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Taste of Corsica on Horseback

8 days / 7 nights / 6 riding

Best Airport : BASTIA PORETTA

Weight limit : 90kg



During this stay, enjoy the unspoiled nature shaped by the maritime and mountainous influences of Corsica. The Corsican horse, small, determined, and sure-footed, will be your ideal companion to explore transhumance paths, climb to mountain passes, discover historic monuments, and reach the beaches (with the possibility of galloping and swimming with the horses).

You will appreciate the friendly atmosphere of the group, the conviviality of the aperitif, and the delicious hot meals prepared with healthy, natural products from L'ALBADU farm. During your stay with local producers, you will discover the flavors of the region while delving into Corsica's history, especially that of Corte.

Meetings, exchanges, and sharing will be at the heart of this Corsican experience. You will live through strong emotions, in the company of your horse, your guide, and your group. A 100% immersion in the Island of Beauty, unforgettable!

The riding

Discover an island of a thousand faces, where the sea, mountains, and countryside blend together in a preserved and wild landscape. In the saddle, you will explore hidden trails, typical villages, and paradise beaches, all while discovering the richness of Corsican culture. Between riding, tastings, and cultural exploration, each day offers new sensations.

This horseback riding stay offers a genuine connection with Corsica's authentic nature. Cross the mountains while enjoying spectacular panoramas, follow the crystal-clear waters of the rivers, and share convivial moments in small villages. The discovery of local products—wines, cheeses, olive oils—keeps this adventure lively, just like the encounters with proud locals who cherish their heritage.

Level & fitness

To participate, riders must have at least an intermediate level, ensuring they are confident and comfortable with different gaits and riding conditions. This experience is suitable for riders with some previous experience and a good command of basic techniques, ready to enjoy both relaxing moments and more intense sensations on picturesque trails.

Guide & group size

During this experience, you will be accompanied by a professional in equestrian tourism, who will guide you throughout the ride. They will share their knowledge of the region, local flora and fauna, while ensuring the smooth running of the adventure. Thanks to their experience and training, they will ensure your safety, organize the routes, and take care of the horses' well-being. Their role is to create an enriching, safe, and unforgettable experience for each participant, while promoting respect for the environment and equestrian values in a responsible tourism approach.

Minimum 5 and maximum 8 riders.

Horses

Halter horses and Arabian mares and half-Arabian horses, born and raised in Corsica, sure-footed, of medium size (about 150 cm), gray, chestnut, or bay.

Tack & riding equipment

A hybrid or trekking saddle primarily made of leather, equipped with a crupper, girth, and hunting collar, with double fabric saddle bags, a leather bridle, and simple bits.

Accommodation & dining

All overnight stays (except one — day 6 in bivouac) during the trip will be in dormitories with 6 beds and a bathroom, plus a dormitory with 4 beds.

Breakfast: bread, butter, jam, fruit juice, tea, coffee, or hot chocolate, homemade cake, viennoiseries, cheese, etc.

Lunch or midday meal varies between homemade sandwiches with regional products, salads, or other options depending on the season.

Afternoon snack: cake, cereal bars, hot drink (depending on the location).

Dinner is a hot meal, such as garden vegetable soup or raw vegetables, farmed veal with olives served with tagliatelle, sheep's cheese, and homemade dessert.

Itinerary

Day 1

Upon arrival at the airport, participants will be transported to the farm by shuttle. After lunch on the farm's terrace, they will spend the afternoon exploring Restonica and swimming.

In the evening, a family-style dinner will be served, made with local products, farm-raised meat, and vegetables from the garden.

Day 2

After breakfast, the guide will give an overview of the stay and assess each rider's level for horse assignment.

Participants will have their first contact with the horses by going to fetch them from the pasture, then will proceed with grooming and their first tacking-up at the farm, familiarizing themselves with the equipment and the organization of the ride.

A meal will be provided on-site.

In the afternoon, a 2-hour ride will be organized to Pointe du Corbeau, with opportunities to discover local flora and fauna, offering a stunning view of Corte's citadel.

On the way back, care will be given to the horses, followed by a family-style dinner.

Day 3

After breakfast, the horses will be collected from the pasture, then departure for a trip with a picnic heading towards Sainte Lucie de Mercurio, up to Col Civalenti, offering an aerial view of the valley.

The hike continues along Mare-à-Mare Nord, with a picnic break by a stream.

It will conclude with a visit to the GAEC cheese dairy in Pasturella, with cheese and product tastings; there is also the possibility to purchase products on-site.

Return to the farm by minibus, followed by a family-style dinner.

Day 4

After breakfast, they will leave with the horses by truck. On-site, they will follow the Mare-à-Mare Nord variant, passing through charming mountain villages such as Poggio di Venaco and Riventosa, where it will be possible to stop for a drink.

