

# **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 Moberty 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

# La Barra to Garzon Ride - Uruguay, South America

Tour Code: IT-URRT03 8 days / 7 nights ~\$5,750.00 Dates: All year round

Trip Rating : •••••
Difficulty : ••••
Lodging: •••

Tack: South American saddles w/ sheepskin (s... Horses: Uruguayan Criollo and crosses of Urugu... Pace: Can accommodate all riding levels. Bet...

#### Airport: Punta del Este Airport





#### Introduction

Uruguay, Uruguay

Uruguay is a small friendly country full of experiences; a country to enjoy the simple things of life (which sometimes turn out to be the greatest)! You can relax and enjoy things like good fresh food cultivated by locals, a cooking class with a worldwide famous local chef who will received you at his home, fine good wines made by passionate owners, virgin beaches, music from the heart like Tango and Candombe.

In the native traditions that existed in our lands before the arrival of the Spaniards, the horse was a symbol of power, endurance and freedom. In those cultures, the horse signified loyalty, love and the unwavering faith of the warrior spirit that understands the power achieved through true cooperation. We invite you to get to know our horses, learn how to bond with them through communication and enjoy a wonderful trip! The horse is an integral part of nature, and its passage doesn't disturb the environment around us, enabling us to enter natural reserves, forests and beaches without disturbing the animals living in these areas.

For those who wish to indulge in luxury, we offer an upgrade to this trip with exceptional accommodations.

### Accomodation

#### Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so you will be staying in different locations during the trip.

#### Description

The accommodations provided in our programs are clean, comfortable and provide a very good service. Wi-Fi is available in all accommodations.

If you are sharing your room, please let us know in advance if you prefer twin or double beds.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Fasano Locanda Hotel Night 2: Hotel San Vicente Night 3 & 4: Estancia VIK Nights 5, 6 & 7: Bahia VIK

### Fasano Locanda Hotel

This beautiful hotel opened in 2016 and provides luxurious accommodations. The hotel is set in a relaxing natural surroundings, overlooking the Maldonado River. The building was designed by a renowned architect and features only 10 rooms. Each ensuite room has a modern décor with its own private balcony, air conditioning/heating and a mini-bar. Free Wi-Fi is available.

#### Hotel San Vicente

This boutique hotel is surrounded by beautiful nature. The rooms are modern and spacious, with big windows overlooking the lake. Each room features a TV, heating and private facilities.

Wi-Fi is available in common areas

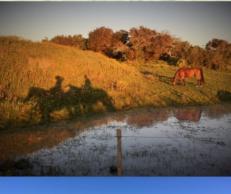


Bahia VII

Bahia VIK offers stylish accommodations in either bungalows or rooms located in the main building. The structures are modern and let plenty of light enter the rooms. Each room comes with air conditioned and their own bathroom with toiletries. The view over the ocean is relaxing and guest can also decide to go for a swim in the swimming pool. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the property.













Estancia VIK

This lovely estancia has been renovated to create a modern-chic ambiance. The property has a beautiful garden and an outdoor swimming pool. Each room is decorated with contemporary art pieces and features air conditioning, Wi-Fi access, a safe, a private bathroom and a private terrace overlooking the garden.

Accommodations are subject to changes based on availability

#### Room Occupancy

Triple occupancy possible.

If you attend as a single rider willing to share but we are unable to find another rider to share, the single supplement fee applies.



All breakfasts and lunches are included in this program. Dinners need to be paid extra, except for dinner on the last day, which is already included in your package.

All breakfasts are eaten at the accommodations where we spent the night. Lunches are picnic-style and out on horseback.

<u>Dietary Restrictions</u>
We can cater to all dietary restrictions with advanced notice.

## Riding



We can accommodate all levels (from someone who has been on a horse but who does not necessarily feel comfortable at all paces to advanced) of riding for this trip and adjust the itinerary as need-be. Groups can be separated based on riding levels. We ride between 3-6 hours per day, which can also be adjusted.

#### Horses

During our rides we work very hard to maintain the same set of horses throughout the whole tour. Our intention is that riders can actually build a bond with their horse and enjoy not only the landscape and ride but also the company of their horse. Depending on the size of the group, one or more spare horses will accompany us in







case a change is needed. The horses are the local Uruquayan Criollo breed and criollo cross, ideally suited to the terrain

We use local, 'western' type saddle with a sheepskin. Neck reining (western 'one-hand riding). Help will be given in adjusting to this tack, which is very suitable for long days in the saddle.

In case of accident, our guides will always carry a mobile phone, which they will use to contact local assistance. All of the towns along our route count on a medical emergency service.

#### Weight Restrictions

If your weight is more than 95 kilos (~210lbs) there is a surcharge so we can take an extra horse - so the weight is not too demanding for one horse.

#### Non-Riders

Non-riders are welcome on this trip. Non-riding activities include sight-seeing, hiking, fishing, surfing, biking, trekking, canoeing and bird watching.

