iceland, riding the Icelandic Horse along fine bridle paths and viewing a dazzling Northern Lights display after a great day in the saddle. Riding during the wintertime is an Icelandic tradition and a wonderful experience.

We will take a tour and visit the Secret Lagoon where you can relax in the mineral-rich water. We will ride between the rivers Þjórsá and Hvítá and visit the Golden circle. During the riding days, "tölt", the special gait of the Icelandic Horse will be introduced to you.

Get ready in the evenings to experience the unique tranquility of the Icelandic countryside and gaze skywards to perhaps see green-colored Northern Lights dancing above you (weather permitting).

Accommodation

Accommodations

This is a stationary ride so all nights are spent at the same location.

Description

You will be accommodated in Kálfhóll Farm, where the family is well known for their great hospitality. The farm is located in the beautiful Skeiða and Hrunamannahreppi shire. All around the farm you can see gorgeous countryside.

There is a hot tub onsite.

Room Occupancy

Single rooms are not available on this trip.

Meals

During the ride full board is provided.

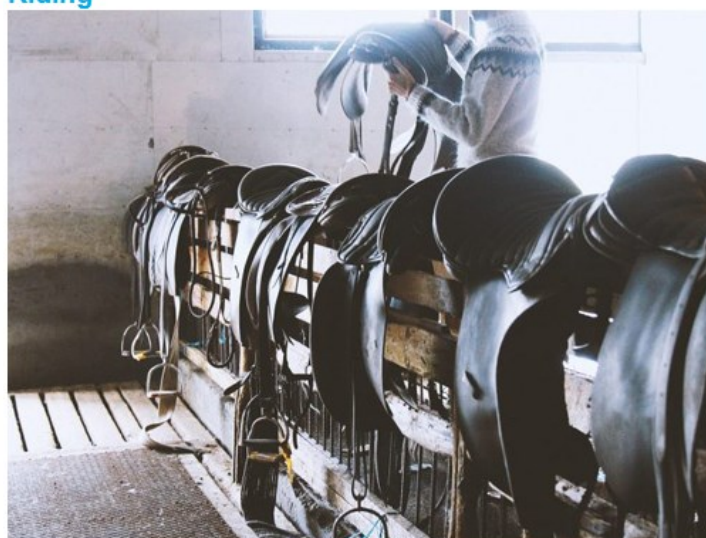
The menu consists of a large breakfast and traditional Icelandic meals (fish or lamb). All riders make their own packed lunch from the breakfast table.

Alcoholic beverages are not included but can be purchased in the duty-free store of Keflavik airport.

Dietary Restrictions

Vegetarian meals are available if requested in advance.

Riding

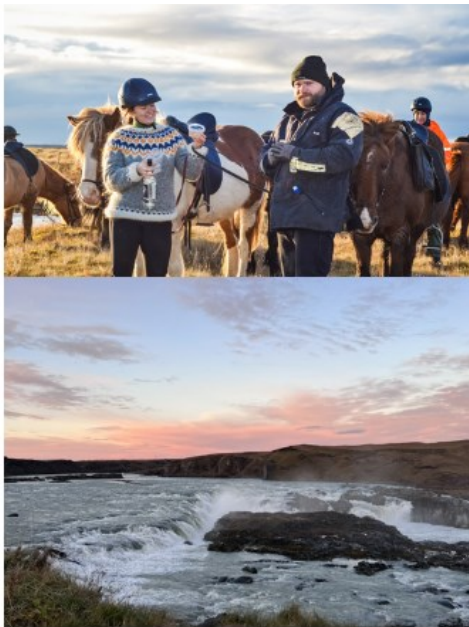


Riding Experience

This tour is a great riding experience that is suitable for intermediate riders. You need to be comfortable and in control at the walk, moderate length trots (tölt) and short canters. Riding days can be as long as up to 35 km in the saddle so you should be in good physical condition and have a basic knowledge of horsemanship. You will get a thorough introduction into the gaits of the Icelandic horse and feel the Tölt, the extremely soft traveling gait of the Icelandic horse.

Riding Gear – Disinfect!

Riding gear (riding trousers, jackets, etc.) needs to be washed (40°C) or dry cleaned. Items which cannot be washed or dry cleaned (riding boots, riding hats) need to be disinfected at least 5 days prior to arriving in Iceland. The Icelandic Veterinary Authority recommends the broad-spectrum disinfectant Virkon S for disinfection. Used riding gloves, whips, saddles, bridles, chaps and other used leather gear may not be brought into the country.



Please understand that these precautions are necessary because there are no contagious animal diseases in Iceland. Horses are not vaccinated and are therefore susceptible to infectious agents from abroad. Please help us to protect Iceland's fragile nature!
We provide saddle bags, rain wear and safety helmet.

Tack & Riding Style

The tack used for Icelandic horses is slightly different than the tack ordinarily used for other breeds. The saddle is built close to a dressage saddle and has a relatively flat seat. Saddles come with plain or quilted seats. On longer rides, a crupper helps keeping the saddle in place. Riding style used on Icelandic horses is close to English riding style, but stirrups are worn long. Bits used are mostly simple snaffles. Bridles have a detachable noseband and clip on reins.

The Farmers

The real connoisseurs of the local terrain and history. We make sure that each tour has its own charm and is organized by the local expert, the farmer, and his family. They use their own horses and ride through the part of the country they know so well.

Our farmers have over 30 years of experience in leading riding groups through Iceland.

