



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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Address:

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Ph: 0-808 189-0420

Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Castles & Monastic Ruins Getaway - Ireland, Europe

Tour Code: IT-IRRT03C
6 days / 5 nights ~\$1,915.00
Dates: April-Oct

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

Tack: English
Horses: Irish Hunter, Irish Cob, Connemara, Ir...
Pace: Moderate with walk, trot and some cant...
Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Shannon



Introduction

Connemara/Galway, Ireland
Enjoy a combination of visiting the ancient Irish castles and monastic ruins with lovely guided trail rides through Irish bogs, fields and local farmland.

On this 4 day ride you will visit the impressive Portumna Castle which was the seat of the Earl of Clanricarde and Pallas castle - one of the best preserved tower houses and castle grounds of the 14th century. You will also take a boat ride to Holy Island on the river Shannon to explore the ruins of one of Ireland's most important monastic settlements, and you will ride to a 5000 year old Celtic tomb.

Accommodation



Accommodations

This is a stationary ride so all nights will be spent in one location.

Description

We will overnight in the tastefully restored 300 year-old farmhouse - the heart of the riding center. The ambiance of old times gone by is carefully maintained and yet all modern facilities for the riding guests are provided. You can relax peacefully in your individually decorated rooms with private bath. It's said that this special place, called "The Mountain", is an inspiration to all who stand on its threshold and recapture the simplicity and peace of this idyllic setting. You'll find yourself in a home away from home as you cozy up to the peat fire with a tea or coffee in hand with the sounds of the farm and life to serenade you.

Washing machines are available to use, but we do not have a dryer. There is WIFI access at the riding center and farmhouse.



Room Occupancy

Single supplement is mandatory if we are unable to find another rider to share.



Meals

All meals are included from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 6.

In the comfortable dining room the guests enjoy the hearty Irish Breakfast and traditional farmhouse cooking, sitting by the open turf fire. You will enjoy fresh home cooked meals, gourmet-style with many locally grown ingredients, and traditional homemade bread and cakes.

Alcohol is not included, but can be purchased or guests can bring their own.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to dietary restrictions given prior notice.



Riding



Saturday is a resting day for our horses!

Horses

The Irish horse is renowned for its stamina, versatility and gentleness and will therefore provide an ideal companion for an unforgettable vacation. You will make friends here with proud examples of several typical Irish breeds such as the tall but gentle Irish Draught, the lively and clever Connemara, the fine and energetic Irish Hunter, the beautifully coloured Irish Piebald and the intelligent and comfortable Irish Cob.





Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

**The itinerary might change due to weather conditions or circumstances beyond our control without prior notice...*

Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival

Arrival in Shannon Airport and transfer (if booked) to our Riding Centre. Transfer from Shannon to Whitegate approx. two hours. You will be staying here for 5 nights. On the arrival day you can just relax and recover from your journey, or take a stroll on the well sign-posted nearby walking trails. In the evening, you will get to know all your fellow riders for this week. You will have dinner at 7:00pm in the tastefully restored 300 year old farmhouse in the Riding Centre by candlelight and open turf fire.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Farmhouse

Day 2 (Sunday): Introductory Ride & Holy Island Visit

After breakfast we will go out to the horses and every rider can then get used to their own horse for the next days by brushing and tacking up themselves - don't worry there are always lots of helping hands around you! Our first ride takes us along forest tracks and country lanes, passed abandoned farms of the 18th century famine times. After lunch you will be driven to nearby Mountshannon harbour, from where you will visit Holy Island by boat. Pilgrims travelled to this island until the mid-19th century. You will see the ruins of five churches, early monastic cells, a pre-12th century cemetery and a round tower. After this visit you will have time for a stroll through the village and drop into the pub for a glass of porter. Back to the riding centre for a delicious dinner.

Riding approx. 2.5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Farmhouse

Day 3 (Monday): Slieve Aughty Mountains Ride & Portumna Castle Visit

On today's ride, you will ride into the hills of the Slieve Aughty Mountains and enjoy fascinating views over the majestic River Shannon. In the afternoon you will get to visit the Portumna workhouse museum, where the poor and destitute took shelter many years ago during the famine times.

