

# 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](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)

Website: [www.hiddentrails.com](http://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

# Dolphin Coast Ride - Portugal, Europe

Tour Code: IT-PTPATD  
8 days / 7 nights ~\$2,210.00  
Dates: Mar, Jun, Oct & Nov

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

**Tack:** Portugese cavalry saddle like English ...

**Horses:** Lusitano

**Pace:** 4-6 hrs Pace Moderate, long canters  
Walk, Trot, Canter,

**Airport:** Lisbon



## Introduction

Alentejo / Blue Coast, Portugal

The Costa Azul or "the Blue Coast" encompasses the stunning southern stretch of Portugal's west coast. It is just as long and beautiful as the Algarve (Portugal's very popular south coast), but while the Algarve is overcrowded with tourists, one finds tranquil deserted beaches and pristine countryside all along the west, even during the peak summer months. The mouth of the resident river Rio Sado is a sanctuary of 57,500 acres where you will find that many dolphins play! From here on south, you'll find 36 miles of secluded beaches only interrupted by lovely and calm lagoons and quaint fishing villages. Discover this traveler's jewel region on the back of a handsome, first class Lusitano horse. Ride from the lush and green coastal mountains of Grandola, overgrown with pine and cork-oak forests, to the inviting beaches and turquoise waters of the Azul. The rides are filled with delicious picnics, swimming, fresh seafood dinners, playful dolphins and of course endless memories!

We offer this ride with different accommodations on specific dates:

The *Dolphin Coast Ride* offers accommodations in 3 and 4-star accommodations for people who prefer the most comfort, while the *Bottlenose Escape* departure dates are offered for the more economical traveler, with lodgings in 2-star hotels and country inns. The itinerary otherwise is identical for both riding options.

## Accommodation

### Accommodations

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

### Description

The accommodations throughout the trip are in comfortable hotels and guesthouses. Wi-Fi access is available at all accommodations. Laundry facilities are available on this trip for an extra fee.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Herdade das Barradas da Serra in Grândola (in 2023); Hotel das Faias (in 2024)

Nights 2 & 3: Quinta de Malmedra in Santiago do Cacém

Nights 4 & 5: Hotel Vila Park near Natural Reserve of the Lagoons of Santo André and Santa Sancha

Night 6 & 7: Herdade das Barradas da Serra in Grândola (in 2023); Hotel das Faias (in 2024)



### Herdade das Barradas da Serra in Grândola

Located at the foot of the mountain range of Grândola, this beautiful country Hotel has 10 comfortable rooms, all elegantly decorated. The rooms come equipped with air conditioning, a TV, private facilities and free Wi-Fi access. Guests are encouraged to go for a swim in the outdoor swimming pool and/or to walk around the beautiful cork trees that surround the property.

### Hotel das Faias in Grândola

This small hotel is surrounded by cork trees. The rooms are spacious and include air conditioning, a TV, a private bathroom and free Wi-Fi access. The property has a lovely garden and an indoor pool where guests can relax in the evening.

### Quinta de Malmedra in Santiago do Cacém

This charming farmhouse is surrounded by nature and features both an outdoor and indoor pool. All of the 12 rooms are simply decorated and feature a TV, free Wi-Fi access, air conditioning as well as a private bathroom.

### Hotel Vila Park near Natural Reserve of the Lagoons of Santo André and Santa Sancha

This hotel offers modern accommodations only a few steps away from a beautiful natural reserve. The 79 rooms are all fitted a TV, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi access and a private bathroom with hairdryer. There is also an outdoor pool where guests can cool off after a long day riding.

### Hotel das Faias in Grândola

This hotel has an indoor pool and hot tub, which are open all year round. It has a common living room with a fireplace.

Each suite and vacation home features simple furnishings, each with unique decor. All are equipped with air conditioning, TV, private bathroom with hairdryer.



conditioning, a tv and private bathroom with bathtub.

#### Room Occupancy

If we are unable to find another rider to share the room with you, the single supplement fee does apply.



#### **Meals**

The package includes all meals and drinks at lunch time. The meals are usually traditional Portuguese food.

Lunches are eaten on the trail and usually included grilled food. The dinners are eaten in local restaurants or in the hotels' restaurants.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to most dietary restrictions with advance notice.



#### **Riding**



#### **Horses**

You will be riding pure-bred and part-bred Lusitano Horses. The Lusitanos, which come from the same origin as the famous Andalusians, can be considered as some of the finest horses in Europe. Together with their Spanish brothers, the Lusitanos were the first horses which were brought to the New World and thus became ancestors of all American breeds. They are known for their splendid abilities and glamour performing the collected movements. You can indeed look forward to getting a mount which is not only well tempered and of a docile character but who will allow you to explore the great feeling of riding a well-trained horse.

