

Hidden Trails

Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS

Outdoor Vacations
- on & with Hidden Trails

About Hidden Trails



Explore the World on & with 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

Hidden Trails

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from within the USA or Canada or

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Website: www.hiddentrails.com/outdoor

Address:

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4406 Tennyson Road, Wilmington, DE USA 19802

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Ph: 0- 808 189-0420

Fax: 0-808-280-1860

Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Cycling Orléans to Saumur - France, Europe

Tour Code: ZZ-BK-GL09
8 days / 7 nights ~\$1,045.00
Dates: May to September

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

Tack: --
Horses: --
Pace: Some days flat, others with some hills...

Airport: Tours Val de Loire



Introduction

Loire, France

The Loire Valley, also known as "garden of France", is a charming land of vineyards, flowers and rolling green hills, which will enchant you with its more than two hundred castles and luxuriant natural landscapes. It will be like riding in a fairy tale, in a picturesque countryside dotted with romantic châteaux, providing regular interludes to the cycling. While you marvel at this medieval splendor, don't forget to try the region's sumptuous cuisine and famous wines, for a true royal holiday experience!

Accommodation



Accommodations

We choose all the hotels mindful of your comfort as well as the proximity to cycling paths and any relevant local sites.

Hotel categories:

- mainly 3* hotels, with some 2* hotels (standard)
- mainly 4* hotels, with some 3* hotels (upgrade)

No matter the hotel category, all rooms have en suite facilities. In some 2* hotels there may be some cases of accommodation without air conditioning.

When you book the tour please specify the type of room requested:

- double room is a room with one double bed
- twin room is a room with two single beds
- triple room is usually a room with one double bed and a single bed or a rollaway.

Meals

Breakfast is included every day. Breakfast is taken in hotels and usually includes a varied buffet.

If you have booked the half-board option, service includes 6 (or 4 for the shorter trip) dinners. Upon arrival in the hotel please inform the reception that you have booked half-board, so that they can tell you where the restaurant is located.

The dinner in Tours is never included.

Beverages are not included and have to be paid on the spot.

Diets and Allergies

If you are vegetarian, gluten-intolerant, allergic to some specific ingredients/substances or if you suffer from any other kind of allergies please indicate it at the moment of booking. We will pass the information to the hotels, but we cannot guarantee that all dietary requests will be met. Sometimes it is difficult to find particular food, for example gluten-free food, so we suggest you to bring some own snacks as a small supply.

Riding

Activity Level

Some days the itinerary will be flat, others it will present some hills. Suitable for everyone in good physical condition and with some cycling experience.

Local law

In France the wearing of bicycle helmets is not compulsory for adults, but for your own safety we recommend you to wear it. The helmet is mandatory for children under 12 years, both if cycling or just passenger.

Cyclists have to wear a reflective vest when cycling out of the towns within 30 mins after sunset to 30 mins before sunrise as well as in tunnels.

Rental bikes

Our bikes are available in different sizes and frames:

Standard bike 27 inch Shimano Deore



- Touring bike 27-gear Shimano Deore
- Touring bike 7-gear Shimano Nexus with back-pedal brake
- E-bike 9-gear Shimano

If you want to do the tour with your own bike, before you depart we suggest to check that all parts of the bike are functioning properly. A cycle computer is necessary to follow the road book. We also highly recommend you to bring a repair kit because the emergency number in case of breakdown cannot be used if you are using your own bike. Don't forget to bring a padlock and always lock your bike.

Features:

- aluminium frame
- mudguard
- rear rack
- comfort gel saddle
- anti-puncture Schwalbe tyres
- ergonomic bicycle grips
- Speed Lifter system (only for city bikes)

All rented adult bikes are equipped with:

- 1 cycle computer
- 1 Ortlieb one-sided saddlebag
- 1 front bar bag or 1 map holder
- 1 water bottle (0.75 l)
- 1 repair kit per room: 1 spare inner tube, glue, patch, a pump, 2 allen keys and tyre levers
- 1 combination bike lock

At the moment of booking you can also rent helmets suitable for head circumferences from 54 to 61. All our helmets have a certification mark according to the DIN EN 1078 (CE) European norm.

