

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

E-mail: info@hiddentrails.com

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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

Sand Dune National Park Ride - USA, North America

Tour Code: RTC008

6 days / 5 nights ~\$2,475.00

Dates: July - September

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●

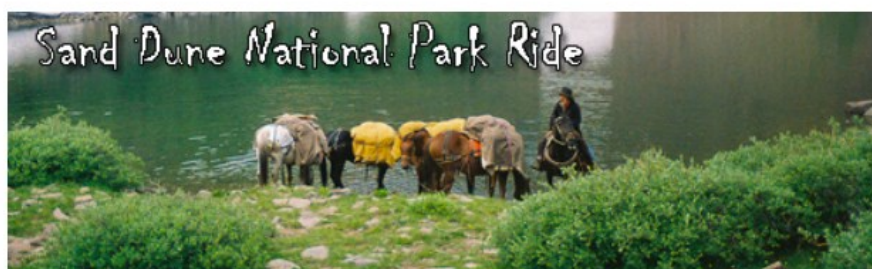
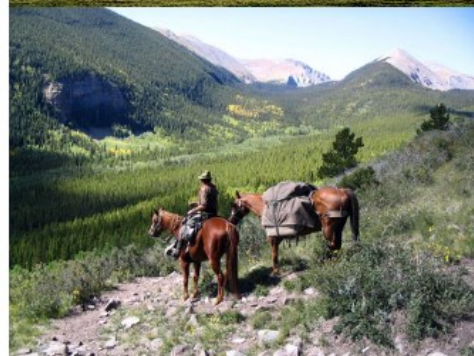
Tack: Western

Horses: Appaloosa and Quarter

Pace: Moderate with trots

Walk, Trot,

Airport: Colorado Springs



Introduction

Colorado, USA

The Great Sand Dunes National Park is the United States newest National Park, which officially came to be in September 2004. They are North America's highest and tallest dunes, with the tallest one, Star Dune, reaching 750 feet above the valley floor.

This wilderness journey is for both experienced and beginning riders. The horses are sure-footed, no nonsense and willing. Mountain riding techniques are taught as we travel. Our philosophy is simple; the more you know about your horse and equipment, the more you will enjoy your vacation.

Although the distance we'll travel is not excessive, the riding is adventurous along steep trails with spectacular scenery. We'll share our extensive knowledge of geology, plants, wildlife, and history of the area. Those who have less riding experience particularly enjoy this trip as an excellent learning experience. Advanced riders enjoy the additional hands-on experience and scenic country of this little known area of Colorado.

You will see a unique sight in North America - the largest sand dunes in the Western Hemisphere! In addition, we'll take you to remote mountain valleys, ride past old west ghost towns, and allow you time to play in mountain creeks and waterfalls. Maybe we'll even see some Bison!

The route begins at Music Pass and then over the top of the range into the wilds of the Sand Creek drainage. We work our way down Sand Creek to a little known route at the base to join a trail heading to the Sand Dunes. We'll camp close to the Sand Dunes and enjoy a day riding on sand mountains. Then we exit out Madano Pass to our trail head once again on the eastern side of the Sangres.

The group works as a team. Everyone participates in saddling, care of horses and in setting-up/breaking-down camp. The staff cook, clean up, and pack horses. This is an expedition, lightweight and mobile, utilizing all hands towards the ultimate goal of reaching the next pass, or catching sight of the moving forest of elk. Doing it simply. Responding to the call.

Accommodation

Accommodation

This is a progressive ride where nights are spent at different locations.

Description

The first night is spent at a hotel and the remaining 4 nights are spent camping.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Radisson Inn Colorado Springs Airport

Night 2-5: Camping

Radisson Inn Colorado Springs Airport

This hotel provides a free transfer service to the airport as well as free Wi-Fi and a hot breakfast buffet.

The rooms are modern and include a flat-screen TV, microwave, min-fridge and a private bathroom. You can also relax in the hot tub, sun terrace or indoor pool.

