



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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Wild Coast Horse Trail - South Africa, Southern Africa

Tour Code: IT-SART12
8 days / 7 nights ~\$3,595.00
Dates: Available all Year

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

Tack: Liversage trail & endurance saddles w/...
Horses: Mainly Boerperd, Thoroughbred, & home ...
Pace: All paces 4-5 hrs per day (30-40km da...
Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: East London Airport



Introduction

Wild Coast, South Africa
Explore the rugged, unspoiled natural beauty of the Wild Coast of South Africa. Miles and miles of empty beaches, remote rural villages, spectacular country side and fantastic riding!

A malaria-free area, the Wild Coast offers unparalleled riding experiences over rocky headlands, through the rolling hills of the former homeland of the Transkei and along vast tracts of unoccupied golden beaches.

This trail takes riders along the coast from Kei Mouth into the southern region of the Wild Coast, staying at coastal hotels along the way which provide comfortable, unpretentious stop-overs for horse and rider alike! The ride is carefully planned to ensure optimum riding experience balanced with rest periods for our hard-working horses whose responsiveness and enthusiasm is complemented by their fitness and stamina.

Accommodation

Accommodations

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

Description

The hotels used by the trails offer a series of quaint accommodation all with a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Only accessible by others by dirt road or airstrip, they offer a break away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Each hotel has something special to offer, from stunning views, river boat trips, rickety rope bridges and whale and dolphin watching from the bar. All hotels will be well remembered even after a fleeting visit. The hotels are comfortable, old fashioned, family sea side resorts, that are made for sandy feet, sun kissed skin, wind blown hair and they welcome us horse riders with informal relaxed Wild Coast hospitality. All rooms have private bathrooms and WIFI on site.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Kei Mouth Guest Lodge
Night 2: Seagulls Hotel
Night 3: Wavecrest Hotel
Night 4 & 5: Kob Inn
Night 6: Wavecrest Hotel
Night 7: Kei Mouth Guest Lodge



Kei Mouth Guest Lodge

Situated in the village of Kei Mouth and is a short distance away from the horse yard. There are several lovely rooms available for our riding guests, all with modern en-suite shower and toilets, tea making facilities, and everything else expected in a Bed & Breakfast guest lodge. The lodge is within walking distance to the supermarket, pubs, restaurants, the beach, the Kei River & ferry crossing. Laundry is available for an additional fee.

Seagulls Hotel

This 4-star hotel offers amazing ocean views. The newly renovated rooms are dotted around the property, offering a tranquil and charming space. Each room is fitted with a TV, ensuite bathroom, a patio, a fan and free Wi-Fi internet. Guests are welcome to relax in the outdoor pool.





Kob Inn

Kob Inn

It is on the rocks on the edge of the sea. This is a lovely hotel.



Wavecrest Hotel

Wavecrest Hotel

Stunningly situated, the thatched rondavels make this a very nice retreat. Both pools and hot tubs are available at your disposal. There is a table tennis room, jungle gym and sand-pit, tennis court, squash court and a fishing jetty. Feel free to book some time at the spa (fees not included) for some extra relaxation.

Room Occupancy

Single supplement fee is waived if you are willing to share.



Meals

All meals are included from lunch on Day 1 to breakfast on the last day.

Breakfast is hearty, with a selection of cereals, fruit, yogurt, toast, and the traditional bacon and eggs.

Lunch is varied, sometimes light, a choice from a pub lunch menu, or picnic while out riding.

Dinner is normally around 7:00pm and will consist of a starter, main dish of roast meat/ chicken or casserole-type dish with vegetables, followed by a dessert.

Alcohol is not included, but can be purchased.

Dietary Restrictions

The hotels can cater to a limited degree for vegetarians and gluten intolerance or a food allergy, with prior notice. It is assumed that people with "special needs" will simply leave what they don't want to eat, choose something from what is available or bring an alternative with them.

There is generally a selection at meal times, and for the most part food is prepared from fresh produce. We are situated in a remote area, and access to special milk or fancy alternatives is difficult to source.





