

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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from within the USA or Canada or

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Website: www.hiddentrails.com

Address:

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4406 Tennyson Road, Wilmington, DE 19802 USA

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Ph: 0- 808 189-0420

Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Ride and Swim in Catalonia - Spain, Europe

Tour Code: IT-SPCA04

7 days / 6 nights ~\$1,970.00

Dates: June to August

Trip Rating: ●●●●●

Difficulty: ●●●●●

Lodging: ●●●

Tack: Trail saddles

Horses: Andalusian, Andalusian

Cross and Spani...

Pace: Moderate with extended trots and nice ...

Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Barcelona, Girona



Introduction

Catalonia, Spain

A Special trail from the Pyrenees to the Mediterranean Sea with daily opportunities to swim in fresh water lakes, rivers and finally in the salt water sea. On one day we can even swim with our horses. We pass through deep stone oak and pine forests on secluded paths, where we find our first pool deep within the Mediterranean forest, where a waterfall splashes from high above. The atmosphere reminds us of Costa Rica. On long canters we pass through the valley of the river Fluvia up to the foot hills of the Pyrenees. Here we enter deep into a mixed forest providing shade. At the mountain stream Manol we again discover a huge pool - perfect for swimming! Deeper and deeper we ride into the nature reserve of Garrotxa and then descend to the most beautiful natural pool in the Pre-Pyrenees, with turquoise and crystal clear river water, where we swim and have a picnic! Following high paths with beautiful views of the Mediterranean, we come to a new vegetation zone - chestnut and cork oak forests cover the mountains here. In the middle of the Pyrenees we stay overnight in the pretty wooden houses of Can Roquet. We take a dip in the pool and while we are having our evening meal on the terrace, we have a fantastic panoramic view of the surrounding mountains. The next day our swim will be in a mountain lake and it's a dream comes true - we can go for a swim with the horses! The next day we quickly trot through a soft hilly landscape with its broad forests and meadows. The sweet-smelling pine forest and the soil with a tinge of red remind us of Arizona. In front of us, the plateau of the Alt Emporda opens. The next day we reach the Mediterranean. Our strong Andalusian horses manage the mountains easily and in the afternoon, we descend to the picturesque fisherman's bay. We have reached salt water and can have a swim in the sea! On the terrace of the hotel we conclude the wonderful trail with good wine and a delicious meal.

Highlights of the trip

- Trail riding in Catalonia from mountains to sea!
- Crystal clear mountain streams – a picnic each day next to water
- A unique experience: swimming with the horses
- Riding through silvery cork forests
- Fantastically long canters in the wide valley
- Swimming in salty and fresh air
- Breathtaking panoramic views of the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean Sea

Accommodation



Accommodations

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

Description

You will experience a special feeling of Catalonia in our accommodations, which offer you a cozy ambience in carefully chosen country guest houses, pensions, and friendly family-run hotels. Far away from mass tourism you will be spoiled by attentive hosts with local specialties. The rooms, mostly with private bath (1-2 nights' accommodation may be with a shared shower and toilet), are charmingly furnished and you almost feel at home.

WiFi is available at some accommodations. Laundry is not available for this trip.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1 & 2: Country House in Romanya d'Emporda

Night 3: Hotel in Sant Llorenç de la Muga

Night 4: Hotel in Darnius

Night 5: Country House in Peralada

Night 6: Hotel in Llançà

Country House in Romanya d'Emporda

This lovely stonewall country house used to be a water mill (built in the 17th century) and is surrounded by nature. The main house has 3 rooms with private baths and there is an annex with 2 extra rooms and 1 bathroom. Guests can choose to relax in the reading room or TV room or they can enjoy the beautiful garden. There is free Wi-Fi access at this property.

Hotel in Sant Llorenç de la Muga

This small hotel offers simple accommodation as well as a small garden and terrace. Each room is equipped with a TV, free Wi-Fi access and ensuite bathroom.

Hotel in Darnius

This beautiful building was originally an hydro-electric power plant. It was recently restored into a boutique hotel but the original charm was kept. The 21 bedrooms all feature a modern decor, internet access, air conditioning, a flat-screen TV and private facilities.

After a long day in the saddle, guests can choose to go for a swim or enjoy a relaxing walk in the garden.