Camping

Guests stay in a dome tent (4-man tent). Clients should bring sleeping bags with a little foam pad. There are no showers.

The wranglers cook and take care of the horses. If you want to help, you are more than welcome to.

We can supply saddlebags, sleeping bags, ground mats, and duffel on request for additional fee.

Room Occupancy

Single tents can be requested at no extra fee but a single supplement applies for the first night at a Colorado Springs hotel.

Meals

All meals are included (from breakfast on day 2 to lunch on last day) except in Colorado Springs. Meals on the first day are not included but we offer 20% off for dinner at the hotel's restaurant in Colorado Springs.

Dietary Restrictions

We have experience with and are happy to accommodate special dietary needs such as Kosher, vegetarian, and lactose-free. Just let us know when you make your reservations of your special needs.

Riding





Horses

The ranch owns 60 head of Appaloosa and Paint horses. The horses are sure-footed, no nonsense and willing. We will assign you your own horse and teach you how to saddle, picket and care for it.

Riding Experience

Our trip begins with hands-on instruction on saddling and care of your mount. At the same time, our program allows for diversity to accommodate and challenge the advanced rider as well. Our philosophy is simple; the more you know about your horse and equipment, the more you will enjoy your vacation.



Itinerary

Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival

Arrival in Colorado Springs and transfer (shuttle) to your Hotel near the airport. Dinner is not included but you have a 20% discount at the restaurant.

Overnight at Hotel in Colorado Springs

Day 2 (Monday): Ride to Basecamp

Full hot breakfast the next morning starting at 6 AM. 7:30 AM, pick up and transfer to trailhead. We'll drive 2 hours to the Ranch where we'll rendezvous with those who've chosen to meet us there. Traveling by van we drive south to the trailhead on the eastern side of the majestic Sangre de Cristo Range. On the way, we drive past the five 14,000 ft. peaks which sit together in a towering cluster in the heart of the Sangres - Humboldt, Kit Carson, Challenger, and finally Crestone and Crestone Needle, some of the most difficult 14ers in the state.

Arriving at the trailhead, as our pack string is loaded with duffels and supplies, one of your two wrangler-guides will give you and your friends or family detailed instructions on riding, saddling and the care of your mount. When all is ready, we pack up our gear and head out for our camp in the National Park.

Traveling further south along the Rainbow Trail we work our way down to Medano Pass, where we travel over the pass via a rough and rocky 4-wheel drive road. According to legend, this is the pass reportedly used by one-time residential candidate Captain John Fremont in his ill advised foray into the San Luis valley where he lost over half his men in the bitter winter passage and just before he was captured by the Spaniards. Hoping to fare better than Capt. Fremont, we travel over and down the West side of Medano pass until we reach one of our several high camps, which will become our home for the next three days. While some help water and picket the horses, others help set up the kitchen and personal tents. Soon we are indulging in favorite beverages around the campfire and thinking about tomorrow while waiting for a sumptuous meal cooked cowboy style.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight camping

Day 3 (Tuesday): Ride to Sand Creek

After a delectable breakfast with a bracing cup of cowboy coffee, we saddle up, load the packhorses, and visit the spectacular Upper Sand Lake before descending down Sand Creek to our beautiful meadow camp above the Little Sand intersection. We hope to see the larger cousins of the mule deer. Unlike mule deer, who are more territorial, the elk are nomadic - constantly searching for food.

We establish camp alongside Sand Creek for a well-earned restful evening and a peaceful night. We may poke our fishing poles in the notorious Sand Creek holes. If you choose to fish, in these high waters it is a true delight.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight camping

Day 4 (Wednesday): Ride to the Dunes

We break camp after enjoying a traditional packtrip breakfast and lots of cowboy coffee. Today we're riding totally on the West Side of the range. It will be a long day- perhaps as much as 18 miles. We take a little known route down Sand Creek to the base of the mountains in the San Luis Valley. Here, we intersect with a trail that heads south to the Sand Dunes. Big skies and the gradually emerging dunes dominate the day. These breath-taking, lofty views are perfect locations to watch for some of our air-borne predators: large, swift, powerful hawks and eagles who swoop to dine from the skies. Deeper in the trees you may see a sharp-shinned hawk, a Cooper's hawk, or the northern goshawk.