Riding



Riding Experience

This trip is suitable for strong intermediate and advanced riders only as some days are 30 to 40 km in the saddle, along fast beaches & challenging terrain! Our holiday is for riders who have ridden before and are comfortable and confident at a trot, canter, and gallop, and who can control their horse independently and in open areas. If in doubt, it is a good idea to contact us and discuss your needs and expectations.

Pace

The trail pace varies from walking through the country side to enable good wild life viewing, long trots and canters on open plains, to fast gallops down the beaches if wanted. We generally ride 2 to 3 hours in the morning and again 1 ½ to 2 hours in the afternoon, depending on the weather, sea tides and what the riders can manage. Sometimes it is a little shorter, and sometimes a little longer.

On some days we cover 30 to 40 km in the saddle, along beaches & challenging terrain. We will ride a total of 190 km over 6 riding days.

Horses

Our horses are of a very high quality, endurance fit and well schooled. They are selected and trained for trail riding with great care. Just as your guides are professional and know the area in which they operate, the horses are familiar with the environment and conditions in which they are being ridden. They are sturdy, comfortable to ride, beautiful, forgiving, easy to ride and control, yet lively to command and enjoy their work. Athletic and barefoot, they take you over a wide range of terrain.

Many of our horses are homebred and include Arabs, Anglo Arabs, Arab/ Percheron crosses and of course the trusty Boerperd. The average height of our horses is about 15.2hh. We find that for trail riders this is a good size horse- making them light and sure-footed along the sandy beaches and rocky headlands.

All types of riders can be catered for, from those that would appreciate gentle, confidence givers to people that like a horse with a lot of personality!

Tack

The saddles are especially designed for trail riding by Leon Liversage. The saddle distributes the weight equally on the horses back and is very comfortable for the rider. The design with a high pommel and cantle makes one sit straight automatically and is therefore better for you and the horse. Each horse has its own saddle to ensure a comfortable-and perfect fit.

Each saddle is equipped with a splash-proof saddlebag carrying 2 water bottles and can hold a camera and other essentials while out riding for the day. The tack and equipment is scrupulously maintained.

Riding Helmet

Helmets are mandatory for this trip. We have a selection, but it is always best to bring your own to ensure a good fit.

Guides

Your professional guides and hosts will receive you with true South African hospitality, having lived their whole lives in this area they ensure that you get the most from your adventure into the malaria-free Eastern Cape Province. Their high standard of service, love of horses, and passion for what they do make this horse-riding holiday exceptional. The guides are expert and the staff will pamper you.

This is a full service riding holiday. Your guides and grooms will prepare the horses for you in the morning and take care of them after the ride. You just show up and enjoy - unless of course you want to get involved - the choice is yours.

Itinerary





Sample Itinerary - *subject to changes*

Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival

On arrival at East London Airport, you will be transferred to Kei Mouth. A light lunch is served, after which you will change into your riding clothes and head to the horse paddocks where you'll meet your horses. A short introductory ride gives you the chance to get to know your horse and blow away some of those travelling cobwebs. A relaxed, friendly evening meal awaits you back at the guesthouse along with a good night's sleep.

Meals included: Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Kei Mouth Guest Lodge

Day 2 (Sunday): Kei Mouth to Qolora

Now your horse-riding adventure starts in earnest! After breakfast, you'll head back to the paddocks to mount up ready for a short ride down to the Kei River. Here, you and your horse will climb aboard the historic ferry and head over the river into the Old Transkei - where the real Wild Coast begins! The morning will be full of excitement and exploration as you ride over rocky headlands and discover freedom on the long, empty beaches. The ride will take you through forests and rolling hills to a hidden waterfall where you can enjoy a picnic lunch and one of the most scenic swims you're ever likely to encounter! The afternoon ride meanders back towards the coast where Seagulls Hotel awaits with cold beers and a friendly beach vibe. Here you can stretch your legs on the beach, cool down in the pool, or simply sit and enjoy the sound of the waves as they crash into shore. The evening promises a generous meal, and the chance to share stories with your fellow riders. Our unhurried itinerary gives you plenty of time to explore the hotel and the nearby beaches.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Seagulls Hotel

Day 3 (Monday): Qolora to Mazeppa Bay

You will awake to the sound of the sea and the sense of solitude that comes with sleeping on the edge of Africa. After a hearty breakfast, it's time to move up the coast to Wavecrest Hotel and Spa.