You will also visit the impressive Portumna Castle of the 17th century with its beautifully restored walled garden. The 4th Earl of Clanricade built this Renaissance castle and lived a lavish life here.

You will also have time for shopping in the town or enjoy another Irish pub.

Relax by the peat fire and a traditional home cooked dinner back at the riding centre.

Riding approx. 2.5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Farmhouse

Day 4 (Tuesday): Country Ride & Pallas Castle Ruins Visit

This morning's ride will take you on quiet tracks through Ireland's beautiful rural countryside. This afternoon's visit will bring you to the ruins of Pallas castle, one of the best preserved tower-houses and walled castle grounds of the Irish gentry in the 15th century.

In the evening you will enjoy your dinner again at the riding centre.

Riding approx. 2.5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Farmhouse

Day 5 (Wednesday): Bogs & Dolmens Ride

Today is a full day ride. The morning ride brings us across the magical landscape of bog and heather. We will have our lunch picnic out on the trail, where we meet our minibus with all the supplies for horses & riders. On the afternoon ride we will pass by a typical Celtic dolmen, which is believed to be 5000 years old! The ride will finish on a field where the horses are happily turned out.

Tonight is the final dinner in the comfy atmosphere of the riding centre.

Riding approx. 4.5 hours

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Farmhouse

Day 6 (Thursday): slán abhaile

After breakfast it is time to say "slán abhaile" and to get ready for the transfer (if booked) back to Shannon.

Meals included: Breakfast

Non-Riders

Non-riders are also welcome, there is plenty to for them to do including hiking, cycling, sightseeing, fishing, golf etc

Other Info

Meeting: Whitegate

Airport: Shannon

Train station: Limerick

Transfer: Shannon

Distance: 40 miles

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is from Shannon Airport (SNN). Pick-ups are available on Saturdays between 9:00am and 2:00pm and drop-off the following Saturday is at 10:00am. Transfers outside of these times are possible at request for an additional cost

Tack: English

Horses: Irish Hunter, Irish Cob, Connemara, Irish Piebald and Irish Draught

Pace: Moderate with walk, trot and some canter mixed every day. 4 riding days

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (2.5 to 3 out of 5) Low Intermediate

Age: Min 12

Weight: 185 lbs / 85 kg

Riders: Min 3 riders Max 8 riders Max Capacity 16
(per riding group)

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-IRRT03C

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 4 riding days, Sightseeing trips & Entry fees
Hard hats can be provided

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2026	6 day trip	€1595	\$1915

The US Dollar Rate is based on a EUR Exchange Rate of 1.2 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Single supplement	€150	\$180
2026	Non-rider rate, dbl, pp	€1070	\$1285
2026	Group discount available for groups of 5+ pax - please inquire		
2026	Group transfer from Loughrea bus stop, pp, one way	€45	\$55
2026	Group transfer from Shannon airport (9:00am-2:00pm), pp, one way	€55	\$70
2026	Pick-up or drop off transfer from Portumna, pp, one way	€15	\$20
2026	Private transfer to Limerick, pp, one way	€160	\$195
2026	Private transfer to Dublin, pp, one way	€300	\$360

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	04/11/2026 - 04/16/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	04/18/2026 - 04/23/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	04/25/2026 - 04/30/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	05/09/2026 - 05/14/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	05/16/2026 - 05/21/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	05/23/2026 - 05/28/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	05/30/2026 - 06/04/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	06/06/2026 - 06/11/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	06/20/2026 - 06/25/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	07/04/2026 - 07/09/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	07/18/2026 - 07/23/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	08/01/2026 - 08/06/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	08/15/2026 - 08/20/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	08/29/2026 - 09/03/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	09/05/2026 - 09/10/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	09/12/2026 - 09/17/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	09/19/2026 - 09/24/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	09/26/2026 - 10/01/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip
A 2026	10/10/2026 - 10/15/2026	6d / 5n	6 day trip

Min/Max: 3/8

Custom dates can be arranged for groups of 4+ pax

Rates do not include: Insurance (mandatory), Airport transfers & 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"/>
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

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