

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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Toll Free from the U.K.:

Ph: 0-808 189-0420 Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Golden Islands - France, Europe

Tour Code: ZZ-FR-Hike17 5 days / 4 nights ~\$910.00 Dates: March to November

Trip Rating : •••••
Difficulty : •••• Lodging: ♣♣♠

Tack: Horses:

Airport: Nice





Introduction

Provence, France

On this easy self-guided walking holiday you will discover 2 beautiful islands set in the Mediterranean sea.

You are based in the quaint Riviera town of Le Lavandou, in a charming hotel a few steps from the sandy beach. Le Lavandou has quaint cafés, great seafood restaurants, and one of the best beaches along the Côte d'Azur. Moreover, Le Lavandou remains authentic, contrary to many of the neighboring towns.

From Le Lavandou, you will explore some of the best kept secrets of the Riviera; its pristine and untamed coastline paths, and two of the "Golden islands" just off the coast. An absolute paradise for nature lovers and hiking enthusiasts.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Wild islands of Porquerolles and Port Cros
- Plenty of swimming opportunities every day
 Get a glimpse of the Fort de Bregancon (summer residence of French president)

Accomodation

Accommodations

This is a center-based holiday, so you will be staying at the same accommodation for all overnights.

Your package includes a stay in a lovely hotel housed in a historic house from the 19th century, completely refurbished, the bedrooms are quiet and comfortable and they all come equipped with free Wi-Fi, air conditioning, a TV and private facilities with hair-dryer.

It is possible to upgrade to a different hotel for an extra fee (please inquire).

All breakfasts are included in your package.

Breakfast is available from 8am to 10am and is usually served on the patio.

Riding

Trip Difficulty: Easy

You enjoy walking as a means to get fresh air and see the countryside, without consider-ing yourself as a "real hiker". You like to walk to get exercise on your holidays, and enjoy strolls in the countryside and discover Provence in a different & fun way. Walks are gen-erally from 2-4 hours on easy terrain, with some climbing up to perched villages .. You don't need to be an athlete at all to enjoy this trip!

Itinerary

Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Note: The Golden islands (Port Cros & Porquerolles) have a strict security measure in place during the summer season (June 15th to September 30th) with regards to forest fires, including path restrictions. Whilst the inland paths on the island may be closed, the coastline paths always remain open. In the case of path restrictions the information centre on both islands will provide you with a map indicating the paths you may take.

Day 1: Arrival

Make your own way to Le Lavandou Meals included: none

Overnight in Le Lavandou

Day 2: Porquerolles Island

A ferry crossing from Le Layandou (45 mins, return tickets included) takes you to the island of Porquerolles, the biggest of the Golden islands. You reach the port and walk through its quaint hamlet. The rest of the island is highly protected, crossed in every direction by walking paths through pine forests. A short climb leads to a lookout where the entire island is at your feet, and the infinite expanse of the Mediterranean expands in the horizon. A winding path through the heather descends on soft zigzags back to the coastline.

Walking about 12km (3h15) + 150m

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight in Le Lavandou

A ferry takes you from the port of Le Lavandou to the island of Port Cros (return ticket included), 8km off the coast. The island is France's smallest national park. Its dense forests of tree heather, strawberry trees and cork oaks, all untamed, makes for a veritable walking paradise

Walking about 9km (3h) +250m - additional loop: 5.5km (2h) +150m

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight in Le Lavandou

Day 4: Coastline Trail

Short taxi transfer to the start of your walk. Today's walk is a mix of peaceful beach walking and steep but short



climbs and descents along the coastline trail. You follow the "sentier littorar" that passes along pristine beaches, hidden coves, on paths laden with lavender and lone pine trees. The protected coastline is unspoilt and offers magnificent landscapes of jagged coast and turquoise waters. Halfway through the walk the Estagnol beach is the perfect lunch break, with is beachfront

restaurant serving grilled seafood. Transfer back to your hotel after the walk. Walking about 10km (3h) limited climbing along the coastal path

Meals included: Breakfast Overnight in Le Lavandou

Day 5: Departure

After breakfast end of your trip.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to the ferry boat schedules, the order of the walks in the doesn't always match with the one on our itinerary. Don't worry though, the order of the walk does not matter since you remain in the same hotel every night.

Other Info

Meeting: Le Lavandou Airport: Nice

Train station: Toulon

Transfers are not available for this trip. You need to make your own way to Le Lavandou on

Day 1. Tack: Horses: Pace:

Max 6 riders Riders: Min 2 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - ZZ-FR-Hike17

Rates include: Accommodations, All breakfasts, Local transfers described in the itinerary, Emergency phone number & Road Book

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	5 day Self guided walking tour (High)	€825	\$910
	Group discount (4-6 pax), pp	(€50)	(\$55)
	Single supplement	€410	\$450
	Solo hiker supplement	€550	\$605
B 2024	5 day Self guided walking tour (Low)	€675	\$740
	Group discount (4-6 pax), pp	(€50)	(\$55)
	Single supplement	€260	\$285
	Solo hiker supplement	€390	\$430

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

Transfer Option

Description

Make your own way to Le Lavandou on Day 1
Possible accommodation upgrade - inquire for rate

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates			
B 2024	03/01/2024 - 03/25/2024	5d / 4n	5 day Self guided walking tour (Low)	
A 2024	03/26/2024 - 09/30/2024	5d / 4n	5 day Self guided walking tour (High)	
B 2024	10/01/2024 - 11/15/2024	5d / 4n	5 day Self guided walking tour (Low)	

Min/Max: 2/6

Rates do not include: All lunches and dinners, Drinks, Transfers before and after the trip & Entrance fees

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	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4								
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-mail											
City	State		Postal/Zip Code								
City	State_		Postav Zip Code								
Phone (wk) (hm)	Cel	I	Fax								
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Date	Signature (mandato	ry) 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.	4.									
Exp.Date: Signature											
Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than	maling address):		ncellation Insurance Credit Card required) up initial								

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