We supply you with some useful material to help you follow the itinerary as well as some tourist information about places and cities you will meet in your holiday.

Accompanying material

The Information Pack (one per room) includes:

- final hotel list: due to overbooking or organizational needs your hotel list may be changed just before your arrival
- luggage labels to be fixed at each piece of baggage, which has to be carried
- hotel vouchers to be given to the reception of each hotel on your arrival

Mechanical problems

During the tour, if the bicycles should have any type of technical problem that prevents you from continuing, please contact us at the emergency numbers and try to describe the occurred issue. We'll try to solve as soon as possible the problem. As you are riding unaccompanied, it is wise to know at least how to repair or change an inner tube before setting off on your bike. We remind you that we offer no assistance in case of flat tire.

In case of mechanical problems please:

1. Call the emergency phone number
2. Communicate your name and which tour you are on
3. Let us know your position (total distance of the stage) based on the description of the roadbook
4. Give us your mobile phone number

In relation to your location and to the damage of the bike we can:

- ask you to wait there in order to provide a change of the bike
- Send you to a mechanical shop nearby. We will estimate the damage with the mechanic. The charge will be refunded only after our authorization and on presentation of the receipt. In case of puncture no intervention or assistance is foreseen. Customers will be given a proper puncture reparation kit, which will enable them to intervene directly and solve the problem.

Itinerary

Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Total length: 275 km (Possibility to shorten the itinerary by taking the train: day 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Total vertical up: 1.240 m

Terrain: 91% tarmac, 9% unpaved

On this tour you cycle through the wonderful Loire Valley. This cycle trip is not very demanding, though sometimes there are some hilly sections. The daily stages are not very long – always about 50 kms – mostly in the lowlands. The itinerary is mainly on cycle paths or paved roads with little traffic.

Note: Due to organizational reasons, weather conditions or provisions issued by local authorities, the itinerary may be subject to some changes before and/or during the holiday.

Along the way you may find temporary deviations (for example road works) which cannot be foreseen; in this case each rider can decide autonomously how to deal with these stretches.

Day 1: Arrival

Individual arrival in Orléans, homeland of Joan of Arc.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight in Orléans

Day 2: Orléans to St. Dyé

You pedal along the Loire alternating cycle paths with back roads. After a visit to the Cathedral of Cléry St. André you arrive at the Chateau Dunois with the beautiful medieval center of Beaugency. A land full of water and culture will lead the way to the beautiful town of St. Dyé, an ancient river harbour.

Today's ride will follow the shores of the Loire and after having traversed the beautiful city of Orléans you will continue along lovely cycle paths in the countryside and through small villages. The variety and the low traffic roads make it a very nice and easy trip with a lot of possibilities to enjoy your breaks.

Cycling 30-50 km (elevation gain: 40-80 m)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in St. Dyé or Beaugency

Day 3: St. Dyé to Blois

From the huge park surrounding Chambord Castle today's trip continues at the border of the forest of Boulogne. On the other side of the Loire crowded with a wonderful bridge, you can already see the profile of Blois and its castle, the steeples of the abbey and the Cathedral of St. Louis standing out.

It is an exciting and very beautiful ride, with as only difficulty the unpaved roads, which however allow you to enjoy fully the peace and quiet and no traffic at all.

Cycling 30-50 km (elevation gain: 140-180 m)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Blois





Day 4: Blois to Amboise

After the visit of the city of Blois and its impressive castle, you pedal along the Loire river. Here you can visit the castle of Chaumont built on the top of a hill overlooking the river. In Amboise you cannot miss the house where Leonardo da Vinci spent the last years of his life.

The first part of the stage rides along the left side of the Loire. In the second part we leave the river towards some short climb in Chailles, Mosnes and near Amboise.

