

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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El Cid Arlanza Valley Ride - Spain, Europe

8 days / 7 nights ~\$2,280.00 Dates: June to September

Trip Rating: Lodging: ♣♠♠

Tack: Spanish (Vaquero) and some Horses: Pura Raza Española, Hispano Arab, Lusi. Pace: Moderate with some nice canters, 25-30. Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Madrid







Introduction

Central Spain, Spain

A trip for nature lovers, the horse enthusiast, the gourmet who enjoys tasting the flavor of a new country, or for the curious traveler ready to experience the lifestyle and traditions of a different people!

This trip explores a changing landscape of mountains and vast plains, rivers and valleys, forests and plateaus. A land celebrated by poets and exalted by past travelers- here you can follow the tracks of "El Cid" the Spanish hero from centuries long gone. This is the cradle of the Spanish language, its history is the legend of conquests. Here the center of Spanish medieval history is at your fingertips. The area's importance during that particular epoch is still evident in its cathedrals, monasteries, castles and fortified towns, many of which are preserved in unbelievably perfect state. We have established an extraordinary two week holiday or you can ride a one week segment, both lead by Jose Manuel, who has lived all his life in the region and is proud to share his knowledge with you. He does not speak English, but somehow everyone understands him very well- Of course it helps that he is always accompanied by an interpreter and a horse guide!

The trip starts following the tracks of "El Cid", the Castilian hero of medieval times. We ride along the Arlanza

River, starting from the historic town of Llerma all the way up to the river's origin. The area is one of transition where vast wild plains and pleasant valleys alternate, with natural occurring great beauty. It is an original Spanish landscape in the heart of Castile, once a kingdom reaching from the Bay of Biscay in the north to Andalusía in the south. The valley of Arlanza offers an extraordinary heritage; Lerma, San Pedro de Arlaza, Covarrubias and Silos, all especially significant in the history of Castile. One thousand year old churches prevail and villages with 500 year old houses accompany your riding trail. You will be lead through isolated karst scenery to the medieval city Covarrubias. Passing the monastery of Sto Domingo de los Silos, you ride through light oak forests, cross beautiful rivers and vast pastureland, along lakes, through wild canyons and mountain paths until you reach Sierra de Neila. The picnic lunches are all well prepared with all the trimmings. Dinners are in local restaurants with delicious and authentic local menus. A medieval style banquet ends this first week on the footsteps of "El

Accomodation

Accommodation

This is a progressive ride so nights will be spent in different accommodations

Overnight accommodations on this ride are in comfortable hotels with en-suite bathrooms. Wi-Fi connection is available in all accommodations.

There are no laundry facilities available on this trip.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability Nights 1 & 2: Hotel in Covarrubias (2 options)

Night 3: Hotel in Santo Domingo de Silos Night 4: Hotel in Navas del Pinar

Night 5: Hotel in S. Leonardo de Yagüe

Night 6: Guesthouse in Quintanar de la Sierra (2 options)

Night 7: Hotel in Covarrubias (2 options)



Hotel (option 1) in Covarrubias

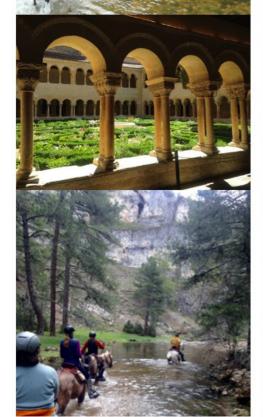
This charming hotel offers 45 bedrooms in the heart of Covarrubias. The rooms feature a Castilian décor with beamed ceilings and wooden furniture. All rooms come equipped with private facilities, free Wi-Fi, a TV and air conditioning

Hotel (option 2) in Covarrubias

This rural hotel displays the typical architecture of the region (featuring old stones and wood) and has a small garden where guest can relax. The rooms are decorated with warm colors and all include a fan, heating, a TV, free Wi-Fi access, a private bathroom and a balcony with nice views of the surroundings. There are common









Hotel in Santo Domingo de Silos

This hotel was built during the 18th century and features a typical Castilian architecture, with beautiful stonewalls. Nowadays, the hotel welcomes guest in 16 tastefully decorated bedrooms, all fitted with a TV, internet access and

Hotel in Navas del Pinar

This accommodation is located in a big stone house built with in Serrano style. It has 6 double bedrooms (all with ensuite bathrooms), a kitchen and a big living room with a TV and a fireplace.

This rural hotel benefits from great views thanks to its ideal location, on top of a hill. The rooms are simply furnished and come equipped with a TV, free Wi-Fi access and a private bathroom. There is a small terrace garden and a lounge where guests can have a chat or just relax.

Guesthouse (option 1) in Quintanar de la Sierra

This guesthouse is set in a beautiful stone building and features a rustic décor. The rooms are tastefully decorated and all have a flat screen TV, a safe box, air conditioning, a private bathroom and free Wi-Fi access. Common areas include a lounge with a fireplace and a terrace.

Guesthouse (option 2) in Quintanar de la Sierra
This guesthouse features a traditional mountain architecture with ashlar stones and typical conical chimneys. The 34 air-conditioned rooms are all fitted with a TV and private bathroom. Free Wi-Fi is available in public areas.

If we are unable to find another rider to share the room with you, the single supplement fee applies.



All meals are included with this trip. We serve mainly Spanish dishes.

The picnics are prepared fresh daily and feature local products. Dinners are in local restaurants with delicious local specialties.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to all dietary restrictions with prior notice.







Riding



Horse

We currently have around 20 horses, mainly locally Andalusian, Andalusian crosses and Spanish breeds. They average between 15hh and 16hh and are a forward going, responsive and thoroughly enjoyable ride. They are also good natured, nimble and sure-footed.

