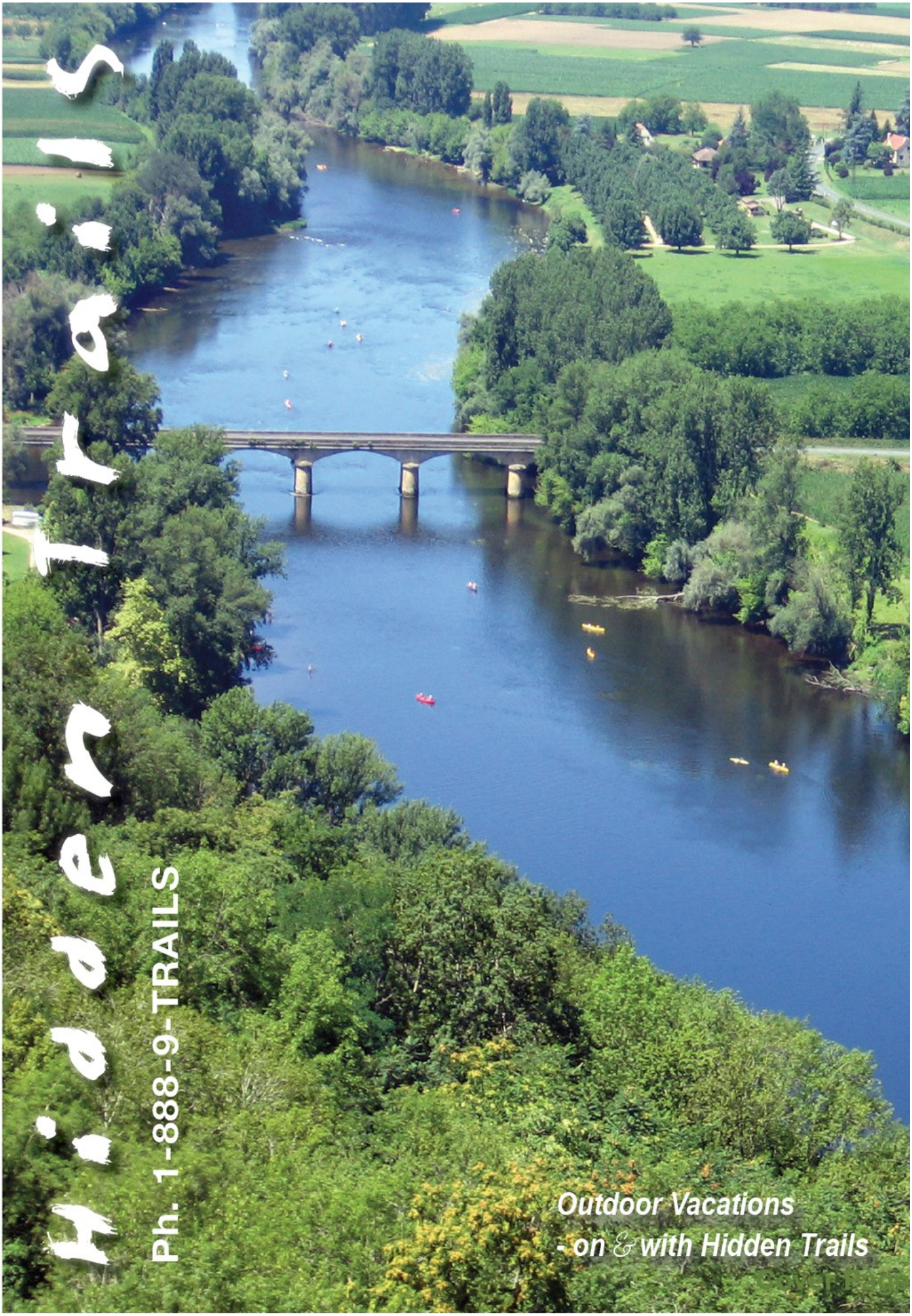
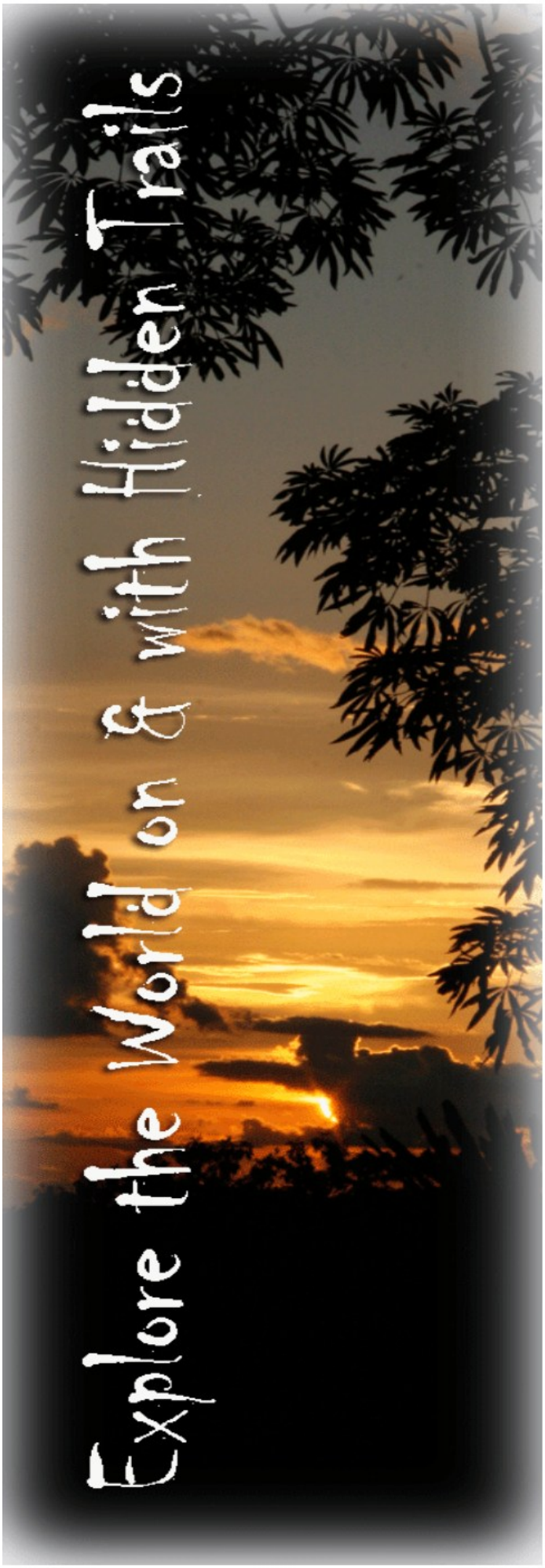

