

# 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



# Castello Country Escape - Italy, Europe

Tour Code: IT-ITSR13

5 days / 4 nights ~\$1,030.00

Dates: April to November (except Aug)

Trip Rating : ●●●●●

Difficulty : ●●●●●

Lodging : ●●●

**Tack:** English

**Horses:** Mixture of local Thoroughbred and Warm...

**Pace:** Can cater from beginners (lessons in t... Walk,Trot,Canter,Jumps

**Airport:** Rome-Fiumicino International Airport (FCO)



## Introduction

Lazio, Italy

If you are looking for a short break with your favourite sport in the Italian countryside then look no further than the Castello Country Escape!

Beautiful horses, lakes formed in volcanic craters, Etruscan tombs, and medieval edifices adorn the landscape of this enchanting Italian region. Located one and a half hours away from Rome the splendid 17th century castle borgo (complete with fairy tale turret) will be your home throughout your stay. Just below the castle stands a handsome 18th century farmhouse, the original center of the estate's farming activities. The farmhouse has been skillfully converted with careful attention to conserving authenticity together with comfort and privacy, in a pleasant combination with communal living. The large farm now contains eight charming cottages and 14 bedrooms furnished with original pieces.

The estate has two swimming pools, a tennis court, and enchanting countryside all around. The ground floor of the farmhouse opens onto the main terrace, which overlooks the swimming pool. On the ground floor there is a large "taverna" with brick vaulted ceilings. The space is divided into three main areas: dining room, billiard room, ping-pong room, plus a large kitchen available for all the guests and equipped for cooking courses. Below the castle is a well run yard and two sand schools with professional instruction. In addition are the miles upon miles of breath-taking trails in which to ride with your horse. So whether you are a non-rider looking for some relaxation, a beginner looking to get their foot into the stirrup, or an intermediate rider- we have the trip for you!

## Accommodation



### Accommodations

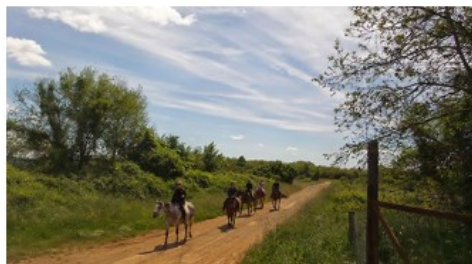
This is a stationary ride, so you will be staying in the same location during the trip.

### Description

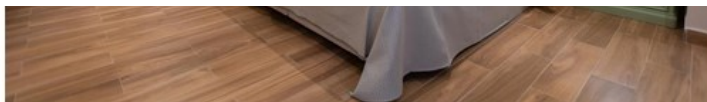
Just below the castle stands a handsome 18th Century farmhouse, the original center of the estate's farming activities. The farmhouse has been skillfully converted with careful attention to conserving authenticity together with comfort and privacy, in a pleasant combination with communal living. The large farm now contains eight charming apartments and 14 double bedrooms (no twin rooms available) furnished with original pieces and all equipped with private bathroom and free Wi-Fi access.

The ground floor of the farm house opens onto the main terrace, which overlooks the swimming pool. On the ground floor there is a large "taverna" with brick vaulted ceilings. The space is divided into three main areas: dining room, billiard room, table tennis room, plus a large kitchen available for all the guests and equipped for cooking courses.

We also have a washer and dryer that guests can use for a small fee.







The outdoor pool is open from June 1st to September 30th. There is a tennis court as well as Volleyball courts, mini football pitch, and Jacuzzi on site.

#### Room Occupancy

If we are unable to find another rider to share the room with you, a single supplement fee applied. Single room accommodations are subject to availability.



#### Meals

All meals are included in this trip from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on the last day.

We prepare local traditional food, like lasagna, handmade pasta with ragù, and roll meats. All meals have a fixed menu.

Lunches will be picnic or a 3-course meal reserved in the restaurant.

Dinners will be a 4-course meals and served either in local restaurants or at the castle estate.

Some wine is included with lunch and dinner.

#### Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to vegetarians with prior notice.

## **Riding**



#### Riding Experience

This ride is suitable for beginners to intermediate-level riders. For those that have never been in the saddle before, we offer lessons in the sand ring to teach the fundamentals and grow rider confidence. Depending on how quickly you learn, there will be opportunities for some short trails. For intermediate riders, we will set you up with a suitable horse and take you on splendid trails. Excursions in the countryside on medium / long distances require rider's ability to control the horse at the three gaits, including canter. Please note that helmets are mandatory. We have several helmets to borrow but recommend you bring your own for optimal fit.

There are two outdoor arenas and lessons are available for all ages and levels in both dressage and jumping.

1 hour lesson = 1 half-day excursion

You can also add a 50-min private lesson to your package for 40€ pp.

#### Horses

Our horses have been selected for their attitude and breed. We have 20 horses at the moment that come from a wide range of breeds including: Italian Maremmano and Murgese, German, Dutch, French, Anglo Arab and cross breeds. They are our most important partners that we take a lot of pride in.

Most of the year, they live outside in the large paddocks with shelters. We also have a stables area with boxes and comfortable shelter when the weather is bad or the horses are ill and need to recover.

