



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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Majestic Majella Explorer - Italy, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ITMA01

8 days / 7 nights ~\$2,025.00

Dates: September-October

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●●

Tack: Western

Horses: Quarter, Haflinger,

Appaloosa, Paint a...

Pace: Ride at all paces. 5.5 riding days 6-7...

Walk,Trot,Canter,

Airport: Naples



Introduction

Abruzzo/Molise, Italy

Come explore one of Italy's hidden gems - the Majella National Park!

In a country mainly known for its Tuscan vineyards to the north or Mediterranean-kissed beaches to the south, The Majella National Park is a hidden gem just waiting to be discovered. It is one of the largest parks in Italy covering 75,000 acres and hosting a variety of landscapes. With the sheer size and restrictions of access to only hikers and horseback riders, you will feel like you have the park to yourself! Thanks to the protection by the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, this park has thrived and is home to a large diversity of plants and animals from bears and wolves in the beech forests to chamois and eagles at higher altitudes. This is truly a magical experience where you can find a blissful peace surrounded by wilderness.

One of the highlights is Pescocostanzo, a picturesque medieval town at an altitude of 4,200 feet. Their stunning architecture is well-preserved and sure to interest any riders fond of history. Two nights will be spent in this lovely place. It is surrounded by several plains which invite many to a canter where we can stretch our legs and feel the thrill of speed. You will be staying at various rural hotels during the trip chosen for their charm and hospitality. Locals will greet you with warmth and treat you like family. You will also get to indulge in the best Italian cuisine for each meal and sample local wines. You can easily tell how much their food is made with love. Your guides have great knowledge of the area and are excited to share their passion of horses and nature with you!

Accommodation



Accommodations

This is a progressive ride so nights will be spent in different accommodations. Three nights are spent at the farmhouse and 4 nights are spent in various rural hotels.

All accommodations except the farmhouse have private bathrooms. Most of the accommodations do have WIFI access on this trip. There are no laundry facilities available on this trip.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 2: Farmhouse

Night 3: Hotel in Roccaraso

Night 4 & 5: Hotel in Pescocostanzo

Night 6 & 7: Agriturismo in Alfedena

Farmhouse near Carovilli

Your host welcomes you in his farmhouse, dating from 1885, which is at an elevation of about 3,000 feet (a little over 900m). The house is on the edge of a forest and overlooks a beautiful valley.

The house is not very big, but can comfortably accommodate for up to 8 riders. It has been completely renovated in 2003. There are three guestrooms (two double and one dormitory accommodating six) and two bathrooms. Guests can relax in the living room, by the fireplace.

If you prefer more privacy, we can arrange for a room (with private bath) in the nearby B&B (8 minutes by car) for an extra charge.

Hotel in Roccaraso

This hotel offers basic accommodation and great views of the surrounding mountains. All the rooms come with a TV, free Wi-Fi access and private facilities with hairdryer.

Hotel in Pescocostanzo

This charming Inn is set in the heart of Pescocostanzi village. The rooms are elegantly furnished and all come equipped with a private bathroom, a TV and a kettle. There is Wi-Fi access in common areas.

Agriturismo in Alfedena

This Agriturismo is located at the foot of the Montagna Spaccata Lake, on the edge of the Abruzzo National Park. It offers 9 rustic style bedrooms, each fitted with a TV, free Wi-Fi access and a private bathroom with hairdryer and toiletries.



Room Occupancy

If we are unable to find another rider to share the room with you, a single supplement fee applied. Single room accommodations are subject to availability.



Meals

All meals are included for this trip from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 8.

You can be assured that at all these destinations you will be comfortable and very well fed. The food is wonderful with great care being taken to provide local specialties cooked with fresh ingredients. Carmine used to own a restaurant and this is apparent from the wonderful recipes he shares with his guests. The tiramisu is the very best!

You will never go hungry here! Our own testers called the food 'imaginative and delectable' and 'original and sumptuous'!

Breakfast is usually 'continental'. Expect a lot of delicious pasta, salads, cheese, and bread. You will also taste the juiciest, sweetest tomatoes with fresh mozzarella, tasty salami, and other delights like tiramisu and fresh peaches.

Lunchtime often consists of salami, cheese, and bread picnic-style, accompanied with a glass of crisp wine.

Wines and beers are included during meals. All other drinks must be paid for.

Fund for refreshments and snacks

For the trek we collect Euro 50 per person to go into a mutual fund for refreshments on our way plus drinks and snacks other than at meals.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions with prior notice.

Special diet requirement (other than Vegetarian) is additional charge -- please inquire.

Riding



Riding Level

Riders must be at least intermediate level to attend this ride. This means you are able to control a horse at ALL gaits, can mount and dismount unassisted, and are in good physical condition. There are areas where you will need to dismount and lead your horse. Therefore, you need to be in good shape.

We ride with western tack but experience in western riding is not required.

Pace

The ride includes 5.5 riding days with long days in the saddle (6-8 hours). The horses have to climb and go down a lot. Therefore, the pace is generally not very fast. However, in the plateaus and in the valleys we make long canters. The safety of the rider and that of the horse is of paramount importance to us!

Tack

We use western saddles. All saddles have a little saddle bag on the horn.

Horses

The horses have been selected for their character, looks, and intelligence (mix of American Quarter Horses,

cross-breeds, Haflinger, Appaloosa, Paint). The horses are willing and easy-going. They were all born in the mountains, so they are very reliable.

All year-long, they live in a herd which makes them a close group- besides, most of them are related in some way or the other. They can choose from the paddocks around the house or the stable, which is at a distance of 30 feet from the house.

The horses are trained gently and with a lot of patience.