Hidden Trails
Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS
Outdoor Vacations
- on & with Hidden Trails

# About Hidden Trails




Hidden Trails is owned and operated by nature enthusiasts who love the outdoors and adventure activities. We have been involved with outdoor vacations for over 20 years. We have collected the best outdoor vacation destinations all over the world in some hidden places we would like to share with you.

These vacations are about forging rivers, biking along canals and through forests, hiking 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 the outdoors has no boundaries but possesses a common language we all speak and understand.
You will experience new countries and their customs and make new friends.

These trips have been tested by our staff or associates and received our stamp of approval. If you are considering a special outdoor 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.
Ryan Schmidt
Hidden Trails

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Fax: 0-808-280-1860

**Toll Free Worldwide:**
Skype: hiddentrails

# White Nile Explorer - Ride and Raft - Uganda, East Africa

**Tour Code: IT-UGRT01**
8 days / 7 nights ~$4,800.00
Dates: Available all Year

Trip Rating :
Difficulty :
Lodging:

Tack: English with saddlebag
Horses: Thoroughbred, Somali Ponies
Pace: All paces - lots of canters and gallop...
Walk,Trot,Canter,Gallop,

Airport: Entebbe
















## Introduction

Uganda, Uganda
Welcome to Uganda's latest adventure activity, the Nile Explore on horseback - the ONLY riding tour in Uganda. Together with our partners we offer fabulous riding along the source of the world's longest river, the White Nile. We are the first people to introduce horses to this area of East Africa and the response from the local populace has been tremendous. The horses are all beautiful Thoroughbreds, imported from Kenya and beautifully trained, bombproof, fit and strong.