#### **Tack**

The saddles that you will be using are mostly Portuguese Army saddles covered with sheep skin which are very comfortable and well-suited for the purpose of long distance rides. English style bridles are used. We do not provide saddle bags. There is a bottle holder provided with each saddle.

#### **Weight Limit**

The weight limit for this ride is 85 kg / 190 lbs, but we can accept riders exceeding this weight if they are experienced (under confirmation).



## Itinerary



### Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

*Note: This is a sample itinerary only and subject to changes at the tour operator's discretion. Riding times and distances are subject to change due to group dynamic and rider levels.*

#### Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival

Arrival in Lisbon and transfer at 5:30pm. You will travel south to Barradas da Serra, approximately 100km. Your accommodation is a rural house – a typical 'Alentejana' architecture which is located in the region of Grândola. Herdade das Barradas da Serra is very pleasant with charming staff and is equipped with the comforts of a modern hotel. Here you will find a relaxed atmosphere where you can swim in the pool or rest in the comfortable rooms before your first day on horseback. After dinner you will have your first night in Portugal.

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at Herdade das Barradas da Serra (in 2023); at Monte das Faias (in 2024)*

#### Day 2 (Monday): Ride to Santiago do Cacém

Today you will ride through hilly landscapes to your first destination in Santiago do Cacém. After the first few canters, you will notice the Lusitanos' wonderful character and their sure-footedness. For lunch, a delicious picnic will be prepared with grilled meats or fish with salad accompanied by fresh bread and local wine. In the afternoon, rested after lunch, we ride through the forests of pines and cork. You reach Quinta da Ortiga where we will stable the horses. A short transfer of 30 min takes you to your hotel, a modern, luxury hotel, where you have dinner and spend the night.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Quinta de Malmendra*

#### Day 3 (Tuesday): Ride to Morgavel's Water Reservoir

Today, you will traverse forests of eucalyptus, enjoying their distinctive perfume and hearing the sound of the bark crunching underneath the horses' hooves. Near Morgavel's Water Reservoir we stop for a picnic lunch and a relaxing siesta. Afterwards we have the opportunity for some fast canters on the sandy trails that cross this Portuguese countryside.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Quinta de Malmendra*

#### Day 4 (Wednesday): Dolphin Watching & Ride to Santa Andre Lagoon

Today, either in the morning or afternoon, you will be transferred about 30 minutes to the north to the Sado River where you will enjoy a two hour boat trip to see the dolphins play in the estuary. Dolphin sightings cannot be guaranteed but are very likely. Also please note that the boat trip is subject to weather conditions. When you ride today you will explore sandy trails through fields and forests, allowing several long canters. You ride past the Santa Andre Lagoon -in this beautiful place you may see flamingos and storks. Ride past the rice fields of the area, which in late summer prior to harvest are an astonishing color of green.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel Vila Park*

#### Day 5 (Thursday): Beach Ride

Today you ride from Hotel Vila Park to the beach. Between June 1and September15, this ride is at dawn to avoid the holiday makers on the beach. It's a beautiful ride at first light as the sun rises over the dunes. There is the possibility of a beach canter before reaching a lovely picnic spot in the pine forest where your horses rest while you may swim in the sea and after lunch. After lunch ride through the dunes, to Hotel Vila Park.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel Vila Park*

#### Day 6 (Friday): Melides to Grândola

Today we ride from Melides towards Grândola. Many opportunities for faster riding occur today. Our Lusitanos will carry us safely through forests of pines. Red earth paths alternate with those of sand and we may meet herds of

cows or sheep tended by shepherds. On our return, we can enjoy a nice refreshing swim before in Barradas da Serra.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Herdade das Barradas da Serra (in 2023); at Monte das Faias (in 2024)

#### Day 7 (Saturday): Sierra of Grândola Ride

Today the group rides by the Sierra of Grândola through a rolling landscape of picturesque villages. We stop for the last picnic of the trail, horses and riders can take a siesta after lunch. Then we proceed to Herdade das Barradas da Serra. Farewell dinner.