Around the castle, there are 100 hectares of green, sheltered fields where the horses are left free to graze. They definitely lead a good life.

We do our best to choose the best horse for our guest according to their level.





#### Riding Equipment

Helmets and body protectors of different sizes are available for our guests so that they can ride safely. Some boots of different sizes are provided but if you have your own boots and helmets it is advisable to bring your own. All guests MUST wear a helmet!

#### Facilities

Two large sand arenas are available for our guests to test their skills. The ground is made of volcanic sand, typical of the area. One arena is used mainly for the flat work and the other larger arena is used for show jumping. The flatwork arena is also lit with floodlights. At the opposite side of the castle we have created a 2.000 m cross-country course with beautiful wooden jumps and soft reliable ground.

#### Staff

Antonio is an ENGEA equestrian guide as well as the owner of the estate. He has several years of experience, riding, training and keeping horses in the countryside. He believes that the new methods of training such as Monty Roberts' and Pat Parelli have improved enormously the relation between humans and horses and our horses are benefiting from that. His knowledge of the trails of the area as well as his passion for horses and for this place will make your trip really special.

Kylie is our Kiwi guide and instructor. She has been riding all her life. After graduating university, she decided to combine her love of horses with her passion for travel and became a horse trekking guide in various countries including Australia, England, Greece, Chile, Egypt and Spain.

#### Insurance

Insurance covering horse riding accidents is mandatory. You have to tell the booking office in advance if you are uninsured. If you have no insurance, please consider that we need at least a 48 hours' notice for activating one for you.

#### Non-Riding Activities

The estate has many other activities to offer to non-riding guests such as cooking classes, cycling, tennis, swimming and massages. There are also a number of attractions that are located in close proximity to the estate. Please, inquire for more information.

### Itinerary



*Please note that riding programs could be subject to changes or cancellation according to weather conditions or horses health problems.*

#### Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

It is possible to adapt this program for beginner or less experienced riders. This program includes 3 lessons or easy trail rides.

##### Day 1 (Wednesday): Arrival

Afternoon check in, welcome drink & briefing with guide/instructor about riding and accommodation details and choice of the horses for the days ahead, enjoy your first dinner.

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at the Castle*

##### Day 2 (Thursday): Panoramic Ride

We go on a half-day ride towards the hills framing the west plateau on which the castle is located. A fantastic spot for a breathtaking view of the area; from the beautiful crater of Lake Bolsena to the hills surrounding lake Mezzano.

*Riding approx. 18 km*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at the Castle*

##### Day 3 (Friday): Mezzano Lake Ride

Today, we ride through farmland on the Brigands Path into the wooded hills which surround Onano. On our way, we glimpse stone pine trees atop an ancient Etruscan site, before arriving on the flat plain of the Mezzano crater. We stop at the Fra Viaco farm restaurant for lunch and you can take a refreshing swim in the crystal clear waters of the lake.

After a delicious meal, we ascend through ancient chestnut woods to arrive back at the castle.

*Riding approx. 32 km*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at the Castle*

##### Day 4 (Saturday): Lake Bolsena Ride

We will be heading out along the Brigands Trail towards the picturesque Lake Bolsena. This is a fantastic spot with breathtaking views of the area stretching from the beautiful crater of Lake Bolsena on one side, to the hills surrounding Lake Mezzano on the other side. On a clear day you can see the sea 40 km away, shimmering like a mirror.

As you head back along this ancient 'outlaws highway' you will pass through mature oak woodlands dotted with original farm dwellings built in the traditional tufo rock.

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at the Castle*





#### Day 5 (Sunday): Departure

Today it is time to bid farewell to your castle home as you come to the end of your riding holiday.

Checkout is usually between 10am-12pm, although a late checkout can be arranged subject to availability.

*Meals included: Breakfast*



#### Extra Activities Nearby (added fee)

##### *Boat Rental at Lake Bolsena (max 5 people per boat)*

Lake Bolsena is a volcanic caldera lake supplied entirely from the aquifer, rainfall and runoff. A Caldera is a cauldron-like hollow formed following the evacuation of a magma chamber as opposed to a Crater which forms following an eruption around a volcanic vent. Roman records indicate activity of the Vulsini volcano occurred as recently as 104 BC but it has been dormant since then. The two islands in the southern part of the lake were formed by underwater eruptions following the collapse that created the caldera.

##### *Wine Tour (20€ pp + transfer service)*

The vineyards are located precisely on the slopes of the spur of tufaceous rock on which Sovana is perched, immersed in a breath-taking natural and archaeological panorama. The property was acquired by the Antinori family in 1995 and extends over 193 hectares (some 480 acres) on a gently sloping terrain of volcanic origin with a tufaceous sub-soil. It is situated at approximately 200 meters (660 feet) above sea level. The Fattoria Aldobrandesca wine premiered in summer 1998: Aleatico 1997. In 2004 premiered Vie Cave: the fruit of lands of widely varying features and careful zonal and oenological research.