We pass through local villages, areas of crops and jungle where you will see spectacular bird life, hopefully some monkeys, and if you are really lucky some of the more elusive animals, like mongoose and water monikers. There is also the opportunity to take your horse swimming in the Nile at a beautiful sandy bottomed bay if you are so inclined. You and the horse stay overnight at the Haven, your luggage will be waiting for you when you arrive. Take an afternoon fishing trip, a sunset cruise or just relax with a book while overlooking one of the biggest rapids on the Nile. Fantastic meals await you in the evening. Of course we included a day of rafting on the Nile - if you are not into rafting, you can choose from several other activities that day.

## Accomodation

**Accommodations**
This is a progressive ride, so nights will be spent in different locations.

**Description**
The lodges and areas we have picked for our safaris have a wonderful atmosphere, an ambiance distinctly Uganda: laid back and easy paced, but with all the modern comforts and conveniences of home. All lodges have magnificent surroundings and a swimming pool. All rooms have ensuite bathrooms.
WIFI is available at all locations. Internet runs on the mobile phone network and is usually good, but sometimes can fail temporarily. You can get phone reception reliably on just about all areas of our safari, except in the forest where it can come and go.
Power is erratic throughout Uganda, all the lodges do have solar power or generator backup, but there are very occasional times when you can still temporarily have no power.
Laundry is available all lodges except The Haven.

Accommodation Itinerary - *subject to changes based on availability*
Night 1 & 2: Holland Park
Night 3 & 4: Haven River Lodge
Night 5, 6 & 7: Wildwaters Lodge




*Holland Park*
The lodgings are right next to the riding stables. They are clean and well-maintained twin or double cottages, with stunning views over the Nile, with a double bed and two singles in each bungalow. The single rooms are set back in the main building and are cool, clean and private. Each accommodation has its private bathroom and free Wi-Fi is available in public areas. There is also an outdoor swimming pool where guest can relax.








*Haven River Lodge*

The Haven is a peaceful and relaxed River Lodge, a perfect hideaway, located at big rapid on The River Nile. You enter at the camping area, which is fully fenced and is where the horses happily graze. The restaurant and bar sit in the middle of the compound overlooking the mighty Nile where its width exceeds 500 meters. All rooms are self-contained spacious bungalows with private showers overlooking the river. There is Wi-Fi access available from each bungalow. There is also a small outdoor swimming pool.




*Wildwaters Lodge*

Nestled in a luxuriant rainforest on its own private island, mid-stream in the mighty Nile, Wildwaters Lodge is breathtaking. Thick riverine forest naturally covers the island and each of the ten timber-floor rooms is nestled amidst the forest with private views over the River Nile and its rapids. The expansive, canvas walled, traditionally thatched rooms each boast private decks with elegant free-standing baths and wash basins carved from the local pink granite. Softly lit with handmade furniture, you can relax in comfort on this island paradise listening to the thunder of the Nile rapids, and the calls of the many species of bird who call the island home. Elevated wooden walkways gracefully link the rooms to the restaurant and bar area and offer an unforgettable walk through the heart of the forest. Free Wi-Fi is available in public areas, free of charge.

Room Occupancy

Single supplement is mandatory if we are unable to find another rider to share.

Communication

An international mobile phone will work on roam here. Three of the lodges on the trip have WIFI. Internet runs on the mobile phone network and is usually good, but sometimes can fail temporarily. You can get phone reception reliably on just about all areas of our safari, except in the forest where it can come and go.

**Meals**

All meals are included from lunch on Day 1 to lunch on the last day. We also have a break in our rides at least every 3 hours, for either morning tea or lunch so horses and riders can have a drink and something to eat.

