

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

Website: 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

Lipica Stud Farm - Slovenia, Europe

Tour Code: PR-LIRAVP
7 days / 6 nights ~\$0.00
Dates: Available all Year

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

Tack: English
Horses: Lipizzan
Pace: 3+ hours per day (5 riding days)
Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Trieste, Italy



Introduction

Slovenia, Slovenia

The Lipica Stud Farm near Sežana, is the cradle of Lipizzaner horses. The beginnings of Lipica, which date back to the 16th century, laid the foundations on which the entire mission of the stud farm still stands today.

Hidden Trails now offers you the opportunity to ride on these magnificent horses. The history of Lipica is full of stories of the emperors and rulers who admired the white stallions so much and of stories of Slovene peasants who remained faithful to their white beauties.

The Slovenian coast of the Adriatic Sea, with its mild Mediterranean climate is a perfect getaway and only a couple of hours from Venice, Italy. This is a place where the noble Lipizzaner takes you to explore the magical Karst world, with sinkholes and paths winding amongst the Karst junipers.

Accommodation



Accommodation

This is a stationary ride so you will be staying at the same location every night.

Description

Hotel Maestoso is a 4-star hotel set in the middle of a peaceful and natural green surrounding, close to the city of Sežana. Named after one of the classic lines of Lipizzan stallions, the hotel is a perfectly designed building that blends in perfectly into its surroundings. The hotel offers 139 rooms and is located directly at the Lipica Stud Farm.

Your package includes accommodation in standard rooms. It might be possible to upgrade to a higher room category on request for an extra fee.

** If Hotel Maestoso is not available due to renovations, private booking, etc. - our guests will stay at a nearby hotel such as Hiša Krasna in Lokev or at Center hotel in Basovizza. Transfers between these alternative hotels and the riding will be organized and provided at no extra cost.

It offers comfortable pet-friendly (supplement to be paid) rooms that feature air conditioning, a flat-screen TV and private bathroom with hair dryer. A terrace or balcony is available in certain rooms.

Wi-Fi is available in common areas and is free of charge.

There is a laundry service available to guest for an extra charge.



Rooms for solo travelers



These rooms are reserved for solo travelers as they are smaller in size. They include the same amenities as standard rooms.



Standard rooms (included)

These rooms offer a view of the surrounding landscape and the stud farm. These rooms are simple, with a modern decor.



Deluxe rooms (upgrade necessary)

These rooms are more spacious than standard rooms and offer extra storage space.



Comfort rooms (upgrade necessary)

This is the largest room category.

Room Occupancy

Triple and quadruple room might be available on request. Please, inquire at time of booking. There are rooms reserved for single travelers. However, if double rooms are also available for single occupancy with a single supplement.





Meals

Half-board included in the package (breakfast and lunch).

The Hotel's Restaurant, serves traditional Karst dishes with a modern twist. Meals are prepared from fresh, seasonal and local ingredients. You will be seduced by the tempting smell of home-made Karst specialties, which taste even better when paired with excellent local wines (drinks not included in package).

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to most dietary restrictions (including vegans) with advance notice.

Riding



There is usually no riding on Saturdays (an additional private session can be booked on Saturdays)

Riding Experience

Riders participating in the program must be able to ride independently at the walk, trot and canter and know the correct use of aids. Riders must have ridden at least 100 hours in the last 2 years. The weekly riding program includes 5 riding days (trail rides) with an average of 3+ hours in the saddle every day.

Riding Gear

Helmet is compulsory regardless of age. For kids 15 and younger, a back shield is also mandatory. Other mandatory riding equipment include riding pants and riding boots.

Horses

The Stud Farm is committed to ensuring care, treatment, accommodation and breeding of all categories of Lipizan horses in accordance with the highest ethical, ethological and technological standards. The Lipizzaner breed has built its exceptional reputation due to its characteristics which include: elegance, docility, endurance and a moderate nature. The school horses are well trained and are able to perform lateral movements like shoulder in and half-pass, but no flying changes, piaffe or passage that are typical elements of higher dressage level.