## Itinerary



Sample Itinerary: Luxury accommodations - subject to changes

Transfer from Montevideo to your accommodation in La Barra. Start your horseback riding adventure by meeting your horse! Today we will ride along the vineyards of Aguaverde and enjoy lunch. Meals included: Lunch

Accommodation at Fasano Locanda Hotel

#### Day 2: Sculpture Park Ride

After breakfast, ride along private trails, bordering local estancias and countryside until reaching the Sculpture Park and exhibition Centre of the Atchugarry Foundation founded by Pablo Atchugarry, a renowned Uruguayan

Enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking the lake. Then, continue riding to Medellin Polo Club where our horses will spend the evening. Transfer back to your accommodation.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation at San Vicente

### Day 3: Olive oil, Wine & Ride

This morning, we ride on trails that will take us along the countryside to vineyards, olive plantations and grasslands, a unique landscape. We will enjoy a picnic lunch before continuing to Estancia VIK where we will spend the night!

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation at Estancia VIK

### Day 4: Garzon

The day begins with a drive to Bodega Garzon. After a visit to the winery with tasting, we will ride along hilly trails surrounded by landscapes of slopes and vineyards. We will ride towards the sleepy town of Garzon and discover this area known as the "Tuscany of Uruguay". In 2004, the renowned Argentinean chef Francis Mallmann and the Argentinean winemaker Manuel Mas, founded the Garzon Restaurant and Hotel which brought a new "hippie chic" spirit to the area. Word began to spread about the town's old-time charms: gauchos riding on horseback along tidy gravel streets, residents greeting one another by name, and children playing in a flower-filled central plaza. We will enjoy lunch at the local old train station.

Short transfer back to your accommodation.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation at Estancia VIK

#### Day 5: Uruguayan countryside

Today begins with a ride along private trails of local estancias and into the deep Uruguayan countryside. We will cross streams and go past various gates of neighbor estancias hoping to see deer, capybaras or American rheas. Once we get to the perfect spot, we enjoy a picnic lunch.

Our afternoon includes more riding along the countryside to Anastasio Lagoon. Short drive to your accommodation

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Accommodation at Bahia VIK

### Day 6: Water Ride

After a short drive we get back in the saddle, enjoying beautiful views over the lagoon. We will enjoy a picnic lunch before continuing our ride on the beach. We will ride up to the lakes of La Marquesa, looking for capybaras and deer

Short drive to your accommodation. Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

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#### Day 7: El Caracol Ride

The day begins with a drive to the protected area of El Caracol where we will meet our horses. We will ride across the forest towards the most eastern point of the Garzon lagoon and along the lagoon shore towards a secluded spot where we will enjoy a typical Asado lunch. In the afternoon, we will ride back along the beach to the circular bridge and then into the countryside. On arrival, we will say goodbye to our horses before heading back to the hotel.

Farewell dinner at local restaurant. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Accommodation at Bahia VIK

#### Day 8: Departure

Private transfer to Montevideo's Airport or Port after breakfast.



Non-riders are more than welcome to attend! Non-riding activities: Sight-seeing; hiking; fishing; surfing; biking; trekking; canoeing; bird watching.

### Other Info

Meeting: Aguaverde Vineyards Airport: Punta del Este Airport

Train station: -

Transfer: Punta del Este or Montevideo Airport

Distance: 35km

Transfers available from Punta del Este and Montevideo airport. Arrive in the morning of Day 1.

Check-out by 12:00pm on last day.

Tack: South American saddles w/ sheepskin (similar to Western). Western neck reining is used.

Horses: Uruguayan Criollo and crosses of Uruguayan Criollo.

Pace: Can accommodate all riding levels. Between 3-6 hours per day. Can adjust itinerary and

hours in the saddle.

Weight: 210 lbs / 95 kg

Riders: Min 2 riders Max 8 riders

# Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-URRT03

Rates include: Accommodations, All breakfasts and lunches as well as farewell dinner, 5 riding days, entrance to museums and natural reserves & Transfers as per itinerary.

**Packages and Options** 

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	8 day trip - Luxury Style	\$5750
	Single supplement Single supplement	\$2180 \$2180
B 2024	8 day trip - Summer Rates (please inquire)	\$0
C 2024	8 day trip - Small Charming Hotels	\$4795
	Single supplement	\$1195

Rates Note:Please, provide your passport information at time of booking

# **Transfer Option**

#### Description

2024	Transfers from/to Montevideo Airport included	
2024	Supplement for extra horse (riders 95+ kg)	\$295
2024	Upgrade to Deluxe room for 1st night, pp	\$220
2024	Solo rider supplement (1 pax only)	\$1965
2024	Non-rider rate - Please inquire	

#### **Tour Dates**

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	03/15/2024 - 11/30/2024	8d/7n	8 day trip - Luxury Style
B 2024	12/01/2024 - 12/31/2024	8d/7n	8 day trip - Summer Rates (please inquire)

#### Min/Max: 2/8

Best time to travel is spring and autumn.

Rates do not include: Drinks, Dinners & Gratuities

# **Reservation Form**

Tour:	Code #:	from: to :						
The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)	Male Female Single room / or tent Birth Date MM/DD/YY	eight Weight Spand de to the spand of the sp						
1.								
2.								
3.								
4.								
Special Diets:								
Your fitness level: Excellent Moderate 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)								
Stree <u>t</u>	_e-	mai <u>l</u>						
City	State	Postal/Zip Code						
Phone (wk) (hm)	Cell	Fax						
	1							
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.  Additional Signatures:								
For payments by VISA () or Mastercard () (no debit cards)								
Cardholder:		3.						
Card #3 di	4.							
Exp.Date: Signature								
Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than	maling address):	Travel Cancellation Insurance Credit Card required  Sign me (us) up initial						
I have enclosed a check for the deposit (		No, we will provide our own initial						

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