Mixed menus of local and international cuisine, prepared to the highest standards Uganda can offer. We have a professional caterer we contract for lunches and lodge food is mostly European. All organic meat fruit and vegetables from the local area are used in our cooking.
Breakfast and dinner is enjoyed at the lodges while lunch is eaten while on the ride in beautiful locations.

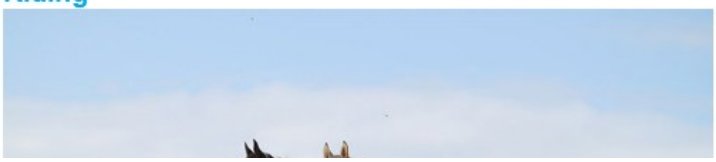
Water should only be consumed from bottles as tap water is not suitable for drinking. We provide plenty of water each day.
Alcohol is included with lunch and dinner.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions if given prior notice.




## Riding





**Riding Experience**
All clients must be able to do rising trot for long distances, as well as canter. We can help with less experienced clients by splitting the groups (when possible), and have many trails and guides for that purpose but you must be a minimum of strong intermediate riders. The route and length of this ride is physically demanding. You need to be able to canter for extended periods and be competent riding in English saddles. We do ride for at least 4 hours a day (sometimes up to 6) so riding fitness is essential. Many people bring seat savers (bumnahs) and are happy they did!

**Terrain & Environment**
We ride a huge variety of trails, some winding tracks over steeper ground, hacking up hills to see the magnificent views. Then through dense jungle and over grassy tracks. Every day is different from the day before, the constant change of scenery is a photographers dream. Many people think a ride in Africa will have large wild animals, but in this area, we have an incredible variety of rarer and smaller species of animals, many of which are unique to this area.

**Pace**
We understand that our clients have different preferences on what they would choose for the pace of the safari. For this reason, we regularly split groups when possible. Riders who wish to take it easy are able to ride at a leisurely pace, while those up for a faster paced ride, can also branch from the group at certain places on the rides to indulge in some fast canters and gallops. We also have a break in our rides at least every 3 hours, for either morning tea or lunch so horses and riders can have a drink and something to eat.
The pace can be fast and it is essential that you can do rising trot and canter for long distances.

**Horses**
We have 14 beautiful horses, from 17hh down to 13.3hh. All our horses are well-schooled, responsive, very fit and we pride ourselves on having the right horse for everyone. Most of them are also eventers that compete regularly. We own Irish Sports Horses, Thoroughbreds, American Saddlebred crosses and Ethiopian ponies.
We have a Canadian veterinarian, fully trained in horses, to assess the animal. In the case of lameness, a new horse is brought to the scene and the injured animal taken home for treatment.

**Guides**
This safari is led by Natalie who is assisted by Ugandan riders, grooms and other staff. Natalie is and an expert horsewoman from England. She has years of eventing, pony club, trekking, and stable experience and is a very able lady.
All our guides are trained to replace loose or lost shoes, and all horses are checked by the farrier prior to departure.

**Equipment**
Riding helmets are mandatory and we suggest people bring their own helmets and chaps, although we can provide them free of charge if necessary.

**Weight Limit**
Please note that we have a very strict policy of not taking any riders who weigh over 80kg. We do not offer an option to charge extra money for clients over that weight. Our horses are not as big as in some other countries so it is out of the question that we can accommodate riders over the weight limit. However! We do offer a simultaneous trip doing motorbike riding for heavier clients or non-riding clients (contact us for further détails).

**Safety and Emergency Procedures**
Uganda is one of the safest countries in the world.
We consider the safety of our riders and horses to be the top priority. All riders are briefed before we set off. All staff and guides are first aid trained, both for human and horses. A fully stocked first aid kits follows us on safari and we have 24-hour access to doctors and clinical facilities.
We have a very good mobile telephone network and have access to it at all times on the ride. All guides carry mobile phones, which have fully charged batteries and phone credit. In the event a rider or horse cannot be moved we immediately contact home base, who locate us from pre-determined GPS points enroute. A vehicle is sent to the scene of the accident, with a doctor if deemed necessary.