The Stud Farm

The stud farm was founded in 1580 and, today, it is a jewel among the cultural and historical monuments of the Republic of Slovenia. For over four centuries, the Lipica Stud Farm has nurtured the tradition of breeding and selecting thoroughbred horses. In the period after World War II Lipica established its own classical riding school and has successfully performed with its horses at various equestrian events all over the world. Today, Lipica is a world famous recreational center with a hint of tradition, offering its visitors unforgettable moments of relaxation. The Lipica estate now includes two hotels, a golf course, tennis courts, mini golf, saunas, swimming pool, gym, casino and, on top of all that, our herd of noble and proud white beauties from the Karst, residing in their historic stables and nurtured throughout the centuries.

Itinerary





This 7-day package includes 5 riding days.

Please, note that there are no trail rides on Wednesdays. Your package also does not include any riding activities on your arrival and departure days.

On Wednesdays (no riding day) clients will get a tour of the stud farm. It is also possible to go on a carriage ride or visit an official training of the Stud Farm.

Trail descriptions:

Estate Ride

You will ride in the protected area of the Lipica estate, along the centuries-old green avenues and enjoying the company of 300 white Lipizzan horses. During the ride you will learn about unique karst phenomena – “kal” (a pond) and “ledenica” (a pit for storing ice).

Duration: 2 hours of riding

Living Karst museum Ride

This natural museum stretches from Sežana, Lipica and the former Slovenian–Italian border, alongside the connecting axis that was once an Austro-Hungarian road between Sežana(SLO) and Basovizza(IT). As it is located along the Italian state border, there was limited access to this area for nearly half a century.

Duration: 3 hours of riding

Škocjan caves

You will ride east, towards the green Brkini hills. Following lovely forest road you will explore the east Karst, where the Škocjan Caves are located. These caves have featured on UNESCO’s World Cultural and Natural Heritage List since 1986.

Duration: 4 hours of riding

Visit of the caves: Tour of the caves is around 2 hours of walking.

Kokoška hill

On the top you will have a short walk to the amazing view of the Adriatic Sea and the city of Trieste. After that you will slowly descend back to the spacious meadows of Lipica.

Duration: 4 hours of riding

Lokev Village Ride

Located near Lipica, the interesting Karst village of Lokev boasts archcultural and historical heritage. The most fascinating site is the Tabor Military Museum, which once served as a defense tower against the Turks.

Directly opposite the military museum stands Fabian’s antique general store, and a bit further on, you’ll find the oldest prosciutto-making facility in the Slovenian Karst, Pršutarna Lokev.

Duration: 3 hours of riding

Optional dressage lesson - extra fee applies

The Stud Farm teaches dressage, following the principles of classical dressage. Classical dressage was developed in the past centuries based on dressage of horses for battle purposes. For the rider in the battlefield, a horse with a good command of pirouettes, change of gallop, side passes and other elements is sometimes of vital importance. This skill has developed to the greatest extent in Spain. The basis of the classical dressage is natural capability of an animal. The basis and aim of classical dressage is the preparation of a horse and a rider in psychophysical and technical sense to perform harmonized moves performed in free movement without force and at the highest level of concentration.

Lessons are 45 minutes long (+15 minutes to prepare the horse) and need to be booked at least 3 days in advance.

The instructor chooses the exercises in line with rider’s knowledge and ability.



Non-Riding Activities

There are many activities available for non-riders including cycling, hiking, Casino, mini golf, golf, visit of the stud farm & carriage ride.

*Golf **

The international Golf Klub Lipica is located directly on the Stud farm. The 9-hole course was built in 1989 in accordance with the designs of Donald Harradin, a worldwide known designer of golf courses. It is the only golf course in Slovenia that remains open throughout the whole year. It boasts of picturesque fairways and practice range where the Academy of Golf without Borders is located.

Visit of Lipica Stud Farm

Get to know the history of the stud farm all the way from its foundation until today. Find out everything you wanted to know about Lipica and the Lipizzan horse. A visit of the Stud Farm includes the visit of the old stables, entrance to the Lipikum museum, visit of Avgust Črnigoj Art Gallery, access to Karst House & visit of the Valley of Our Lady of Lourdes and the Chapel of St. Anthony of Padua.