Country House in Peralada



Tonight, you sleep in an old farmhouse from the 14th century with a lot of charm. All rooms have air conditioning / heating and their own bathroom. Guests are welcome to relax in the living room or on the terrace, to admire the beautiful view. There is also a small outdoor pool and free Wi-Fi access throughout the house.

Hotel in Llança

For your last night, you sleep in a 3-star hotel with a lovely garden and an outdoor pool. The air conditioned rooms are comfortable and all include a TV, a safe, free internet access and a private bathroom.

Room Occupancy

Single rooms cannot always be guaranteed though booked. If a previously confirmed single room is not available, the guest is entitled to a refund of the price paid for those nights.

Those booked as 'willing to share' will not have to pay the single supplement fee only if we are able to find a rider of the same gender to share. If we have not found someone to share 60 days prior to the trip start, then the single supplement fee applies.



Meals

Lunches and meals eaten at the restaurant are not included in the base price and an 80 euros fee needs to be paid locally at your first dinner. Please note we only accept Euros!

You will get to know the food culture of the region through the lovingly prepared dishes from fish, game, vegetables and fruits. This experience is refined by the fine wine from the growing areas of the Empordà - your taste buds will not be neglected on this journey!

During lunch breaks, you will be cared for with your saddle-bag picnics or a three-course meal prepared by our trail assistants in a beautiful setting surrounded by nature with great attention to detail.

We would like to point out that due to the pandemic, three-course table picnics cannot be served at the moment.

Our guests will be provided with fresh packed lunches (sandwiches with good fillings, fruit, something to crunch and a sweet for dessert, juice and water, etc.) by the riding operator or the hotels (exception when restaurant stops are stated for midday for which there will be no changes). The lunch packs will be carried by each guest in their saddle bags and will then be eaten at the usual rest stops during the lunch break.

During dinner at the hotels or meals at restaurants (at restaurants normally choose from the offered menu), clients will have the chance to taste various Spanish delicacies.

Dinner on the arrival day is at approximately 9:00pm.

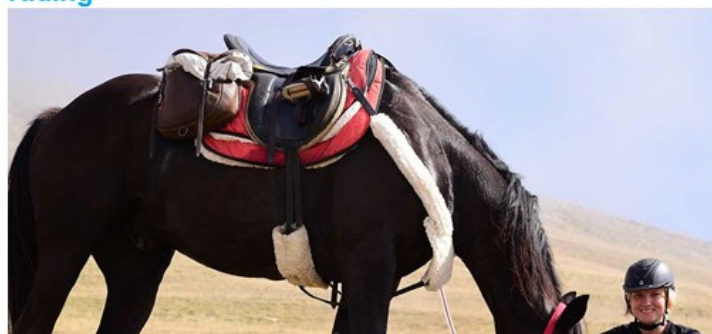
Breakfast on the last day is at approximately 9:00am.

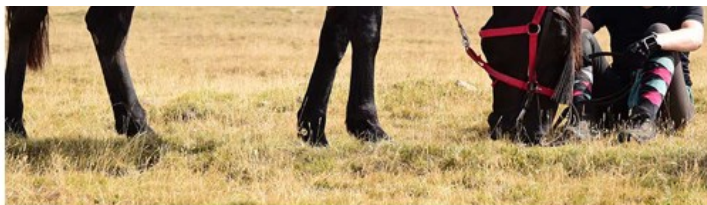
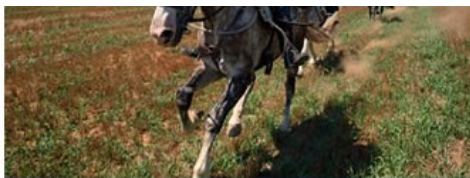
Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions such as vegan, gluten, and lactose-free food. Please inform us with your booking if you have special diet requirements!



Riding





Riding Experience

This trip is suitable for strong intermediate riders and above. Riders need to be safe on a well-trained horse at all paces - including a long rising trot and canter. Equestrian experience in open country is also appreciated. Participants should be fit enough to spend several hours in the saddle every day. On rare occasions, we have to lead our horses, so you need suitable footwear.

