

# 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



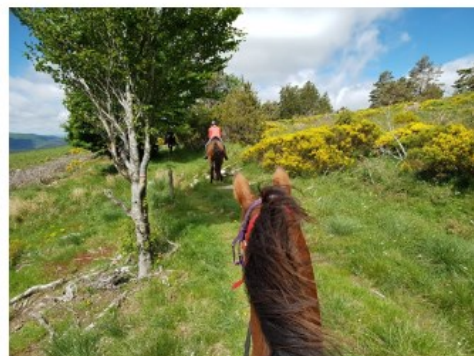
# Lozère Ride - France, Europe

Tour Code: PG-LOZ8  
7 days / 6 nights ~\$2,025.00  
Dates: June & September

Trip Rating : ●●●●●  
Difficulty : ●●●●●  
Lodging : ●● BASIC

**Tack:** English  
**Horses:** Anglo Arab  
**Pace:** Fast paced ride (40-50 km daily)  
Walk, Trot, Canter, Gallop,

**Airport:** Montpellier or Lyon



## Introduction

Auvergne, France

Ride through the wonderful Unesco World Heritage Site of the Cévennes.

We go from Lozère to Gard, following the footsteps of the novelist Robert Louis Stevenson. You will also ride the famous Lozériaux cattle paths, still used by the shepherds and their ewes during their transhumance, but also part of the mythical endurance Equestrian event of the 160km of Florac!

During this extraordinary fast riding tour through the spectacular mountain scenery of the Cévennes you will discover several famous sights such as Mont Lozère, Mont Aigoual, the gorges of Tarn and Jonte, the Causses Mejean and Sauveterre. Your guide will be able to tell you a lot about the flora and fauna and his trained endurance horses.

This is one of Europe's most active rides with long distances covered every day at a fast pace! To accompany you on this journey, you will ride fit Anglo-Arabs that are also actively involved in endurance competitions.

The diversity and desertification of this territory means that accommodations are rare and very different from one another. We will stay in small hotels, lodges or bed and breakfast where we take sleep and eat comfortably.

## Accommodation



### Accommodations

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

### Description

You stay in beautiful, traditional and typical French hotels and guesthouses. The accommodations are located close to nature and often a little smaller. Some are more basic, which does not detract from their charm.

### Special Accommodation Itinerary in 2023 - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Campground in Florac  
Night 2: Gite in Barre des Cévennes  
Night 3: Hotel in L'Esperou  
Night 4: Guesthouse in Aiguebonne  
Night 5: Guesthouse in Mas Saint Chely  
Night 6: Hotel in Ispagnac

### Campground in Florac

You sleep in modern bungalows that can accommodate up to 6 people each. Every bungalow has one bathroom to share between the different bedrooms.

### Gite in Barre des Cévennes

This old but comfortable house offers 7 bedrooms that can accommodate 2 to 6 people each. Each shared room has a bathroom. There is Wi-Fi access available.

### Guesthouse in Aiguebonne

The small hamlet of Aiguebonne can accommodate up to 30-40 people divided between different accommodations: a Guest House, 3 Gites, a Yurt and more. Riders are usually accommodated in the guesthouse or stopover gite, which offer simple but comfortable rooms with internet access.

The guest house has 3 bedrooms on the ground floor, sharing one bathroom and 2 additional bedrooms upstairs with private bathrooms.

The stopover gite is a small mountain refuge with a 10-bed dormitory and a shared bathroom.

### Guesthouse in Mas Saint Chely

This charming stonehouse offers 5 bedrooms, each with its own bathroom. The rooms are simple but comfortable and all feature free Wi-Fi access.

### Hotel in Ispagnac

You will be warmly welcomed in this small family hotel in the heart of the village of Ispagnac. Each of the 10





You will be warmly welcomed in this small family hotel in the heart of the village of Ispagnac. Each of the 10 rooms features a comfortable bed, a TV, ensuite bathroom and free Wi-Fi access.

#### Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Hotel at Mont Lozère  
Night 2: Hotel near Florac  
Night 3: Gite near Mont Aigoual  
Night 4: Guesthouse in Aiguebonne  
Night 5: Auberge in Nivolières  
Night 6: Hotel in Ispagnac

#### Hôtel at Mont Lozère

This hotel offers you a magnificent view of Mont Lozère. Located at an altitude of 1421 m it is set in a quiet environment and is surrounded by nature. There are 7 very comfortable rooms, all featuring a private bathroom and a television. One room is accessible for people with reduced mobility  
The restaurant will seduce you with its traditional and regional cuisine, served in a pleasant dining room with central fireplace.

#### Hotel near Florac

Located only 200 meters away from the famous Chemin de R.L. Stevenson, this country hotel offers 24 spacious rooms, all with private facilities, a television, a phone and free WIFI access.  
There is also a garden with some chairs where guest can relax.

