



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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Cattle Trails of Molise - Italy, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ITTA01
7 days / 6 nights ~\$1,320.00
Dates: June & September

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

Tack: Western
Horses: Quarter, Haflinger, Appaloosa, Paint a...
Pace: Ride at all paces. 5 riding days 3-6 h...
Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Naples



Introduction

Abruzzo/Molise, Italy

Tratturo and Molise are two words that belong together like horse and rider, cheese and wine, nature and culture...

We want to experience all of this with you on this new trail ride in the heart of Italy. Here in Altomolise, where Italy could hardly be more authentic, we repeatedly come across the "green highways" of the shepherds and cowherds of past centuries, the Tratturi. Sometimes enchanted and dreamy, narrow and overgrown, almost unrecognizable and then again open and visible from afar, the paths run through the country. On the edge of these paths we experience history and stories on our sure-footed, good-natured four-legged partners.

Discover old villages, churches and ruins, enjoy the wide views and heavenly peace, enjoy the traditional cuisine and the good feeling of having a great time. Time to unwind, to ground yourself, to slow down, and then to discover the little things along the way.

Accommodation

Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so nights will be spent in different locations.

Description

The accommodations have been selected for full cultural immersion in Italy. Each location boasts personality and most importantly, family. While not grand, we offer cozy comfortable accommodations full of life and stories.

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 near Cerreto
Night 4: B&B in San Pietro Avellana
Night 5: Hotel in Roccasicura
Night 6: Farmhouse

Farmhouse

The farmhouse, dating from 1885, is situated at almost 3,000 feet above sea level. The house is at the edge of a forest and overlooks a beautiful valley. The nearest neighbours live in Carovilli, a little village 4 miles away. The front of the house faces a large oak forest whereas the rear offers a splendid view of the mountains and a valley. The house is not very big, but quite comfortable. It was completely renovated in 2003. The living-room has a nice fireplace, a piano, and a modest library. There is 1 double room upstairs and a dormitory with four single beds and one double bed downstairs. There are 2 bathrooms with all modern conveniences.

*** If you do prefer more privacy on these days, we can arrange for a room (with private bath) in the nearby B&B (8 minutes drive by car) with a supplemental charge - transfers are provided. Or if you are the last riders to book (numbers 7 and 8) you will be accommodated there as well and will have to pay this supplement.*

Hotel near Cerreto

This small rural hotel has 4 bedrooms with ensuite bathroom, a TV and free Wi-Fi access.

B&B in San Pietro Avellana

This newly built accommodation offers comfortable rooms with private bathroom, LCD TV and free Wi-Fi.

Hotel in Roccasicura

Located directly on the Tratturo, this hotel offers 5 rooms, each equipped with a TV, private facilities and internet access.

Room Occupancy

Single supplement subject to availability.

Meals

All meals are included for this trip from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 7.

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'!

Meals are served on the terrace or in the kitchen-diner.

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 riding days with long days in the saddle (5-6 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 and 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

Please, note that due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances the program may have to be adapted.

Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival

Pick-up from Isernia train station is at 8:00 PM. After your transfer from Isernia, you are expected to arrive on Saturday evening at the farmhouse. After a welcome drink there will be dinner with your hosts/guides. A three-course Italian dinner will be served every night, accompanied by local wines.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at the Farmhouse

Day 2 (Sunday): Tratturo Celano - Foggia

After a leisurely breakfast in front of our stone house from the 19th century, enjoy the quiet location in the forest and the view over the horse pastures up to the Colle dell'Orso, 30 km away. Then we get to know the horses and, if necessary, familiarize ourselves with western riding.

Our first ride begins with a crossing of a rocky river. During the subsequent steep ascent to the Tratturo Celano - Foggia, the horses give us a first taste of their sure-footedness. We cross a horse meadow where we let our horses take a breather and continue up to the ridge, in the forest. We pass mud pits, the "bathtubs of the wild boar" and catch a glimpse of the frogs living there before we enjoy a short but brisk canter on an open meadow.