Riding Terrain

Along the rivers, you will ride through the Mediterranean Pre-Pyrenees to the Mediterranean Sea. The trail includes mountainous and flat terrain in the valleys and plains. On two of the days the horses have to be led by us. Comfortable walking shoes are very helpful for approximately 30-minute descents.

Pace

Over five days, you will spend between 5-7 hours in the saddle and on one day we ride for 4 hours.

The riding pace is very mixed. Lively canters and interesting climbing with the horses gives this trail ride a sporty character for active riders.

At lunchtime there is a delicious picnic and you have time to relax and have a siesta after eating.

Horses

Our horses have a good life! They are kept in a natural herd setting.

Our horses are selected for their appropriate temperament and a lot of time is spent on training them, so our happy Spanish horses make absolutely reliable and sure-footed companions for you. Each of our "Spaniards" has a unique character, but they have one thing in common: they are high performance athletes.

A choice of around 40 lovely and reliable Andalusian and Spanish horses is waiting for you, to make your riding holiday a unique experience!

Tack

We ride on high quality trail saddles, specially made for long distance riding! In cooperation with the saddler 'Hidalgo' we have developed the perfect trail saddle that is very comfortable and safe for both horse and rider.

Our saddle cloths are also self-produced and hand made with the best materials, such as medical "anti-pressure sore fleece" which offers ideal conditions for our horses' backs.

During the trails, each rider is provided with a hand crafted saddlebag, which is also made to our specification based on our trail riding experience.

Trail riding without transfers

Travel with your horse. Staying in accommodation close to your horse is our philosophy, so on all trails the horses graze nearby. No annoying transfers along winding roads. After an exciting riding day, horses and riders can rest comfortably.

Age Restriction

Accompanied by an adult, teenagers from 12 years on can join our horse riding holidays. Anyone over 16 years of age can join our horse riding holidays without being accompanied by an adult. The youth should have good riding skills. Prior agreement must be obtained. Approval from the parent or legal guardian must be provided.

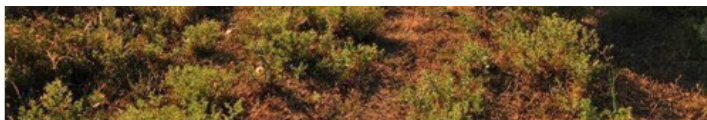
Guides

The trails are carefully developed. On remote paths and lanes our friendly trail guides show you a wonderful and unknown Catalonia. The trail leaders are experienced riders and hold a trail leader license. Guides and helpers know the horses, the area and the Catalan/Spanish culture.



Itinerary





Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Note: This itinerary is a general guideline and in order to offer our customers the best riding holiday experience we often makes changes. Depending on the season, the weather and national holidays, we may make alterations to itineraries at short-notice. Trails can be ridden in both directions. We endeavour to ensure that our high standards of quality are maintained and reflected in the alternatives we choose.

Day 1: Arrival

Arrival in Barcelona or Girona and transfer to your first night accommodation, a beautiful country house. Depending on the season you may stay at an alternative guesthouse of a similar standard nearby. A delicious evening meal around 9:00pm and overnight stay with views of the surroundings. The unique light transforms the surroundings into a picturesque painting!

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Country House in Romanya d'Emporda

Day 2: Catalan Jungle

From the Mas Alba horse farm, we ride along secluded paths through dense peaks and pine forests. A soothing peace surrounds us - our trail riding holiday can begin! Deep in the forest we discover tropical vegetation, like in a jungle. The atmosphere reminds us of Costa Rica. In the floodplains of the river Fluvia, we discover under shady trees a lovely prepared lunch table with Catalan delicacies. Cold Cava is served and afterwards you can relax during a "siesta".

Our way takes us through the wide valley of the river Fluvia with a magnificent view of the surrounding mountains of Catalonia.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Overnight at Country House in Romanya d'Emporda

Day 3: Pyrenees

Along the Catalan Pyrenean coast, we dive deep into a shady mixed forest. In a lonely valley, a small mountain stream splatters peacefully. We have a bathe! - A jump into the luminous water pool refreshes us and after the from the Mediterranean sun heated rocks warm us up. We have a delicious saddle bag picnic near to the wild river!

Our Spanish horses climb hard and confidently over a pass with a magnificent panorama view on the high peaks of the Pyrenees. We stay near a pretty mountain village on the edge of the river Muga. You will be impressed by David's culinary art!