The walk continues to Casanova, where a lunch around a 20th-century fountain will be enjoyed.

The support vehicle will pick up the participants and their horses to bring them back to L'ALBADU, where they will drop off their horses.

Then, a visit to the Corte vineyards will be organized, including a tasting of a late-afternoon aperitif in the heart of the vines, before returning to the farm.

Day 5

After breakfast, an excursion into the Saint Jean woods will be offered, with the possibility of riding at different gaits and admiring the San Giovanni Battista Chapel, dating from the 11th century.

Participants will return to the farm for lunch.

The afternoon will be dedicated to exploring Corte, including a tour of the citadel by small train, visiting the museum, and the opportunity to buy souvenirs.

In the evening, a family-style dinner will be served at the farm.

Day 6

In the morning, departure towards the Aleria plain to visit the Marquilliani estate, a producer of olive oil, wine, almonds, and citrus fruits.

A guided tour of the estate will be followed by a tasting in the cellar.

A rustic picnic, made with regional products, will be enjoyed on the property.

In the afternoon, a horseback ride through the vineyards will be organized.

Visit to the Fort Aleria Museum.

Dinner will be served in a vaulted room, featuring a menu prepared by a local cuisine caterer.

Participants can spend the night in a tent or, depending on availability, in a guesthouse, with access to the swimming pool and sanitary facilities on the property.

Day 7

After breakfast, departure on horseback to reach the sea. Participants will have the opportunity to gallop and swim on the beach with the horses.

A seaside lunch will conclude the day, followed by the return to the farm.

The final family-style dinner will be served at L'ALBADU.

Day 8

After breakfast at the farm, those who wish can take the shuttle to the airport.

Price includes

- Meals (breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack, hot dinner in the evening)
- The overnight stays will be in dormitories.
- One night in a tent.
- The loan of riding equipment with saddlebags, tents, and gas canisters.
- A support vehicle provides transportation if needed.
- Airport transfers

Price excludes

- Flights
- Insurance

- Drinks, personal expenses, and any other additional costs not included in the program.

Packing list

- ☐ Sleeping bag, camping mattress, lightweight walking shoes, mini-chaps (riding boots or ankle boots are not suitable for this program), anorak, riding breeches.
- ☐ Windbreaker
- ☐ Raincoat
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Water bottle (minimum 1.5 liters)
- ☐ Sweater, T-shirt, or long-sleeve shirt
- ☐ Flip-flops or sandals for the evening
- ☐ Hat or cap
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Pocket knife
- ☐ External battery (no electricity on days 2 and 3)
- ☐ Sunscreen, mosquito lotion.
- ☐ All equipment should fit in your travel bag. Also bring a fanny pack (for easy access to sunscreen, tissues, camera, etc.), a spray or helmet, and saddle bags (if you have any).
- ☐ We recommend bringing a small personal toiletry kit.

Flights and transfers

Please do not book your flights until you have received a confirmation email from saddletravel.com

Plan to arrive at Bastia Poretta Airport in the morning to enjoy the first midday meal. You will also have the opportunity to explore Corte and visit the horses. The organization of the departure the next morning and the assignment of horses will also be arranged.

On the last day, a transfer is scheduled at 10:00 AM, with a journey of about one hour to Bastia Poretta Airport. Your flight shouldn't depart before 13. 30pm.

Currency and Tips

The local currency in France is the euro. We recommend bringing enough cash for any additional drinks you wish to purchase.

Tipping at restaurants is common. Giving a tip to your guide is appreciated but entirely at your discretion.

Health

Consult your general practitioner at least 8 weeks before departure so they can advise you and, if necessary, administer any vaccinations appropriate to your age and health condition.

Travel Documents

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/france>

Equestrian Level Certification

"I am an experienced rider, confident, comfortable, and in control at all gaits on uneven and open terrains. I am capable of mounting and dismounting without assistance and I have good physical fitness. I do not suffer from any illness or disability that could compromise my safety or that of others."

Cancellation Policy

Payment and Cancellation Conditions

Your stay is confirmed upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit of 20%.

The total amount is due 56 days before the departure date.

If you cancel your reservation at least 56 days before the departure date, we are entitled to a full refund. After 56 days before departure:

- 42 days or more before departure: - 50%
- 30 days or more before departure: 30% discount
- Less than 30 days: 0%

Insurance

All Saddletravel.com clients are required to take out travel insurance to cover riding activities and trip cancellations. Proof of insurance will be requested during the booking process.



Contact details

+44 1497 888 228 WhatsApp
trails@saddletravel.com

saddletravel.com
The Coach House
Clyro Court
Clyro
Hereford
HR3 5LE
Wales

CN: 05411320

<https://saddletravel.com>