

# 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



# Royal Horse Trails - Portugal, Europe

Tour Code: PG-PATA

8 days / 7 nights ~\$2,340.00

Dates: May

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●●●

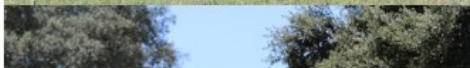
**Tack:** Portugese cavalry saddle like English ...

**Horses:** Lusitano

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

Walk, Trot, Canter,

**Airport:** Lisbon



## Introduction

Alto Alentejo, Portugal

Lazy rivers and babbling creeks meander through the rolling hills and pastures of Portugal's largest breeding area of fighting bulls, providing enough fresh water to make this central region the greenest of Portugal. This is classic horse country with soft trails through a scenic, lush countryside. You will overnight in beautifully renovated private estates, once the homesteads of European nobles. Lots of antique furniture and a very special atmosphere make them a true cultural and historical highlight of the Royal Horse Trails ride.

The journey takes you over hilly meadows without fences or roads to the Maranhão Lagoon. You cross several bridges, most of which had been built by the old Romans until you reach Alter do Chão and visit one of the two National Stud Farms that has its headquarters here. This is certainly a highlight for all lovers of Portuguese horses, but the view from the farm over the surrounding countryside is no less impressive. Hundreds of mares and their colts graze on huge meadows. Travel through meadows and fields, where only a few remote farmhouses remind you of the presence of people.

No doubt - this is one of the best rides in Europe!

## Accommodation

### Accommodations

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

### Description

The accommodations throughout the trip are in country inns and private estates. Laundry facilities are available in Alter do Chão (nights 3 & 4) for an extra fee.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Monte do Padrão in Figueira e Barros

Night 2: Monte Dos Aroeirais in Fronteira

Nights 3 & 4: Varandas de Alter in Alter do Chão

Night 5: Monte Dos Aroeirais in Fronteira

Night 6 & 7: Monte do Padrão in Figueira e Barros

Monte do Padrão in Figueira e Barros

This recently renovated farmhouse is surrounded by a 1300-hectare park. It has 7 double rooms.

Monte Dos Aroeirais in Fronteira

This charming property offers elegantly decorated bedrooms, that all come fitted with a TV, air conditioning, a private bathroom and free Wi-Fi access. The property is surrounded by olive groves and offers a small outdoor swimming pool. Guests are also welcome to relax on the terrace or to read a book in the lounge, by the fireplace.

Varandas de Alter in Alter do Chão

This small hotel offers simply decorated bedrooms fitted with a TV and an ensuite bathroom. The hotel amenities include an outdoor pool and a sauna (extra charge). Free Wi-Fi is available in public areas.

### 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**

Transfer around 5:30 PM from Lisbon to the town of Figueira e Barros, approximately 150kms. Dinner and overnight in a farm house. A large number of manors with original furniture were renovated to promote tourism. Visitors are pleasantly surprised about the personal atmosphere and warmth of these former private homes.

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at Monte do Padrão*

**Day 2 (Monday): Introductory Ride**

You ride over hilly meadows. This is a large-scale land-holding and the fences between meadows are miles apart. The landowners prevented road construction on their properties and you will seldom run into roads in this part of Alentejo. Most of the stone bridges over the numerous rivers date back to the Roman's Empire. 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, you continue along the banks of the river – it may be necessary to dismount and lead your horse over some particularly rocky sections. The day ends near Fronteira. Enjoy an evening in the beautiful garden by the pool.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Monte dos Aroeirais*

**Day 3 (Tuesday): Monte dos Aroeirais to Alter do Chão**

Departure from Monte dos Aroeirais in direction of Alter do Chão and its Horse Breeding Farm, with a ride through endless meadows full of colours where raise cattle, sheep. Picnic and more riding in the afternoon.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Varandas de Alter*

**Day 4 (Wednesday): Alter do Chão Horse Breeding Farm**

Today in the morning you will ride through the vast flower-filled meadows on the lands of the stud farm. After lunch at the hotel, you will visit the Alter do Chão Horse Breeding Farm, one of the two national stud farms. The horses bred here are so famous that they're traded under the name Alter. This is often a highlight and not only for horse-lovers. In this idyllic location, hundreds of mares and their colts graze on large meadows filled with flowers. You should also get the opportunity to see some of the stallions and young horses. The town rises 500 m over sea-level and you can enjoy a panoramic view over the landscape. We then transfer to the town of Alter, for a stroll before dinner.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Varandas de Alter*

**Day 5 (Thursday): Ride to Ribeira da Seda**

Through large meadows, past fields, and with only one remote farmhouse that reminds us of the presence of people, you ride to Ribeira da Seda. The original, regional Portuguese cuisine offers you a varied and delicious menu.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Monte dos Aroeirais*

**Day 6 (Friday): Monte do Padrão Ride**

Today you will ride inside the fields of Monte do Padrão that is 3000 ha large with cork trees and a huge olive oil trees fields.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Monte do Padrão*

**Day 7 (Saturday): Calatrava Ride**

You ride back across large meadows, you'll see millions of colours towards Lake Maranhão through the private hunting grounds of the Calatrava, consisting of open fields and cork forests. There is lots of opportunity for long trots and canters. You enjoy lunch on the banks of the dam before returning to the farm by a similar route.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Monte do Padrão*

**Day 8 (Sunday): Departure**

After breakfast transfer 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:** Padrao

**Airport:** Lisbon

**Transfer:** Lisbon airport incl 5:30PM

**Distance:** 240 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 (starting 2026 drop-off time will be at 2:00 PM).

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

**Horses:** Lusitano

**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 - PG-PATA

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 6 riding days, Transfers & Luggage transfers

### Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2026	8 day trip	€1950	\$2340

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

2026	Transfer from Lisbon airport at 5:30 PM	€100	\$110
2026	Single supplement	€690	\$760
2026	Non-rider – please inquire		

#### Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2026	05/03/2026 - 05/10/2026	8d / 7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 5/10

Rates do not include: Alcoholic beverages at dinner or from from bar & 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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