**Non-Riders**
We do offer a simultaneous trip doing motorbike riding for non-riding clients. You can always contact us for further details on that.

**Your hosts**
Natalie arrived in Uganda in 2000 and fell in love with the beauty of the country and the wonderful people. She met TJ in 2004 and they then purchased a piece of land on the banks of the Nile and carved out home and stables from scratch. Along with daughter Kya, now 16, they breed, train, compete and instruct in dressage, show jumping and cross-country disciplines. Natalie also is an Equine Osteopath and as well as riding gets to judge competitions as well.

## Itinerary





**Sample Itinerary**- *subject to changes*

*Note: Our safari has set accommodation which is all pre-booked, however sometimes we do swap our riding days or activities around due to weather or to accommodate various situations. Uganda tends to get small intense storms that may not last long and effect small localized areas. We can potentially find ideal riding conditions each day. We will cover all the rides on the itinerary, it may not be in the order described. Please be aware this flexibility is to get you the best riding or activity conditions possible each day.*

**Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival**
Pick-up in Entebbe, Uganda for 9:00am then transfer to Jinja. Lunch and pre-departure chat on a River Nile boat cruise. In the late afternoon, we go on a warm up ride to try out the horses. We ride around the local village and along the banks of the River Nile.
*Riding: Approx. 1.5 hour*
*Meals: Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodations: Holland Park Jinja (Please note single rooms are further back from the river at this lodge).*

**Day 2 (Monday): Sugar and Tea Plantations Ride**
Ride through various plantations and villages, over some hills with stunning vistas of the countryside. Picnic lunch. Fabulous views and open terrain, rural villages, and sugar and tea plantations. Long canters are possible for those who want to indulge.
*Riding: Approx. 4.5 hours*
*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodation: Holland Park*

**Day 3 (Tuesday): The shores of Lake Victoria Ride**
We truck our horses to our start point and visit our local school while the horses are being moved. Feel free to bring any primary age books you can spare to donate to the library! We then ride around an enormous peninsula that lies in Lake Victoria with lunch overlooking the lake. We pass by views of the source of the Nile and Jinja town. We ride to an end point, then transfer by boat to the famous Source of the Nile. Later we travel to the lodgings by vehicle.
*Riding: Approx. 5-6 hours*
*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodation: Haven River Lodge*

**Day 4 (Wednesday): Forest explorer ride**
Today, we ride across Mabira forest and surroundings. We will be looking for rare forest primates (a subspecies of Grey cheeked Mangabeys) that are only found in Mabira forest. There are also lots of spectacular birdlife. Late lunch back at the Lodge.
In the late afternoon you can relax at the pool, get a massage back at the lodge, or wander the forest.
*Riding: Approx. 4-5 hours*
*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodation: Haven River Lodge*

**Day 5 (Thursday): Rainforest, River & Villages**
We ride another couple of hours in and out of the forest and through rural Ugandan villages before we reach our Lodge. Located on an island in the middle of the Nile, with massive white water all around, you will be simply amazed. Enjoy the pool in the afternoon.
*Riding: Approx. 5 hours*
*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodation: Wild Waters Lodge*

**Day 6 (Friday): Rafting/adventure sports or rest day**
Today you can head out to experience some of the most beautiful white water rafting in the world (warm water thrills and spills). Please note rafting is optional you may prefer to rest or do some of the other adventure activities in the area. Quad Biking, Bungee Jumping, Kayak school, Mountain biking or a birding trip on the river.
*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodation: Wild Waters Lodge*

**Day 7 (Saturday): Swimming with Horses**
Today we gear up and move to meet the horses downriver - the views will leave you speechless - and then we will swim the horses in the Nile. A beautiful bay with a sandy bottom (no hippos or crocs). Then picnic lunch overlooking the Nile
while we all dry out. (Please note sometimes we are unable to safely swim the horses due to the hydropower dams flooding too much water into the area).
Afterwards we ride back to the lodge and we say a final goodbye to our horses.
*Riding: Approx. 4-6 hours*
*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*
*Accommodation: Wild Waters Lodge*