We camp at the foot of the Dunes.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight camping

Day 5 (Thursday): Relax

We lay over for the day to allow us time for a day of fun on the dunes. We'll play with horses, hike, fish or just relax in the beauty of camp.

That night, after a sumptuous dinner, as the fire dies down and you drift off to sleep, you may hear the calls, hoots, and flight sounds of some of our spectacular nocturnal birds of prey: great horned owls, screech owls, and night hawks.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight camping

Day 6 (Friday): Departure

After breakfast we break camp and head up to Medano Pass. As we approach the high country again, there are an



amazing variety of wildflowers, especially at the peak of their seasons if there's been sufficient water. We descend to the trailhead arriving by 4-6pm. We drive you back to Colorado Springs in time for late evening flights or for a restful evening in a hotel (not included).

At the end of your trip you will be brought back to Colorado Springs sometime between 6:00 and 8:00 pm. If you must fly out that evening, please do not schedule a flight before 8:30 pm, to make certain you can make your flight.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Other Info

Meeting: Colorado Springs

Airport: Colorado Springs

Transfer: Colorado Springs hotel 7:30 am on Day 2.

Distance: 6.5 km / 4 miles

Your trip will include the first night at the Radisson in Colorado Springs (free airport shuttle)

On Day 2, please be ready in the hotel lobby for 7:30 AM pick up and transfer to trailhead.

On Day 6, your return to Colorado Springs is in time for late evening flights (do not schedule a flight before 8:30PM). Or book an extra hotel night in Colorado Springs (not included).

Tack: Western

Horses: Appaloosa and Quarter

Pace: Moderate with trots

Walk | Trot |

Level: 🐎🐎🐎🐎🐎 (2 to 3 out of 5) Novice+

Age: Min 7

Weight: 250 lbs

Riders: Min 3 riders

Max 8 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

If you prefer not to wear a riding helmet, you can sign a waiver form.

Rates and Dates 2024 - RTCO08

Rates include: Accommodations, Meals from breakfast on day 2 to lunch on last day, 5 riding days & Transfers
Saddle bags provided
Sleeping bags, ground mats, and duffel can be provided on request for additional fee (\$35US per item)

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	6 day trip (high)	\$2475
	Single supplement for the first night at hotel	\$110
	Extra night at hotel, double occ., per night, (incl. 10.2% tax)	\$245
	Extra night at hotel, single occ., per night, (incl. 10.2% tax)	\$230
B 2024	6 day trip (low)	\$2440
	Extra night at hotel, double occ., per night, (incl. 10.2% tax)	\$180
	Extra night at hotel, single occ., per night (incl. 10.2% tax)	\$170
	Single supplement for the first night at hotel	\$80

Tax:\$ 3

Transfer Option

Description

2024	Transfer from Colorado Springs Airport is included by hotel	
2024	Sleeping bag and mat rental – please inquire	
2024	Small group supplement (1 or 2 pax only), pp	\$335

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/30/2024 - 07/05/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	07/07/2024 - 07/12/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	07/14/2024 - 07/19/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	07/21/2024 - 07/26/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	07/28/2024 - 08/02/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	08/04/2024 - 08/09/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	08/11/2024 - 08/16/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	08/18/2024 - 08/23/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
A 2024	08/25/2024 - 08/30/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (high)
B 2024	09/01/2024 - 09/06/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (low)
B 2024	09/08/2024 - 09/13/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (low)
B 2024	09/15/2024 - 09/20/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (low)
B 2024	09/22/2024 - 09/27/2024	6d / 5n	6 day trip (low)

Min/Max: 3/8

Rates do not include:Meals on first day (20% off for dinner at the hotel restaurant), Gratuities & Taxes



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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