#### Gite near Mont Aigoual

Former forest house completely rehabilitated in 2002, this mountain cottage (located at 1085m above sea level) offers comfortable accommodation for up to 46 people in several dormitories of 4,6,8 and 9 beds. Showers and toilets are shared and particular attention is paid to water resources and the consumption of electricity, in order to limit ecological impact. Please, note that due to its remote location, there is no cellphone service here.

#### Guesthouse in Aiguebonne

The small hamlet of Aiguebonne can accommodate up to 30-40 people divided between different accommodations: a Guest House, 3 Gîtes, a Yurt and more. Riders are usually accommodated in the guesthouse or stopover gite, which offer simple but comfortable rooms with internet access.

The guest house has 3 bedrooms on the ground floor, sharing one bathroom and 2 additional bedrooms upstairs with private bathrooms.

The stopover gite is a small mountain refuge with a 10-bed dormitory and a shared bathroom.

#### Auberge in Nivolières

With its traditional limestone architecture, this old Causseard farmhouse rehabilitated in an Auberge welcomes you in the heart of the Causse Méjean.

The rooms have all been renovated according to the Causseard architecture (featuring stone vaults) and they share facilities. There is free Wi-Fi access at the property.

Here, you can taste the traditional culinary specialties or typically Causseard cuisine based on local products (cold cuts, lambs, mushrooms, sheep's and goat's cheese).

#### Hotel in Ispagnac

You will be warmly welcomed in this small family hotel in the heart of the village of Ispagnac. Each of the 10 rooms features a comfortable bed, a TV, ensuite bathroom and free Wi-Fi access.

#### Room Occupancy

Single rooms are available based on availability but 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 from dinner on Day 1 to lunch on the last day.

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. You 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.

## Itinerary



#### Sample itinerary for 2023 - subject to changes

*The first accommodation usually used on this tour is closed in 2023 so we slightly altered the program for this year.*

#### Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival

First meeting around 6pm at the reception of the Val des Cevennes campground in Florac. You will sleep in bungalows.

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at a Campground in Florac*

#### Day 2 (Monday): Ride to Barre des Cevennes

After breakfast, we ride through Florac before following the Tarnon and Mimente rivers. We follow a former railway converted into a trail up to the village of Cassagnas, where we stop for lunch.

In the afternoon, we ride up the Col des Loupies and the Plan de Fontmort, a steep trail but with good terrain. After crossing the forest of Fontmort, we reach our accommodation in Barre des Cevennes.

*Riding approx. 40 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Gite in Barre des Cevennes*

#### Day 3 (Tuesday): Barre des Cevennes to L'Esperou

As soon as we ride out of the village, we follow the plateau of Can de L'Hospitalet and ride above the Marquaires tunnel before reaching the Col de Salides, where we stop for lunch. After our break, we climb the Aigoual mountain (1565 m). We then quickly descend to the Prat Peyrot ski station before reaching L'Esperou, where we spend the night.

*Riding approx. 45 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel in L'Esperou*

#### Day 4 (Wednesday): L'Esperou to Aiguebonne

This morning, we ride to Camprieu and Abime de Brambiau, passing through the Happiness valley via the Croix de Fer pass. In the afternoon, we pay a short visit to the Abime de Brambiau, before heading down to the village of Aiguebonne. On our way, we pass through the lovely village of Saint Sauveur.

*Riding approx. 30 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight in Aiguebonne*

#### Day 5 (Thursday): Aiguebonne to Mas Saint Chely

Today starts with a challenge: a 14 km long canter track that you can gallop through up to the village of Meyrueis. The horses are well trained and master this route easily. Here, we enjoy our picnic lunch.

Once back in the saddle, we pass by the beautiful castle of Roquedols. We then ride through the Jonte gorges in order to reach Causse Mejean.

In the evening, we spend the night in Mas Saint Chely, in a guesthouse.

*Riding approx. 45 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight in a Guesthouse in Mas Saint Chely*

#### Day 6 (Friday): Mas Saint Chely to Ispagnac

Today, we ride through Causse mejean, enjoying lovely gallops on this flat terrain. We take our lunch above the Tarn valley before riding down to Ispagnac.

*Riding approx. 35 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight in a Guesthouse or Hotel in Ispagnac*

#### Day 7 (Saturday): Last Ride & Departure

Your last riding day will take you back to Florac, passing through the Montmirat pass. A beautiful ride!

*Riding approx. 36 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch*





**Sample itinerary - subject to changes**

**Day 1 (Sunday): Arrival**

Arrival to Mont Lozere. First meeting at your hotel in Mont Lozere.