Herd of Horses

On this ride, you will be riding several days (except for two days) with a free running herd of horses. Herding along free running horses is the traditional way of travelling in Iceland, since horses are changed at least once a day on longer tours. You get to ride a variety of horses.

Horses

The Icelandic horse is best known for its four-beat smooth gait, the "tölt", which is very comfortable for the rider, especially on a longer tour. Riding an Icelandic horse in its native habitat land is an authentic riding experience. The horses are especially chosen for this trip and are suited even for riders who have not had much riding experience.



Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1 (Tuesday): Arrival

Pick up at BSÍ Bus station in Reykjavik around 6:00pm. Our bus will transfer you and your fellow riders to Kálfhóll Farm, where horses and staff are waiting for us. After a lovely introductory meal where we get to know each other, we relax and rest so we are well prepared for the adventure ahead of us. We can enjoy the nice hot tub outside and look up into the sky for dazzling Northern Lights.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Kálfhóll Farm

Day 2 (Wednesday): Ride along Þjórsá River & Visit of Secret Lagoon

After breakfast, our guide will introduce us to the Icelandic horse and its special gaits. This first riding day is a perfect way to get to know Icelandic winter riding in a relaxed atmosphere along the mighty river Þjórsá (the longest river in Iceland: 212 km). We enjoy the southern countryside with an impressive view of mountain ranges, pastureland in its winter coat and the Hekla volcano watching over us in the distance. After a magical day in the winter wonderland, we will go and visit the Secret Lagoon where you can relax in the mineral-rich water. Dinner will be served at Kálfhóll Farm and afterward, you can take an evening stroll with your guide and host to look for the Northern Lights again.

Riding approximately 15 km

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Kálfhóll Farm

Day 3 (Thursday): Ride along the Hvítá River

We start the day with a short ride in the winter fields, by the Kálfhóll farm, before we have lunch. Our ride then takes us to the glacier river Hvítá with the milky water that streams from the glaciers into the highland. We ride through lava and moss-covered terrain and enjoy the view all around us. After a short break near the river, we saddle up again and head back through the beautiful countryside to Kálfhóll farm to have a lovely dinner. There is nothing better after a wonderful day in the saddle than to relax in the steamy hot tub, watching the clear sky and hope for the Northern Lights to show up.

Riding approximately 15 km

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight at Kálfhóll Farm

Day 4 (Friday): Ride along the Þjórsá River and Golden Circle Tour

After breakfast, we take our last ride along the Þjórsá river and take in the breathtaking winter pastures one last time. After a light lunch, we say goodbye to the horses and hop on to the bus to visit the Golden Circle: the three most impressive natural sights in South Iceland. The Golden Circle consists of the Geysir geothermal area, the waterfall Gullfoss and Thingvellir National Park.

Geysir is a geothermal area with boiling mud pits and the lively geyser Strokkur which spouts water 30 meters into the air every few minutes.

At Gullfoss, you will have a chance to witness the mighty waterfall, and you can feel the power from the water coming down the canyon as you stand near the cliffs.

Then we drive to Thingvellir National Park and see an amazing nature and geological phenomena. Since 2004 Thingvellir has been listed on UNESCO's World Heritage List for its geological uniqueness and historical significance.

We will be back in Reykjavík at approx. 6:00 pm.

Riding approximately 15 km

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Other Info

Meeting: Reykjavík

Airport: Reykjavík Airport

Transfer: Reykjavík

Pick up at BSÍ Bus station in Reykjavík around 6:00 pm on Day 1.

Tack: Icelandic

Horses: Icelandic

Pace: Daily rides are approx 15 km long (45km covered total) - 3 riding days
Nice tempo with walk and trot

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3 to 3.5 out of 5) Intermediate

Weight: 242 lbs / 110 kg

Riders: Min 1 riders

Max 16 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-ICRT15

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, Transfers from/to Reykjavik city center, Entrance to Secret Lagoon, Golden Circle Tour & 3 riding days
Rain wear, Water bottle, Saddle bag & Riding helmet can be provide

Packages and Options

| Season | Description | EUR | ~US\$ |
|--------|-------------|-------|--------|
| A 2024 | 4 day trip | €1300 | \$1430 |

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

Transfer Option

Description

| | |
|------|--|
| 2024 | Pick up at BSÍ Bus station at 6pm on Day 1 |
|------|--|

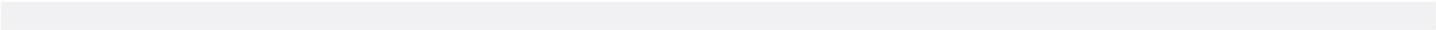
Tour Dates

| Season | Tour Dates | | |
|--------|-------------------------|---------|------------|
| A 2024 | 02/27/2024 - 03/01/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 03/05/2024 - 03/08/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 03/12/2024 - 03/15/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 03/19/2024 - 03/22/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 03/26/2024 - 03/29/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 10/08/2024 - 10/11/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 10/15/2024 - 10/18/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 10/22/2024 - 10/25/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 10/29/2024 - 11/01/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 11/05/2024 - 11/08/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 11/12/2024 - 11/15/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 11/19/2024 - 11/22/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 11/26/2024 - 11/29/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 12/03/2024 - 12/06/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |
| A 2024 | 12/10/2024 - 12/13/2024 | 4d / 3n | 4 day trip |

Min/Max: 1/16

Saturday- Thursday

Rates do not include:Alcoholic beverages (can be bought at Duty Free ahead of time) & 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 _____

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