

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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Alsace Villages - France, Europe

Tour Code: PG-FRA8 7 days / 6 nights ~\$2,025.00 Dates: Aug

Trip Rating : •••••
Difficulty : ••••
Lodging: •••
BASIC

Tack: English
Horses: Anglo Arab
Pace: Fast paced ride
Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,





Introduction

Alsace, France

The Alsace region has many well-maintained trails and tracks, allowing riders to discover it from the back of a horse.

From the mountains of the Vosges to the plains of Alsace, this trip has you wandering from South to North, passing through the vineyards, quaint villages (Riquewihr, Ribeauville, Kayserberg...), forests and mountain passes. Your guide will tell you everything there is to know about the local flora and fauna and his trained endurance horses

You will ride fit Anglo-Arabs allowing for many fun gallops on the way! This is a fast paced ride that will satisfy any experienced rider.

During the trip, you will stay in small, traditional and typical French hotels / guesthouses or country inns and enjoy the famous French cuisine to the fullest.

Accomodation



Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so you will be staying in different locations during the trip.

Description

The overnight stays take place in small, traditional and typically French hotels / guesthouses or country inns.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Hotel in Wintzfelden

Night 2: Gite in Oberhaslach

Night 3: Gite near Climont

Night 4 & 5: Gîte in Aubure Night 6: Gite near Orbey

latelia Wintefelden

This small hotel offers 22 rooms of different sizes (1 to 4 pax per room). Each room features an ensuite bathroom, cable TV a phone and internet access. Some rooms have a balcony with a magnificent view over the Vosges mountains and the garden. Facilities include a patio, a small garden and an indoor pool.

Gîte in Oberhaslach

This beautiful country house located on the edge of the forest offers cozy guestrooms. Each room is uniquely decorated with original wooden furniture, typical of the region. Bathrooms are shared.

Guests are welcome to take a dip in the swimming pool or to relax in the garden. Internet access is available and some rooms have Wi-Fi.

Gîte in Aubure

Opened and renovated in 2019, this former hotel built in 1879 offers a stopover gite for up to 25 people. You will be staying in one of the 6 private rooms with a beautiful wooden floor reminiscent of mountain chalets. There are 4 bathrooms shared between the guests.

Guests also have access to a relaxation room (with books, games and Wi-FI), a patio and a garden.

Gite near Orbei

Located at an altitude of 850m, this lovely gifte will offer you a comfortable accommodation for the night in their guest room (capacity 2-6 people), located on the second floor. The guest room is made up of a spacious bedroom with a double bed and 2 single beds, a living room with a sofa bed for 2 people (with a real mattress and a real box spring), a bathroom and an independent WC. A TV corner is available in the common room and there is a library in the bedroom. There is also free Wi-Fi access at this property.

From the patio, you can enjoy breathtaking views of the Orbey Valley.

Breakfast and dinner is taken in common with the other holidaymakers and with your hosts, in the former stable,



OW CONVENED INTO a UNITING FOOTH.

The meals are made with fruits and vegetables from our orchards and vegetable gardens, supplemented by a weekly organic basket. The region's traditional cheeses (munster, organic barikass, goat, etc.) come from local breeders.

Room Occupancy

Single rooms are sometimes available (based on availability) and a single supplement fee applies. The single supplement fee does not apply if we cannot find another rider to share a room with you.



Meals

All meals are included with this trip.

Evening meals and breakfasts will be taken at the hotel. Lunch will be generous, inspired by traditional country cooking, warm or cold according to the weather.

At noon, it is always a pleasure to see from far away a well-dressed table, in the middle of a field, waiting for us.

Alcoholic beverages are not included with this trip but you can purchase your own at the local restaurants.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater to most dietary restrictions with prior notice.



Riding



Horses

We know that the key to a horse trip is the horses. That is why we have chosen and breed our own. They are all born in the Morvan region and they have lived all their life in the same region. They are calm, well in their heads but when need be or when requested, they are fast and generous. They are capable of anything, they will surprise you and they will allow you to experience a unique riding trip.