Guide

Carmine is a certified FISE (Federazione Italiana Sport Equestre) guide. He speaks Italian and English.

Age Restriction

We require all riders to be 12 years if traveling with an adult or 16 years if traveling alone.

Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival

We will pick you up from the Isernia train station for 8:00pm and drive you to the farmhouse. After a welcome drink there will be dinner with your host/guide. A three-course Italian dinner will be served every night, accompanied by local wines.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at the Farmhouse

Day 2 (Sunday): Introductory Ride

The morning is yours. You may sleep in, take your time over breakfast, do whatever you like. Before lunch there is a safety-briefing. Then we groom and saddle up the horses, followed by a short demonstration in western riding. After lunch the trek starts. We ride through vast forests and meadows. We spend about four hours in the saddle, get to know our horse and get a first glimpse of the terrain and the beautiful, diverse, lonely nature. We and the horses will spend the night in the small town of San Pietro Avellana. There is a restaurant where we can enjoy pasta with fresh truffles from the region.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at the Farmhouse

Day 3 (Monday): Tratturo Celano-Foggia

In the morning we are brought to the horses and at about 10:30 a.m. the ride will start. We follow the Tratturo Celano-Foggia. A Tratturo is a 2,000 years old track that is still used to move cattle from the far south where grass is scarce in summer. We continue along the Tratturo as far as the river Sangro. Here the Tratturo begins to be very wild and quite overgrown leaving us narrow paths to follow. We arrive in Pietransieri. In Christian's riding centre the horses get well cared like us! We sleep in a hotel few hundred meter away.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Hotel in Roccaraso

Day 4 (Tuesday): Pietransieri to Pescocostanzo

Today's destination is the small town of Pescocostanzo. The trail takes us through increasingly high mountains. From there we have a good view back to the hills of Molise. Up on the pass we stop for a picnic at the Pietra Cernaia, a viewpoint which shows us now a completely different Panorama. We can see Pescocostanzo. The village is about 4500 feet above sea level and directly on the steep slopes of the Majella Mountain which alternate with high plains pastures where we can have some nice canters before arriving in the stable for the horses. Having spent about 6 hours on horseback we are bound to be longing for a drink. Pescocostanzo has a nice square with several bars and restaurants. Taking a walk in this picturesque medieval town is pleasant for everyone and a must for those who are interested in architecture. We are staying at a small and cozy hotel. Dinner is at a restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Hotel in Pescocostanzo

Day 5 (Wednesday): Ride though Majella National Park

The National Park Majella (75000 acres) is one of the biggest in Italy. It is a so-called Pan Park, which means that it is protected by WWF. Here are 30 Mountains over 6500 feet. Today, there will be a 6 hours ride in surrounding highlands. We expect to be able to have nice canters here. The night will be spent at the same hotel. Dinner, however, is at a different restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Hotel in Pescocostanzo

Day 6 (Thursday): Pescocostanzo to Alfedena

This is going to be a demanding day spending about 7/8 hours in the saddle. The first part of our trail takes us upwards towards a large valley. Here on this plateau we can canter, canter and canter until we reach our picnicplace. After we were passing a forest and in the end we get surprised with a wonderful view. The next stretch is a long road, leading us down and down again. Part of that road must be covered on foot! Be prepared to walk downhill for around 45 minutes or so. In the early evening we finally reach our destination. After leaving the horses in a paddock we go to Sandra's riding centre where we have dinner and spend the next night at her comfortable hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at an Agriturismo in Alfedena

Day 7 (Friday): Last Ride

Just outside Alfedena there is a plain where we can go for a longer canter. A little later we pass Ponte della Zittola, which is the border between Abruzzi and Molise. Then we follow part of the Tratturo Castel di Sangro-Foggia in the foothills of Alto Molise. Having passed the hamlet Montalto it is time for a picnic. After lunch it takes four hours to ride home. About 6:30 p.m. we are back at the farm-house, unsaddle the horses for the last time and enjoy the farewell dinner.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at an Agriturismo in Alfedena

Day 8 (Saturday): Departure

Departure after breakfast to Isernia train station. Drop-off is at 8:00 AM.

Meals included: Breakfast

Due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances the program may have to be adapted.

Other Info

Meeting: Carovilli

Airport: Naples

Train station: Isernia

Transfer: Isernia Train Station

Distance: 124km / 77 miles

Pick-up included from Isernia train station for 8:00pm on Day 1. Drop-off on last day at 8:00am.

Tack: Western

Horses: Quarter, Haflinger, Appaloosa, Paint and cross breeds. 1 Freiburger

Pace: Ride at all paces. 5.5 riding days 6-7 hours per day in the saddle. Due to the mountainous terrain there are also long stretches of walking only.

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3 to 4 out of 5) Intermediate

Age: Min 12

Weight: 190 lbs / 85 kg

Riders: Min 5 riders

Max 8 riders

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-ITMA01

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals with wine and beer, 5.5 riding days, Luggage transport, Taxes & Transfer from/to Isernia at set times. There are about 6 extra rain coats which can be borrowed. First come, first served!

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2026	8 day trip	€1840	\$2025

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

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Snacks and drinks fee (mandatory) - estimated cost	€50	\$55
2026	Single supplement	€280	\$310
2026	Transfer from/to Isernia train station included at set times (20:00h pickup, 08:00 drop-off)		
2026	Surcharge for riders over 85 kilos	€150	\$165

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	06/27/2026 - 07/04/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip
A 2026	10/03/2026 - 10/10/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 5/8

Rates do not include: Gratuities; Snacks and drinks between meals (a collective Euro 50 per rider is to be paid locally to purchase these for the group); Drinks ordered after meals additional charge; Special diet other than Vegetarian is additional charge

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

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