After another short steep climb, we reach our picnic spot in Monte Caraceno. This small mountain presents us with a 360° panorama and over 2000 years of Samnite history. After the break we lead the horses on foot until we reach the 200km long tratturo that brings us back to the ranch.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at the Farmhouse

Day 3 (Monday): Tratturo

We start our ride at 10:00 a.m. and start with a long ride through an oak forest leading us to many beautiful meadows near the Tratturo. Here you can gallop wonderfully. We leave the Tratturo and ride to a picnic area where our host once hosted endurance races. Our path then leads for kilometers through beech forests until it finally leads us to our first hotel directly at by the Tratturo.

Here we refresh ourselves with drinks in the garden, next to the horses and relax with a great panorama. Around 8:30 p.m., dinner will also take place there.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at the Hotel

Day 4 (Tuesday): Tratturo

Today is the shortest ride of the week. For about 3 hours we follow the Tratturo until we reach the town of San Pietra Avellana. We ride through high oak and beech forests and stop at a bar on the edge of the forest to enjoy our lunch with fresh cheese and salami from the region.

After unsaddling the horses, we watch them roll around, give them some food in the feed bags and listen to the satisfied snorting. In the evening we walk from our hotel through the old streets of the 10th century founded place to a restaurant. Here there are fresh truffles from the forests that we crossed during the day.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at the B&B in San Pietra Avellana

Day 5 (Wednesday): Tratturo Castel di Sangro - Lucera

Italy's tratturi travel from the fresh mountain pastures of Abruzzo to Puglia in the south. With a length of up to 250km, the 6 main tratturi cross Molise. Today we will switch to the Tratturo Castel di Sangro - Lucera and ride past the ruins of an almost deserted small town. While nature reclaims this place, the old walls tell stories of the hard life in the mountains. With a bit of luck we will meet the resident shepherd with his herd. Here at the latest the Tratturo comes alive again and we feel transported back to the time when the shepherds covered this route with their flocks twice a year.

During our break, we enjoy not only regional delicacies, but also the wide view, the scent of fresh herbs and stories about the country and its people. In the afternoon, our destination for the day appears on the horizon in front of us. A small place called Roccasicura (safe rock), tucked away somewhere in the middle of nowhere. Our luggage is already waiting for us in a beautiful hotel at the highest point of the village.

We have enough time for a typical Italian round with drinks and snacks and a refreshing shower before we make our way to the restaurant.

our way to the restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at the Hotel in Roccasicura

Day 6 (Thursday): Traturelli San Domenico

This morning, we ride south along the Tratturo and, depending on the season, we can enjoy the colorful blossoms or nibble on delicious blackberries while we watch the butterflies dance. After a short but strenuous ascent, the horses get a little break before we ride over a stone road to a small plateau over which we can enjoy a wonderfully refreshing gallop. We continue past goats, cows and sheep with their guards, the herding dogs. We reach a junction, the Traturelli San Domenico, which leads us to our picnic area. Here the horses are allowed to graze extensively while we take our time for a picnic in the shade of large trees. Shortly afterwards we visit a small church and enjoy the last hours in the saddle. At around 5:00 p.m. we are back at the stables to unsaddle the horses one last time.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Farmhouse

Day 7 (Friday): Departure

Departure after breakfast. Drop-off is at 8:00 AM.

Meals included: Breakfast

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 riding days 3-6 hours per day in the saddle.

Walk | Trot | Canter |

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

Age: Min 12

Weight: 190 lbs / 85 kg

Riders: Min 3 riders

Max 8 riders

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-ITTA01

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals with wine and beer, 5 riding days, Luggage transport, Taxes & Transfer from/to Isernia train station 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	7 day trip	€1200	\$1320

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

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Transfer from/to Isernia train station included at set times (20:00h pickup, 08:00 drop-off)		
2026	Snacks and drinks fee (mandatory) - estimated cost	€50	\$55
2026	Single supplement	€240	\$265
2026	Surcharge for riders over 85 kilos	€150	\$165
2026	Special diet requirement (other than Vegetarian) is additional charge -- please inquire		

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	07/25/2026 - 07/31/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2026	09/05/2026 - 09/11/2026	7d / 6n	7 day trip

Min/Max: 3/8

Custom trips possible on request in August and from November to April - please inquire
Shorter programs of 3-5 nights are also possible

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 is 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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