A Tale of Lipica Show

Many centuries ago, a story of love, pride, and beauty began at the green Lipica estate. This new show of the Lipica Classical Riding School narrates the story of the exceptional stud farm heritage, the white Lipizzan horse, and its connection to the rider. We invite you to experience the elegance of these white horses and listen to the universal language of beauty. Let A Tale of Lipica impress you as it impressed many visitors.

Carriage Ride (one session of 30-minutes included)

Our coachman will take you for a romantic drive around the property of Lipica through the centennial tree alleys, which were also used by the Hapsburg royal family!

*Cycling **

Those fond of active holidays can find many cycling trails in the Karst surroundings of the estate. This region will attract cyclist who desire a safe and diverse landscape, away from busy roads and enjoy dirty trails and tracks combined with asphalt roads. Cyclists can discover different parts of Karst including viewpoint peaks, remarkable blind valleys and steep cliffs on the edge of plateau. A network of cycle paths is well-marked, helping you to find your way. And when you feel hungry, find a Karst inn and enjoy the typical air dried ham – 'pršut'.

A cycling package can be arranged for you - please inquire.

Sightseeing

A walk through the mysterious underground world of many Karst caves is a unique experience in itself. You may also explore the cultural heritage of Karst villages where the interaction over thousands of years between natural phenomena and the influence of man, whose work helped shape the curiosities, is undoubtedly eye-catching.

Hiking trails

The area of the cultivated Karst landscape of the Stud Farm, which is under the special protection of monumental heritage, encompasses pastures and meadows with protective fences, oak groves and avenues of trees. The man-made landscape is an integral and redesigned natural environment whose development is based on many centuries' tradition of horse breeding.

In view of the immense importance of this area, we would like to familiarize visitors with this location. For this purpose a network of nature trails and promenades of various lengths have been arranged within the protected area. The planning of trails was underpinned by the basic principles of monument management which added another dimension to the core activity of horse breeding. Our nature trails will lead you through the remarkable man-made landscape of the Stud Farm. The legacy of our ancestors includes not only typical Karst pastures with isolated oaks but also many other elements of the man-made landscape such as Karst ponds, wells, ice-pits, mines, limekilns, carved boundary markers and much more.

*: extra fee applies (inquire for rates)

Other Info

Meeting: Lipica

Airport: Trieste, Italy

Train station: Trieste or Sezana

Transfer: Trieste or Sezana train station

Transfers are not available for this trip. Check-in is from 2:00pm to 12:00am (midnight) Check-out is between 8:00am and 12:00pm (noon)

Tack: English

Horses: Lipizzan

Pace: 3+ hours per day (5 riding days)

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3 to 4 out of 5) Intermediate

Age: Min 15

Weight: 185 lbs

Riders: Min 2 riders Max 5 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

Rates and Dates 2026 - PR-LIRAVP

Rates include: Accommodations in standard room, Half-board & 5 riding days as described in the program

Packages and Options

Season	Description
--------	-------------

Transfer Option

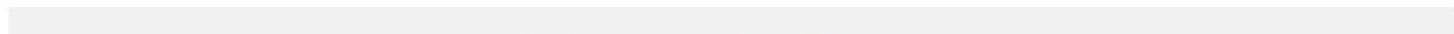
Description

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates
--------	------------

Other dates on request for groups of 4-6 pax minimum

Rates do not include: Drinks, Golf on 9-hole course (about 28-38 euros per round), Laundry, Fax/photocopying, Barber / beauty, Tourist Tax, Transfers, Dressage Lessons & 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

659A Moberly Road
Vancouver, BC
Canada V5Z 4B2

Toll Free: 1-888-9 TRAILS
(1-888-987-2457)

Phone: 604-323-1141
FAX: 604-323-1148



From the U.K.:

Phone 020-323-96201
Fax 0203-004-1200

Skype hiddentrails

E-mail info@hiddentrails.com
Website www.hiddentrails.com

Office hours:
Mo-Fr 8:30 am to 6 pm
Pacific Standard Time