A brisk morning ride sees you traversing rolling hills, clambering up rocky outcrops, and enjoying never-ending canter along unspoilt sandy beaches. Friendly locals greet you as you pass through rural settlements that remain largely untouched by time.

You'll encounter several inland river drifts, open grasslands, and winding sandy paths before veering back towards the sea where the warm hospitality of Wavecrest Hotel awaits.

With its traditional thatched cottages and breathtaking views, Wavecrest is a favourite among guides and guests alike. After a light lunch, the afternoon is yours to explore, or relax as you wish. Soothe aching muscles at the Wavecrest spa, explore the river on a kayak, or brave the restless waves of the Indian Ocean - let the spirit of the Wild Coast guide you!

As the sun dips below the horizon, the group will reconvene for sundowners to celebrate the day's journey. Later, you'll enjoy a simple meal of home-cooked local dishes - the perfect end to a day of Wild Coast adventures.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Wavecrest Hotel

Day 4 (Tuesday): Mazeppa Bay to Qwaninga River

The tides dictate the next leg of your adventure as you embark on a fast-paced ride to your most remote destination - Kob Inn. Heading inland, you'll cross several rivers before dropping back onto the beach for some exhilarating canter and thrilling stretches along pristine shorelines.

Enjoy breakfast "on the hoof" as you traverse the ever-changing landscape that is the Wild Coast. From rolling hills and open grasslands to narrow winding cattle paths that hover over the crashing waves below, you'll experience a living tapestry of land and sea.

With one final river crossing under your belt, you'll arrive at Kob Inn just in time for lunch. In the afternoon you can relax and soak up the laid-back hospitality of another coastal treasure. With a pub on the rocks overlooking the wild seas and sheltered private beaches on either side, this is an exquisite location in which to kick back and truly embrace 'Africa time'.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Kob Inn Hotel

Day 5 (Wednesday): Beach Ride

After an afternoon of relaxation, you should be fresh and ready for a full day in the saddle. Once again, the tides dictate the day's schedule which will take you about 20 km up the coast along sheltered beaches into hidden coves and beautiful lagoons.

Your guide will select a suitable spot for you to enjoy a picnic and possibly even a swim in a lagoon before heading back to Kob Inn for an evening of delicious dining and maybe a few cocktails!

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Kob Inn Hotel

Day 6 (Thursday): Qwaninga River to KwaGcaleka

Time is flying by and it's already time to turn around and head back down the coast. Once more, the timing of the day's riding will depend on the tides as you cross rivers, climb hills and speed along beaches on your way to Wavecrest Hotel. After a good +/- 30km ride, the afternoon is yours to enjoy as you wish, whether that's another massage at the Wavecrest spa; or a canoe trip into the rare mangrove forests that line the Ngqusi and Nxaxo Rivers. More South African coastal hospitality awaits you as you relax and allow yourself to be spoiled by the caring Wavecrest staff.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Wavecrest Hotel

Day 7 (Friday): KwaGcaleka to Kei Mouth

The penultimate day of your adventure is full of riding with fast-paced stretches along the beach, winding canter through the grasslands, and some technical sections that will put your newfound partnership with your horse to the test.

Soak up every moment of the adventure as you traverse narrow coastal paths, and shallow river crossings that sparkle in the sunlight, and weave through scattered rural homesteads where children wave excitedly as you pass.

This varied terrain showcases the full tapestry of Wild Coast riding, demanding concentration and skill while rewarding you with ever-changing vistas that capture the untamed essence of this remarkable coastline.