##### *Spa Visit (inquire for rate)*

The medieval village of Sorano is famous for its ancient springs. Recent hydro-geological research has confirmed the existence of an important flow of thermal water, enhancing the value of the ancient springs located above the church of Santa Maria dell'Aquila. This natural treasure is now used to feed a large thermal pool, with a special area reserved for children and including two waterfalls. This allows guests to benefit from a natural hydro-massage all year round. The water, rich in calcium, magnesium and bicarbonate, emerges from the springs at a temperature of 37.5°C. Today, guests can enjoy the benefits of this thermal water in the unique surroundings of the Sorano Thermal Springs Residence.



#### Onsite Non-Riding Activities (included)

- Swimming pool open from 9 am to 8 pm from June 1st to September 30th
- Game room with pool table, table tennis and table football

#### Onsite Non-Riding Activities (for added fee)

- Tennis court (10€ pp per hour)
- E-bikes rental
- Massages are available upon request and according to our availability (extra cost - please inquire), any day from 9 am to 7 pm
- Yoga (20€ pp for 1.5 hours) - min 5 pax required
- Cooking lesson (25€ pp for 50 minutes + lunch fee)

## Other Info

**Meeting:** Grotte di Castro

**Airport:** Rome-Fiumicino International Airport (FCO)

**Train station:** Orvieto train station

**Transfer:** Orvieto train station, Fiumicino airport, or Ciampino airport

**Distance:** 150km

Best to rent a car!

Transfers available from Fiumicino or Ciampino airports in Rome, or Orvieto train station between 10:00am to 6:00pm for an extra fee. Check-in to your room after 2:00pm.

**Tack:** English

**Horses:** Mixture of local Thoroughbred and Warmblood crosses, with ponies available for children or small adults.

**Pace:** Can cater from beginners (lessons in the arena) to intermediate. Moderate with trot and canter

Walk | Trot | Canter | Jumps |

**Level:** 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (1 to 3 out of 5) Beginner to Intermediate

**Age:** Min 14

**Weight:** 200 lbs / 90 kg

**Riders:** Min 1 riders Max 6 riders

Riding helmets are mandatory for this ride.

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Contact Us](#) [Privacy Policy](#)



Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-ITSR13

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, Welcome drink and guided tour of the castle & 3 riding days (1 full day + 2 half days)  
Helmets and body protectors of different sizes as well as some boots of different sizes can be provided

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	5-day trip (High)	€935	\$1030
	Discount for twin rooms, pp	(€40)	(\$45)
	Single supplement	€80	\$90
B 2024	5-day trip (Low)	€875	\$965
	Discount for twin rooms, pp	(€40)	(\$45)
	Single supplement	€80	\$90

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

Transfer Option

Description

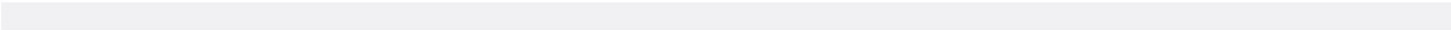
2024	Transfer from/to Fiumicino airport (taxi), return, per car (max 2 pax)	€330	\$365
2024	Transfer from/to Orvieto train station (taxi), return, per car (max 2 pax)	€150	\$165
2024	10% off for groups of 6 pax or more		
2024	E-bike rental (half-day), pp	€30	\$35
2024	Guided cycling excursion with bike, pp (min 2 pax)	€90	\$100
2024	Wine tasting, pp	€30	\$35
2024	Bolsena Lake boat rental	€150	\$165
2024	Non-rider discount, dbl, pp		

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	03/20/2024 - 03/24/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	03/27/2024 - 03/31/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	04/03/2024 - 04/07/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
B 2024	04/10/2024 - 04/14/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	04/17/2024 - 04/21/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	04/24/2024 - 04/28/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	05/01/2024 - 05/05/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	05/08/2024 - 05/12/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	05/15/2024 - 05/19/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	05/22/2024 - 05/26/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	05/29/2024 - 06/02/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	06/05/2024 - 06/09/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	06/12/2024 - 06/16/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
A 2024	06/19/2024 - 06/23/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	06/26/2024 - 06/30/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	07/03/2024 - 07/07/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	07/10/2024 - 07/14/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	07/17/2024 - 07/21/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	07/24/2024 - 07/28/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	09/04/2024 - 09/08/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
A 2024	09/11/2024 - 09/15/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (High)
B 2024	09/18/2024 - 09/22/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	09/25/2024 - 09/29/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	09/28/2024 - 10/02/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	10/02/2024 - 10/06/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	10/09/2024 - 10/13/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	10/16/2024 - 10/20/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	10/23/2024 - 10/27/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	10/30/2024 - 11/03/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)
B 2024	11/06/2024 - 11/10/2024	5d / 4n	5-day trip (Low)

Min/Max: 1/6

Rates do not include:Insurance (mandatory), Gratuities & Transfers





# 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	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"/>
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"/>
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"/>
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"/>

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 Ltd. 659A Moberly Road Vancouver, BC V5Z 4B3 FAX: 604-323-1148 Phone: 604-323-1141



## 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](mailto:info@hiddentrails.com)  
Website [www.hiddentrails.com](http://www.hiddentrails.com)

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