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Sant Llorenç de la Muga

Day 4: Swimming with the horses

Today we want to bathe in a lake! We cross a cork oak forest that disperses a silvery light. The sandy ground invites us to canter fast, and soon we will have reached our bathing spot. A dream comes true. We can go swimming with the horses!

After the picnic, we ride along a high pass. The view of the lake and the sea is marvelous. Our accommodation for tonight is situated in an enchanting village.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Sant Llorenç de la Muga

Day 5: Muga River & thermal springs

Today we get up early. The landscape is dominated by ancient olive trees and vineyards. We are impressed by the beautiful light. Later, we encounter the river "Muga" with its icy water. Thermal water accumulates within a secluded section of the river. Here we go swimming!

After lunch, we reach a medieval town. Surrounded by old castle walls is our rural inn. At the end of the day, we enjoy delicious Catalan delicacies and drink the Catalan dessert wine "Garnatxa" in a typical village bar! Salut!

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Darnius

Day 6: Riding to the sea

Our Andalusian horses cross the coastal mountains of Rodas with ease. We descend to a picturesque bay on the Wild Coast to reach the beach! We swim in the saltwater and taste the salt on our skin!

After our break by the sea, we arrive at our hotel. Bizarre rock formations along the Costa Brava dive sharply into the sea. The view of the turquoise blue, shimmering Mediterranean Sea is terrific.

Up on the terrace of a restaurant near the beach, we enjoy a delicious fish dish with good wine and let this wonderful trail finish in style.

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

Overnight in Llançà

Day 7: Hasta la vista

Breakfast at 9:00am, then transfer to the airports

Meals included: Breakfast





Other Info

Meeting: Crespà

Airport: Barcelona, Girona

Transfer: Barcelona airport at 5:30 pm, Girona airport at 6:30 pm

Pick-up / drop-off is available from Barcelona El Prat Airport (BCN) or Girona Costa Brava Airport (GRO) for an extra fee.

On Day 1, pick-up from Barcelona El Prat Airport (BCN) at for 5:30pm or from Girona Costa Brava Airport (GRO) at 6:30pm.

On last day, return flights from Barcelona Airport are OK after 2:30 PM and return flights from Girona Airport are OK after 1:00 PM!

Tack: Trail saddles

Horses: Andalusian, Andalusian Cross and Spanish

Pace: Moderate with extended trots and nice canters. 5-7 hours in the saddle per day.

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3.5 to 4 out of 5) Strong Intermediate

Age: Min 12

Weight: 200 lbs / 90 kg

Riders: Min 4 riders Max 8 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-SPCA04

Rates include: Accommodations, Most meals, 5 riding days, Tax on tourist establishments, Luggage transportation & Local transfers during trip
Some helmets can be borrowed

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	7 day trip	€1790	\$1970

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

Rates Note:Single rooms cannot always be guaranteed. If a previously confirmed single room is not available, the guest is entitled to a refund of the price paid for those nights surcharge.
Transfers only payable in cash.

Transfer Option

Description

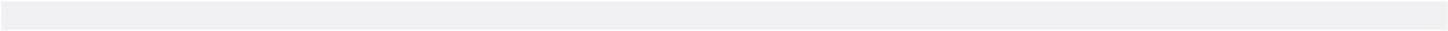
2024	Transfer from/to Barcelona airport, return (5:30 PM, last day drop off around 12:30 PM)	€150	\$165
2024	Transfer from/to Girona, return (6:30 PM, last day drop off around 11:00 AM)	€120	\$130
2024	Bringing your own car	€60	\$65
2024	Single supplement (on request)	€240	\$265
2024	Restaurants fee, pp (mandatory)	€150	\$165

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/02/2024 - 06/08/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2024	06/24/2024 - 06/30/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2024	07/15/2024 - 07/21/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2024	08/11/2024 - 08/17/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2024	08/18/2024 - 08/24/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip

Min/Max: 4/8

Rates do not include:Airport transfers (payable by cash locally), Entrance fees to Museums and Monuments, Drinks and snacks, Meals at restaurant (board fee €150, payable by cash at first dinner - mandatory) & 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 Inter.	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"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<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 _____

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