

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 Website: www.hiddentrails.com

Address

659A Moberly Road, Vancouver BC Canada V5Z 4B3 or 4406 Tennyson Road, Willmington, DE 19802 USA

Toll Free from the U.K.:

Ph: 0-808 189-0420 Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Beach Trail Getaway - South Africa, Southern Africa

Tour Code: IT-SART14 5 days / 4 nights ~\$1,470.00 Dates: Available all Year

Trip Rating:

Tack: Liversage trail & endurance saddles wi... <u>Horses:</u> Mainly Boerperd, Thoroughbred, & home ... <u>Pace:</u> All paces

Airport: East London Airport







Introduction

Wild Coast, South Africa

Do you need to get away and feel the wind in your hair and hear the pounding of hooves as they canter down an empty beach? Then our 5 day Beach Trail Getaway is the perfect escape for you!

The first afternoon you will do an introduction ride to make sure that your trail horse is a right match or you. Then you will go off on for 3 days of fabulous riding along the Wild Coast and a final ride over the cliffs of Morgan Bay. You will be accommodated in lovely beach hotels along the way.

Accomodation



Accommodations

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

escription

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. 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. Laundry is available on request for an additional fee.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability
Night 1 & 4: Kei Mouth Guest Lodge
Night 2 & 3: Wavecrest Hotel



ei 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.









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 hearly, with a selection of cereals, fruit, yogurt, toast, and the traditional bacon and eggs.

On most days, lunches are enroute and we stop off at a local restaurant, a pub or take a picnic with us.

Dinner is normally around 7:30 and will consist of a starter, main dish of roast meat/ chicken or casserole-type dish with vegetables, followed by a dessert.

Please, note that drinks & refreshments bought at the local bars, restaurants & off sales are not included in the rates!

Water bottles will be provided while out riding.

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 dont 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 trail is suitable for all levels of riders from low intermediate and above. Less experienced riders can be accommodated by splitting the riding groups. The horses are gentle and reliable enough for the holiday rider, but also of such a standard that the more experienced rider will have a good time.

Pace

The riding is paced according to the rider's abilities. Generally, we walk along cattle paths and cliff tops, take long trots and canters on sandy tracks, and enjoy fast canters and an occasional gallop along the beaches. Riding includes 2 to 4/5 hours of riding per day, split into morning & afternoon rides or a full day. 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



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.

Children

Competent child riders are welcome. We have some super ponies suitable for confident children who ride regularly. Nannies are available to take care of the little ones who are not riding.



Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1: Arrival

On arrival at East London airport, you will be transferred to Kei Mouth, the beach base of Wild Coast Horse Trails. A light lunch is served at the Kei Mouth Guest Lodge, and you will change into your riding clothes. The afternoon will take you on an hour or so ride to blow away the travelling cobwebs and assess your riding. Down by the river mouth you will have your first taste of cantering along our beautiful beaches.

Meals included: Lunch & Dinner

Overnight and dinner at Kei Mouth Guest Lodge

Day 2: Ride to Wavecrest Hotel

Today we start our overnight beach adventure! It is a full days riding along the coast, and the scenery is simply stunning. There is a good chance of spotting dolphins racing us in the surf as we canter long the many beaches. Lunch is a picnic and a chance to soak up the sun and sea before heading off the hotel in the afternoon.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight and dinner at Wavecrest Hotel

Day 3: Morning Ride & Free Afternoon

The departure time this morning is dictated by the tide. It a fantastic 3-hour ride either up the beach and back across country through rolling hills and traditional villages or the other way around, depending on the tides. Either way you get to ride on the hard, wet beach at low tide - the gallops are exhilarating. We are back at the hotel in time for lunch. Alternatively, if the weather and tides are favorable we may take a picnic. This afternoon has a choice of activities. You can take a boat trip up the river and explore the stunning mangrove estuary of the Nxaxo river by canoe or boat, hike or just kick back and relax in the Jacuzzi (extra fee) - this afternoon is flexible as there are so many options to experience!!!

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight and dinner at Wavecrest Hotel

Day 4: Ride back to Kei Mouth

Today we start our journey back to Kei Mouth. We ride inland this morning, crossing the river high up and away from the tides influence. The slay paths and track offer great canters as we wind our way back to the beach. Then we head towards Kei Mouth and the pontoon crossing before dropping the horses off at the paddocks before we have a late lunch at one of the local restaurants.