Stop off at one of the coastal hotels for a much-needed break and a chance to refuel, before continuing your journey to the Kei River where the ferry awaits.

The ride ends with a quick trot through the village, or a final canter along the Kei Mouth beach depending on the tide, before arriving back at the paddock where your horse will receive some well-earned pampering and a hearty meal.

You're in for some similar treatment as you head to the local restaurant, The Yard, to sample some of the region's best seafood as you soak up the laid-back atmosphere and relive the week's adventures. With its delicious seafood and warm hospitality, The Yard is the perfect place to unwind after an unforgettable ride.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Kei Mouth Guest Lodge

Day 8 (Saturday): Departure day

Depending on your departure time, you could squeeze in one more ride before the shuttle picks you up to transfer you back to the airport.

Meals included: Breakfast

Note: All riding and itineraries are subject to change due to variations in local conditions, hotel accommodation availability, rider's abilities, the weather & the influences of the sea tides and during the rainy season the conditions of the rivers.



Other Info

Meeting: Kei Mouth

Airport: East London Airport

Transfer: East London Airport

Distance: 60 miles

Pick-up/ drop-off is available from East London Airport (ELS) for an extra fee. We recommend you take the SA471 from Johannesburg arriving in East London at 11.35am. On the last day, you can be dropped off at the airport for 10:00am or 3:00pm.

Tack: Livresage trail & endurance saddles with snaffle mouths

Horses: Mainly Boerperd, Thoroughbred, & home bred Anglo/Part Arabs and Percheron crosses.

Pace: All paces 4- 5 hrs per day (30-40km daily). 190km total

Walk | Trot | Canter |

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

Weight: 210 lbs / 95 kg

Riders: Min 2 riders Max 8 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

Rates and Dates 2027 - IT-SART12

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, Back-up and luggage transfers, Groom and professional guide services & 6 riding days

Packages and Options

Season	Description	ZAR	~US\$
A 2027	8 day	R65945	\$4285

The US Dollar Rate is based on a ZAR Exchange Rate of 0.065 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

2027	Transfer from East London airport, per car - please inquire
2027	No single supplement but subject to availability -- please inquire

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2027	01/20/2027 - 01/27/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	02/17/2027 - 02/24/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	03/06/2027 - 03/13/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	04/04/2027 - 04/11/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	05/05/2027 - 05/12/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	06/16/2027 - 06/23/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	07/03/2027 - 07/10/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	08/01/2027 - 08/08/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	08/29/2027 - 09/05/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	09/15/2027 - 09/22/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	09/29/2027 - 10/06/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	10/13/2027 - 10/20/2027	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2027	11/13/2027 - 11/20/2027	8d / 7n	8 day

Min/Max: 2/8

Trails are scheduled throughout the year to coincide with the New or Full moon, ensuring that we get maximum low tides on the beaches and safe river crossings.

Rates do not include: Airport transfers, Drinks at restaurants and hotels, Spa treatments, Activities not mentioned in the itinerary & Gratuities

Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-SART12

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, Back-up and luggage transfers, Groom and professional guide services & 6 riding days

Packages and Options

Season	Description	ZAR	~US\$
A 2026	8 day	R59950	\$3595

The US Dollar Rate is based on a ZAR Exchange Rate of 0.06 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

2026	Transfer from East London airport, per car - please inquire
2026	No single supplement but subject to availability -- please inquire

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	05/17/2026 - 05/24/2026	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2026	06/28/2026 - 07/05/2026	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2026	08/09/2026 - 08/16/2026	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2026	09/06/2026 - 09/13/2026	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2026	10/04/2026 - 10/11/2026	8d / 7n	8 day
A 2026	11/08/2026 - 11/15/2026	8d / 7n	8 day

Min/Max: 2/8

Trails are scheduled throughout the year to coincide with the New or Full moon, ensuring that we get maximum low tides on the beaches and safe river crossings.

Rates do not include: Airport transfers, Drinks at restaurants and hotels, Spa treatments, Activities not mentioned in the itinerary & 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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