The stables where horses live are fully equipped and designed for the comfort and well-being of our horses.

ltinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Note: it is possible to combine this tour with the Sierra de la Demanda Ride

Day 1 (Saturday): Arrival

Arrival at Madrid Airport and transfer to the first night's hotel in Covarrubias. Here we enjoy a fine dinner and have the chance to learn a little about the history of El Cid, a medieval Castilian hero in the fight against the Moorish occupation of 10th century Spain. On this horse riding holiday, we follow in his footsteps and the dramatic events of those times, visiting the monasteries and villages he did 1000 years ago.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Nuevo Arlanza or Hotel Doña Sancha or similar in Covarrubias

Day 2 (Sunday): Ura Valley Ride

We start our adventure. Leaving beautiful Covarrubias, one of the first areas to be reconquered from the Moors in the late ninth century and the birthplace of the Castilian language, we go for a ride to the Ura Valley, a small canyon that crosses the river Mataviejas. This circular ride returns us once again to Covarrubias where we enjoy another wonderful supper in this historic village before retiring for the night.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Nuevo Arlanza or Hotel Doña Sancha or similar in Covarrubias

Day 3 (Monday): Covarrubias to Santo Domingo de Silos

We continue on along El Cid's banishment route, crossing the Arlanza river near Covarrubias. Then we take the road to Retuerta and later to Contreras, also know as the "town of the one hundred fountains". Finally we reach Santo Domingo de Silos, a well known Village due to its Romanic Monastery of the XI century, one of the most beautiful in all Spain.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Coronas II or similar in Santo Domingo de Silos

Day 4 (Tuesday): Santo Domingo de Silos to Navas del Pinar

We leave Santo Domingo de Silos traversing Alto de Peñacoba , Marmolar and Tierra de Pinares (land of pines). Then we get to Navas del Pinar at the entrance of Parque Natural del Cañón del Río Lobos. We walk surrounded by pine groves and cross deserted mountain towns where all the inhabitants have left for the cities.



Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at Casa Rural La Fuente or similar in Navas del Pinar

Day 5 (Wednesday): Navas del Pinar to S. Leonardo de Yagüe

Today, we ride through the spectacular Parque Natural del Cañón de Río Lobos, protected land and a sanctuary for birds. This is a 16 km canyon, made by Río Lobos that runs through the provinces of Burgos and Soria, surrounded by steep cliffs on both sides, lush vegetation underfoot and ancient trees and poplars. There are also many caves and wells. At the end of this canyon, we emerge in Casarejo, in the province of Soria. Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Manrique de Lara or similar in S. Leonardo de Yagüe

Day 6 (Thursday): S. Leonardo de Yagüe to Quintanar de la Sierra

We leave Cañón del Río lobos, riding through the pinewoods of Pino Valsain and get to Canicosa de la Sierra and Quintanar de la Sierra in the Province of Burgos. Here we will visit the Necrópolis de Revenga, craved into rock and very imaginative medieval cemetery. You can also admire rocks marked with dinosaur tracks. Dinner and lodging in Posada las Mayas or Casa Ramón or similar.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Posada las Mayas or Casa Ramón or similar in Quintanar de la Sierra

Day 7 (Friday): Quintanar de la Sierra to source of river Arlanza

We leave these beautiful mountain towns and begin our last day riding through pine woods in our way to the source of river Arlanza. After a lunch here, we return at last to Covarrubias where the adventure began.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at Hotel Nuevo Arlanza or Hotel Doña Sancha or similar in Covarrubias

Day 8 (Saturday): Departure

Departure and transfer to Madrid after breakfast when we must bid farewell to Spain.

Meals included: Breakfast

Please note: This itinerary is given for your guidance only and it may be altered in accordance with the prevailing conditions by the organizing team.

Other Info

Meeting: Madrid Airport: Madrid

Transfer: Madrid Airport- usually at 17:30.

Pick-up/ drop-off is available from Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport (MAD). Pick-up is fixed for 5:00pm. Drop-off around 12:00pm on the last day.

Tack: Spanish (Vaquero) and some English

Horses: Pura Raza Española, Hispano Arab, Lusitanos, Cruzados con Español Arab

Pace: Moderate with some nice canters, 25-30 km per day. 6 riding days

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 4444 (3 to 3 out of 5) Intermediate

Riders: Min 4 riders Max 9 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 - PG-BUT8

Rates include: Accommodations, All meals, 6 riding days & Transfers from/to Madrid Airport at set times Helmets can be provided

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	8 day trip	€2070	\$2280
	Single supplement	€200	\$220
B 2024	15 day trip Combo (El Cid & Demanda)	€3975	\$4370
	Single supplement	€400	\$440

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 Madrid airport included at set times

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/01/2024 - 06/08/2024	8d/7n	8 day trip
B 2024	06/01/2024 - 06/15/2024	15d / 14n	15 day trip Combo (El Cid & Demanda)
A 2024	08/31/2024 - 09/07/2024	8d/7n	8 day trip

Min/Max: 4/9

Rates do not include: 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 SS	8 45							
1.										
2.										
3.										
4.										
Special Diets:										
Your fitness level: Excellent Moderate Poor How long have you been riding?										
How often do you ride?	Have you been on oth	er 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)										
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Other.	04-4-		Parkel (7) and a							
City	State		Postal/Zip Code							
Phone (wk) (hm)	Ce	ell	Fax							
		STREET, ST.								
Date	Signature (mandat	ory) 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 digit Security #4.										
Exp.Date: Signature										
Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than maling address): Travel Cancellation Insurance Credit Card (if different than maling address): Sign me (us) up initial										
I have enclosed a check for the deposit (No, we will provide our own initial							

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