Cycling 45 km (elevation gain: 260 m)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Amboise

Day 5: Amboise to Tours

After crossing forest of Amboise you arrive in Chenonceaux, known as the castle of the three ladies. You continue along the river Cher up to the city of Tours. You may also decide to stop for a visit at the castle of Nitrav with its famous wine cellars.

It is a most beautiful itinerary, varied and with as only difficulty the exit from the city of Amboise as far as the fork towards Chenonceaux: a straight stretch in the middle of the woods where cars speed up. In the morning some slopes are uphill to reach Chenonceaux, but afterwards you will have a flat ride. There is not a lot of traffic because you will be cycling along the Cher almost all the time on dirt roads. Only near Veretz you will finally find asphalted

roads and have to face the last slope uphill of the day (500m long).

Cycling 55 km (elevation gain: 290 m)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Tours

Day 6: Tours to Chinon

Pedalling between the Loire and the Cher rivers you arrive at Villandry Castle, well known for its gardens. Following the Loire river, you'll reach the city Langeais where you can stop for a break. Before arriving in Chinon you will visit Ussé, where you can admire the castle of the Sleeping Beauty.

You continue cycling along the Loire - a more difficult stretch on a cobbled road for 500m - near the city of Langeais. In Château de Ussé you will face the only slopes of the day.

Cycling 60 km (elevation gain: 280 m)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Chinon

Day 7: Chinon to Saumur

The tour continues along country roads beyond the confluence of the rivers Loire and Vienne, where you'll get to Savigny en Vèron and the wonderful village of Candès St-Martin. A few Kilometres away you'll see the castle of Montsoreau from which you can enjoy the landscape over the Fontevraud Abbey. At the end of the stage you will visit Saumur, considered the "Pearl of Anjou".

The first part of the cycle tour is on level roads and easy, always on quiet cycle tracks or small country roads. Past Candès St-Martin it becomes harder: several slopes, some of them very steep, alternated with level roads.

Cycling 35 km (elevation gain: 190 m)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Saumur

Day 8: Departure

Departure after breakfast.

Meals included: Breakfast

How to shorten the stages:

There is a good train service offering bicycle transport. This low cost option will allow you to reach the next city in the case of rain or bad weather, or if you prefer to visit a city at your own pace instead of cycling. Trains with bicycle compartments are all regional trains and are indicated with a bicycle symbol on the carriage and also on the timetables on display in the station.

For further information on timetables and prices you can consult www.sncf.com.

All the towns of the tour are connected with the train.

If one day you don't want to cycle, you can skip the stage by taking the train.

Please note that not every stage is served by a direct train connection. It could sometimes be necessary to make a train change.

If you want to shorten the itinerary by taking the train, you can do it every day except on day 7.

Day 2: Orléans - Beaugency / St. Dyé

For the clients who overnight in Beaugency, it is possible only to skip the entire stage by taking the train from Orléans to Beaugency. For the clients who overnight in St. Dyé, it is possible to shorten the stage from Orléans to Beaugency or to Mer.

Day 3: Beaugency / St. Dyé - Blois

For the clients who overnight in Beaugency, it is possible to shorten the stage from Beaugency to Mer. For the clients who overnight in St. Dyé, it is possible only to skip the stage by taking the train in Mer.

Day 4: Blois - Amboise

It is possible to shorten the stage from Blois to Onzain or from Onzain to Amboise.

Day 5: Amboise - Tours

It is possible to shorten the stage from Chenonceaux to Tours.

Day 6: Tours - Chinon

It is possible to shorten the stage from Tours to Langeais. If you make the variation to the castle of Azay Le Rideau, it is possible to shorten the stage from Tours to Azay Le Rideau or from Azay Le Rideau to Chinon.

Other Info

Meeting: Orléans

Airport: Tours Val de Loire

Train station: Gare d'Orléans

Transfer: --

Distance: 110km

Meet in Orléans on Day 1. Possible transfer from Saumur to Orléans for extra fee on Day 8

Tack: --

Horses: --

Pace: Some days flat, others with some hills. Suitable for everyone with some cycling experience and a few physical condition. 30-60km per day. 275km total.