Pace

We will cover about 30 to 40 mile journeys every day with long and frequent canters and, at times, abrupt downhill sections.

Riding Experience

Riders need to be confident and in control at all paces on varied terrains. They also need to be physically fit, as this is a demanding ride.

You should have ridden regularly for more than 5 years and also feel comfortable trotting and galloping for a long time. There are some downhill canters.



Itinerary



Sample itinerary - subject to changes

Day 1: Arrival

Arrival in the late afternoon to Wintzfelden (southwest of Colmar). Guests arriving by train to Colmar can be picked up at the train station at 6:30 pm. Welcome dinner and trip briefing in the evening.

Meals included: Dinner Overnight at Hotel in Wintzfelden

Day 2: Birkenwald to Oberhaslach

After breakfast, we finally get into the saddle for a full day ride. We stop for lunch in Cosswillers and then ride up to Oberhaslach, where we spend the night.

Riding approx. 35 km

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Gite near Neufeld

Day 3: Oberhaslach to Climont

Beautiful views will accompany you on your way up to the Champ du Feu, where we stop for lunch. We ride through Grendelbach forest, crossing the Bruchberg pass and Rothlach.

In the afternoon, we ride down to the Col de la Charbonniere and the Col de Steige in ordef to reach Climont. Riding approx. 40 km

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Gite near Climont

Day 4: Climont to Aubure

Today's ride goes mainly through forests with many opportunities to canter. We will come across the Cold de la Hingrie and Sainte Croix aux Mines before reaching Aubure.

Riding approx. 30 km

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Gite in Aubure

Day 5: Loop Ride around Aubure

Since yesterday, we ride through the Ballons des Vosges Natural Park. At the end of the day, we reach the wine growing villages of Riquewhir and Ribeauville, some of the most beautiful villages in France.

Riding approx. 36 km

Meals included: Rreakfast Lunch & Dinner

Overnight at a Gite in Aubure

Day 6: Auburel to Orbey

This beautiful stage allows us to ride on lovely crest trails (at about 1000 m high), passing through Bagenelles pass, Bonhomme pass and Louschbach pass. We eventually arrive at the Lac Blanc ski resort, near the Col du Calvaire.

We spend the night in the lovely village of Orbey Riding approx. 35 km Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight at a Gite in Orbey

Day 7: Orbey to Kayserberg

The last riding day offers a smooth ride. We ride down the Munster valley to Kayserberg, a beautiful Alsatian village. Depending on your departure time, we might be able to go to Kientzheim or Sigolsheim. Riding approx. 30 km

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch



Other Info

Meeting: Colmar or Wintzfelden Airport: Basel, Freibourg or Mulhouse

Train station: Colmar Transfer: Colmar train station

Pick-up is available from Colmar train station at 6:30 pm on Day 1. If you do not choose to take

the transfer, you will need to make your own way to Wintzfelden on Day 1.

On the last day of the trip, you can choose to be transferred to Strasbourg train station

(departure after the ride, around 5pm).

Tack: English Horses: Anglo Arab Pace: Fast paced ride Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

Level: 4444 (5 to 5 out of 5) Advanced

Weight: 195 lbs

Riders: Min 6 riders Max 12 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-FRA8

Rates include: Accommodation, All meals, 6 riding days, Luggage transfers, French and English speaking guide & Transfers

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$	
A 2024	7 day trip	€1840	\$2025	

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

Transfer Option

Description

2024	Pick-up from Colmar train station included at set time		
2024	Drop off to Strasbourg train station included at set time		
2024	Single supplement	€295	\$305

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates			
A 2024	07/28/2024 - 08/03/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip	

Min/Max: 6/12

Rates do not include: Alcoholic drinks & Gratuities

Reservation Form

Tour:	Code #:	from	to :	
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In an emergency, name and phone number o	f contact:			
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