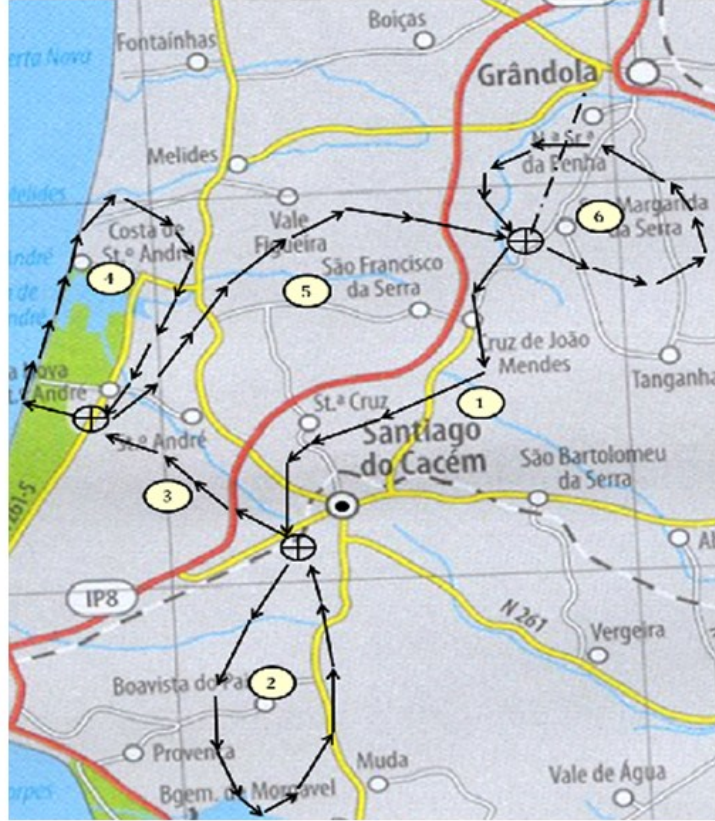
Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Herdade das Barradas da Serra (in 2023); at Monte das Faias (in 2024)

#### Day 8 (Sunday): Departure

After breakfast, transfer back to Lisbon and departure.

Meals included: Breakfast



#### Non Riders

Non-riding companions are welcome to join this trip. It is best to have a car in order to do some sightseeing while the rest of the group explores on horseback.

#### Other Info

**Meeting:** Grandola

**Airport:** Lisbon

**Transfer:** From Lisbon airport included at 5:30PM

**Distance:** 115 km

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is from Lisbon Airport/ Humberto Delgado Airport (LIS) only. Pick-up is scheduled for 5:30pm on Day 1 of the trip. Drop-off on the last day is scheduled for an arrival at the airport in Lisbon around 10:30 AM.

**Tack:** Portugese cavalry saddle like English Endurance with sheepskin

**Horses:** Lusitanos

**Pace:** 4-6 hrs Pace Moderate, long canters

Walk | Trot | Canter |

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

**Weight:** 188 lbs / 85 kg

**Riders:** Min 5 riders Max 10 riders

## Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-PTPATD

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 6 riding days, Dolphin watching, Luggage transfers

### Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2026	8 day trip (high)	€2010	\$2210
	Single supplement	€630	\$695
B 2026	8 day trip (low)	€1820	\$2005
	Single supplement	€580	\$640

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

Rates Note: Triple rooms are not possible.

### Transfer Option

#### Description

2026	Transfer from Lisbon at 5:30	€100	\$110
2026	Small group supplement (4 pax only) +10%		
2026	Small group supplement (3 pax only) +25%		
2026	Small group supplement (2 pax only) – please inquire		
2026	Non-rider – please inquire		

#### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	06/14/2026 - 06/21/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	06/28/2026 - 07/05/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	07/05/2026 - 07/12/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	08/16/2026 - 08/23/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	08/23/2026 - 08/30/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	10/18/2026 - 10/25/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	10/25/2026 - 11/01/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2026	11/08/2026 - 11/15/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)

Min/Max: 5/10

Rates do not include: Alcoholic beverages at dinner or from from bar, Gratuities, Airport Transfers

## Rates and Dates 2027 - IT-PTPATD

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 6 riding days, Dolphin watching, Luggage transfers

### Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2027	8 day trip (high)	€2070	\$2485
	Single supplement	€650	\$780
B 2027	8 day trip (low)	€1880	\$2255
	Single supplement	€600	\$720

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

Rates Note: Triple rooms are not possible.

### Transfer Option

#### Description

2027	Transfer from Lisbon at 5:30	€100	\$110
2027	Small group supplement (4 pax only) +10%		
2027	Small group supplement (3 pax only) +25%		
2027	Small group supplement (2 pax only) – please inquire		
2027	Non-rider – please inquire		

#### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
B 2027	02/14/2027 - 02/21/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (low)
B 2027	02/28/2027 - 03/07/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (low)
B 2027	03/07/2027 - 03/14/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (low)
A 2027	06/13/2027 - 06/20/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2027	06/27/2027 - 07/04/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2027	07/04/2027 - 07/11/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2027	08/22/2027 - 08/29/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
A 2027	08/29/2027 - 09/05/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (high)
B 2027	10/24/2027 - 10/31/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (low)
B 2027	10/31/2027 - 11/07/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (low)
B 2027	11/14/2027 - 11/21/2027	8d / 7n	8 day trip (low)

Min/Max: 5/10

Rates do not include: Alcoholic beverages at dinner or from from bar, Gratuities, Airport Transfers

# 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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Pacific Standard Time