**Day 8 (Sunday): Departure day**
Drop off at the airport after 2:00pm.
*Meals: Breakfast & Lunch*

*Our safari does give riders the chance to swim horses in the River Nile. It is an optional part of the ride. We swim the horses in the river where there is a sandy bottom, and no crocodiles or hippos.*





## Other Info

**Meeting:** Jinja
**Airport:** Entebbe
**Transfer:** Kampala
**Distance:** 100 miles
Pick-up/ drop-off is from Entebbe International Airport (EBB) or from hotels in Entebbe for 8:30am on Day 1. On the last day, clients are dropped off at the airport after 2:00pm.

**Tack:** English with saddlebag

**Horses:** Thoroughbred, Somali Ponies

**Pace:** All paces - lots of canters and gallops. 4 to 8 hrs per riding day. Rider must be able to control a horse at a canter.

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

**Level:** (3 to 4 out of 5) Good Intermediate

**Weight:** 175 lbs / 80 kg

**Riders:** Min 3 riders Max 6 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

# Rates and Dates 2026 - IT-UGRT01

**Rates include:** Accommodation, All meals with drinks during the ride, Fully equipped back-up vehicle while out riding, Park entry fees, Camp helpers, Grooms, Transfers, 1 day white water rafting (or alternative option) & 5.5 riding days
Helmets can be provided

## Packages and Options

| Season | Description | ~US$ |
|---|---|---|
| A 2026 | 8 day trip, Lodge Safari | $4800 |

## Transfer Option

**Description**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2026 | Transfer from/to Entebbe included | |
| 2026 | Single supplement (if not willing to share) | $315 |
| 2026 | Single supplement (if willing to share but we cannot find another rider) | $155 |

**Tour Dates**

| Season | Tour Dates | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A 2026 | 09/13/2026 - 09/20/2026 | 8d / 7n | 8 day trip, Lodge Safari |
| A 2026 | 10/11/2026 - 10/18/2026 | 8d / 7n | 8 day trip, Lodge Safari |
| A 2026 | 12/06/2026 - 12/13/2026 | 8d / 7n | 8 day trip, Lodge Safari |

**Min/Max:** 3/6

Dates are available any time of the year on request with 4+ riders.

Rates do not include:Gratuities

# Rates and Dates 2027 - IT-UGRT01

**Rates include:** Accommodation, All meals with drinks during the ride, Fully equipped back-up vehicle while out riding, Park entry fees, Camp helpers, Grooms, Transfers, 1 day white water rafting (or alternative option) & 5.5 riding days
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**Tour Dates**

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

Dates are available any time of the year on request with 4+ riders.

Rates do not include:Gratuities

# Hidden Trails Outdoor 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** | Allergies | Medical Con. | Fitness Level: Excellent | Good | Moderate | Poor | need to rent equipm. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | | ☐ | __/__/__ | | | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2. | | ☐ | __/__/__ | | | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. | | ☐ | __/__/__ | | | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4. | | ☐ | / / | | | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

* If more than 200 lbs we need to reconfirm with our partners first ** Details on dietary needs on separate sheet, please.

Special Diets: _____

How often do you exercise? _____ Describe your experience: _____

Have you been on other riding tours? No ☐ Yes ☐ last trip when? _____ Trip: _____

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 8 weeks before trip starting date.

***Last Name and First Name (The Traveler)*** _____

***Street*** _____ ***e-mail*** _____

***City*** _____ ***State*** _____ ***Postal/Zip Code*** _____

***Phone (wk)*** _____ ***(hm)*** _____ ***Fax*** _____

***Date*** _____ ***Signature (mandatory)*** 1. _____

Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum $ 350 per person) now and full payment 10 weeks before starting 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 maling 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 Ltd. 659A Moberly Rd. Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3 FAX: 604-323-1148 Phone: 604-323-1141***




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Pacific Standard Time