*Meals included: Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel in Mont Lozere*

**Day 2 (Monday): Ride to Florac**

After breakfast, you mount up through the mountain landscape to the summit of Lozère. You will ride higher and higher, until you reach the highest peak of De Finiels at about 1.700 m. From here, you have a wonderful view over the Cévennes. After lunch, you will ride down to the Tarn gorge, sometimes over steeper bottlenecks. In the evening, you stay in a nice French hotel, where you will be spoiled with a dinner.

*Riding approx. 45 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at Hotel near Florac*

**Day 3 (Tuesday): Florac to Aire de Cote**

Your riding day starts in Florac. This town, located in the southern central massif of the Cévennes, forms the starting point of a 40 km long and deeply cut gorge system. The rivers Tarn and Tarnon unite here and flow through the gorge: a spectacular sight!

You will ride through Florac and past the village of Barre de Cévennes, under a hilltop. Today you cross many famous mountain passes, including the Col de Salidés, the Can du Hospitalet and finally ride on the second highest mountain with a height of 1,600 m, the Aigoual. Throughout the riding day, you will always have beautiful views of mountain meadows and rocky mountain passes. From the top of Can de l'Hospitalet, it is said we can see up to a third of France's territory...a sight not to be missed!

Today's lunch break is taken at the Col des Faisses, where you get a unique view over the valley.

*Riding approx. 55 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight at a Gite near Mount Aigoual*

**Day 4 (Wednesday): Aire de Cote to Aiguebonne**

You ride over the summit of the Aigoual. Finally you reach the karst cave Bramabiau, which you visit. The passageway, which is crossed by a river, has a natural entrance and exit, so you can walk on rocky paths through the cave. At the end of the cave, you will be amazed by a new mountain panorama. This place is perfect for your lunch. The descent takes you through the forest paths of the arboretum of the Cévennes, where you can expect some beautiful gallop routes.

Overnight in a very nice guesthouse with regional and traditional French cuisine.

*Riding approx. 40 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight in Aiguebonne*

**Day 5 (Thursday): Aiguebonneto Nivolières**

Today starts with a challenge: a 14 km long canter track that you can gallop through. The horses are well trained and master this route easily. Then, the route goes through small paths across the gorge of Gorges de la Jonte. With a depth of about 500 m and its wild and romantic untouched nature, it is as impressive as the well-known Tarn Gorge. You then continue riding through the Cévennes National Park across the lime plateau Causse-Méjean. At noon, take a break in the pretty little town of Meyruies. Afterwards, we will enjoy several gallops in a landscape that reminds us a bit of Ireland: green meadows, small stone walls and plenty of space.

*Riding approx. 45-50 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight in a Guesthouse in Nivolières*

**Day 6 (Friday): Nivolières to Ispagnac**

After a French breakfast, you ride again over the plateau Causse-Méjean. On the way, you pass the castle ruin of Castelbouc, which hovers above the homonymous mountain village. Beautiful riding trails on which you can gallop optimally, ride past picturesque scenery and pass the Tarn Gorge. At noon you will have lunch at an idyllic place, which offers a magnificent view over the gorge of Tarn that we just passed.

*Riding approx. 45 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Overnight in a Guesthouse or Hotel in Ispagnac*

**Day 7 (Saturday): Last Ride & Departure**

Your last riding day will take you over the Lozère mountain and afterwards you will ride up the Col de Montmirat. Continue on the Causse de Sauveterre lime plateau (up to 1,200 m high). At noon, you enjoy a picnic on the mountain pass of the Col de Montmirat and admire the magnificent panorama again. After the break, we go on a last brisk gallop over mountain pastures back to where we started the ride (expected arrival around 5:00 pm). Individual departure or, if you prefer, you can book an extra night there and leave the next day after breakfast (extra cost - please inquire).

*Riding approx. 42 km.*

*Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch*

**Other Info**

**Meeting:** Mende

**Airport:** Montpellier or Lyon

**Train station:** Mende

**TRANSPORTATION NOTES**

Transfers are not available for this trip.

**Tack:** English

**Horses:** Anglo Arab

**Pace:** Fast paced ride (40-50 km daily)

Walk | Trot | Canter | Gallop |

**Level:**  (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-LOZ8

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

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

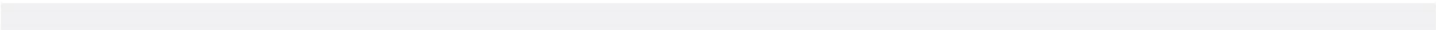
2024	Single supplement	€295	\$305
------	-------------------	------	-------

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/02/2024 - 06/08/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip
A 2024	09/22/2024 - 09/28/2024	7d / 6n	7 day trip

Min/Max: 6/12

Rates do not include:Alcoholic drinks, Transfers & 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	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