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 (2.5 to 3.5 out of 5) Easy to Moderate



Riders: Min 6 riders

Max 15 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - ZZ-BK-GL09

Rates include: Accommodations, Breakfasts, App (maps, roadbook...), Luggage transportation, Hotline service & Hotel taxes

Packages and Options

Season	Description	EUR	~US\$
A 2024	8-day self-guided trip (High)	€950	\$1045
	Upgrade to 3/4* hotels	€100	\$110
	Single supplement in 2/3* hotels	€330	\$365
	Single supplement in 3/4* hotels	€430	\$475
	Discount for 3rd person staying in room, pp (in 2/3* hotels)	(€150)	(\$165)
	Discount for 3rd person staying in room, pp (in 3/4* hotels)	(€80)	(\$90)
B 2024	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)	€900	\$990
	Upgrade to 3/4* hotels	€100	\$110
	Single supplement in 2/3* hotels	€330	\$365
	Single supplement in 3/4* hotels	€430	\$475
	Discount for 3rd person staying in room, pp (in 2/3* hotels)	(€150)	(\$165)
	Discount for 3rd person staying in room, pp (in 3/4* hotels)	(€80)	(\$90)
C 2024	8-day self-guided trip (Low)	€770	\$850
	Upgrade to 3/4* hotels	€100	\$110
	Single supplement in 2/3* hotels	€330	\$365
	Single supplement in 3/4* hotels	€430	\$475
	Discount for 3rd person staying in room, pp (in 2/3* hotels)	(€150)	(\$165)
	Discount for 3rd person staying in room, pp (in 3/4* hotels)	(€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 Meet in Orléans on Day 1	
2024 Extra nights- please inquire	
2024 Helmet (head circumference 58-61 cm)	€15 \$15
2024 Bike rental	€110 \$120
2024 E-bike rental	€270 \$300
2024 Transfer from Saumur to Orléans (min 2 pax), pp - available on Saturdays	€90 \$100
2024 Transfer from Saumur to Orléans with personnal bike (min 2 pax), pp - available on Saturdays	€120 \$130

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
C 2024	05/04/2024 - 05/11/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Low)
B 2024	05/11/2024 - 05/18/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
B 2024	05/18/2024 - 05/25/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
B 2024	05/25/2024 - 06/01/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
B 2024	06/01/2024 - 06/08/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
B 2024	06/08/2024 - 06/15/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
B 2024	06/15/2024 - 06/22/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
A 2024	06/22/2024 - 06/29/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	06/29/2024 - 07/06/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/06/2024 - 07/13/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/07/2024 - 07/14/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/13/2024 - 07/20/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/14/2024 - 07/21/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/20/2024 - 07/27/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/21/2024 - 07/28/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/27/2024 - 08/03/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	07/28/2024 - 08/04/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	08/03/2024 - 08/10/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	08/04/2024 - 08/11/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	08/10/2024 - 08/17/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	08/11/2024 - 08/18/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	08/17/2024 - 08/24/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
A 2024	08/18/2024 - 08/25/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (High)
B 2024	08/24/2024 - 08/31/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
B 2024	08/31/2024 - 09/07/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Mid)
C 2024	09/07/2024 - 09/14/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Low)
C 2024	09/14/2024 - 09/21/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Low)
C 2024	09/21/2024 - 09/28/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Low)
C 2024	09/28/2024 - 10/05/2024	8d / 7n	8-day self-guided trip (Low)

Min/Max: 6/15

Custom departure dates can be arranged for groups of 5 pax or more

Rates do not include:Lunches, Dinners & Transfers from/to Orleans and Saumur

Reservation Form

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.	Excellent	Good	Moderate	Poor	Fitness Level	Need to rent equipment
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"/>
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"/>
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"/>
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"/>

* 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 mailing address): _____

I have enclosed a check for the deposit ☐

Additional Signatures:

2. _____

3. _____

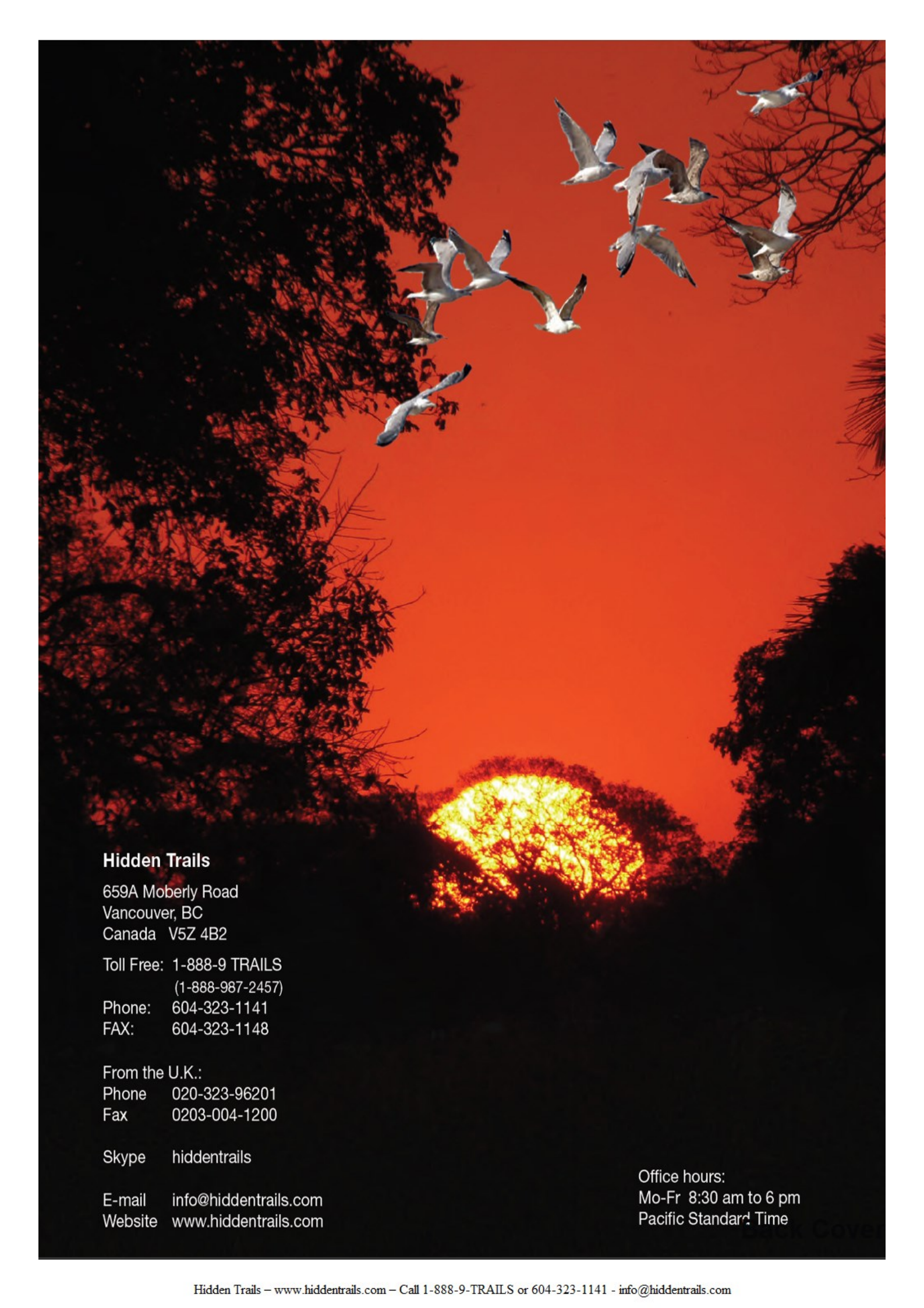
4. _____

Travel Cancellation Insurance Credit Card required

Sign me (us) up ☐ initial _____

No, we will provide our own ☐ initial _____

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