Then it is a time to wander back to the guest house, and your final night on the Wild Coast.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight and dinner at Kei Mouth Guest Lodge

Day 5: Departure

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

Please 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: Liversage trail & endurance saddles with snaffle mouths

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

crosses. Pace: All paces

Level: (2.5 to 4 out of 5) Low Intermediate+

Weight: 220 lbs / 100 kg

Riders: Min 2 riders Max 8 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

Rates and Dates 2025 - IT-SART14

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, Back-up and luggage transfers, Groom and professional guide services & 3 riding days

Packages and Options

Season	Description	ZAR	~US\$
A 2025	5 days	R24500	\$0

The US Dollar Rate is based on a ZAR Exchange Rate of 0 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

2025 Transfer from East London airport, per car - please inquire
2025 No single supplement but subject to availability – please inquire

Tour Dates

Seaso	on	Tour Dates		
A 20	025	01/10/2025 - 01/14/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	02/24/2025 - 02/28/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	25	03/10/2025 - 03/14/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	03/31/2025 - 04/04/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	04/28/2025 - 05/02/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	05/26/2025 - 05/30/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	06/23/2025 - 06/27/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	07/21/2025 - 07/25/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	08/18/2025 - 08/22/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	09/22/2025 - 09/26/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20)25	10/20/2025 - 10/24/2025	5d / 4n	5 days
A 20	025	11/17/2025 - 11/21/2025	5d / 4n	5 days

Min/Max: 2/8

Dates on request for groups of 4+ pax (subject to availability)

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

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-SART14

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, Back-up and luggage transfers, Groom and professional guide services & 3 riding days

Packages and Options

Season	Description	ZAR	~US\$
A 2024	5 days	R21000	\$1470

The US Dollar Rate is based on a ZAR Exchange Rate of 0.07 and subject to currency fluctuation

Transfer Option

Description

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

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Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	01/29/2024 - 02/02/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	03/11/2024 - 03/15/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	03/25/2024 - 03/29/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	04/22/2024 - 04/26/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	05/20/2024 - 05/24/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	07/08/2024 - 07/12/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	08/05/2024 - 08/09/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	09/02/2024 - 09/06/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	09/30/2024 - 10/04/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	10/28/2024 - 11/01/2024	5d / 4n	5 days
A 2024	11/21/2024 - 11/25/2024	5d / 4n	5 days

Min/Max: 2/8

Dates on request for groups of 4+ pax (subject to availability)

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

Reservation Form

Tour:	Code #:	fron	: to :
The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)	Male Female Single room / or tent Birth Date	Height Weight	
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
Special Diets:			
Your fitness level: Excellent Moderate	Poor How	long have you b	een riding?
How often do you ride?	Have you been on ot	her riding tours?	No Yes last trip when?
If Hidden Trails offers a transfer from the local	al airport/station: I wo	ould like the trai	sfer to be included: YES NO
In an emergency, name and phone number of	f contact:		
Attention: Please, if there is more than one p	participant, all have to	sign the reserva	tion form - make copies if needed
I made all participants aware of the risk involuding the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and brochure or as listed on the Internet. I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational Actual Name and First Name (The Traveler)	d the Hidden Trails Re Activity Release and Inc	creational Activi	ty Release and Indemnity Agreement in this
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Phone (wk) (hm) Date Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to my	Signature (manda r person) now and y credit card.	eeli mut	
Phone (wk) (hm)	Signature (manda r person) now and y credit card.	atory) 1. Additional	Fax
Phone (wk) (hm) Date Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to my	Signature (manda r person) now and y credit card.	atory) 1. Additional 2.	Fax Signatures:
Phone (wk) (hm)	Signature (mandar person) now and y credit card. (no debit cards)	Additional 2. 3.	Fax Signatures:
Phone (wk) (hm)	Signature (mandar person) now and y credit card. (no debit cards)	Additional 2. 3.	Fax Signatures:
Phone (wk) (hm)	Signature (mandar person) now and y credit card. () (no debit cards)	Additional 2. 3. 4.	Fax Signatures:

Hidden Trails Ltd. 659A Moberly Road Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3 FAX: 604-323-1148 Phone: 604-323-1141

