



Andalusian Short Break

Weight limit: 90 kilos

Nearest airport: Malaga

4 days / 3 nights / 3 riding days



This unique hacienda is based in the heart of Andalucia. With a stable full of impressive horses, and enjoying over 300 days of sunshine a year, this hillside ranch offers the perfect short break for all levels of rider. Explore this glorious sun-dappled region of Spain, following secret trails through the olive groves with plenty of time to relax poolside in the afternoons. Read a review of this destination in Elle magazine [here](#).

The Riding

The riding itinerary is flexible and can be adapted to suit guests wishes. Generally, a mixture of hacks out and lessons is offered with some all day rides to local bars or fincas. The terrain is gentle and there are plenty of opportunities for trotting and cantering. You will usually hack out in the surrounding area in the morning, the pace is adapted to suit the rider's level of experience. You can then have a late afternoon lesson with one of the instructors in the on site arena.



Groups are split into similar riding abilities unless a family wishes to ride together. Lessons are tailored to individual needs and the group size for lessons rarely exceeds 2 or 3 people. Basic

riding tuition, dressage and show jumping are all taught here by the hacienda's team of knowledgeable instructors.

Level of riding and fitness

This destination caters for any level of rider from beginner onwards making it ideal for groups of mixed abilities, families and people getting back into riding after a break. The instructors will work with you to establish what your goals are for your riding holiday and help you to work towards achieving them. There is help available to mount/dismount and disabled riders are welcome. The minimum riding age is 6 years.

Guides & Groups sizes

Your guides are experienced and educated trainers able to provide for guests of all riding levels and abilities.

Group size 1-10

Horses & Tack

There are 30 wonderful horses to choose from at the hacienda, all are well-cared for, responsive and well-schooled. There is a horse to suit every rider from beginner to advanced. Most of the horses are Andalusian and Andalusian crosses and the tack and riding style is English.

Accommodation and Dining

You'll be staying at the hacienda in spacious accommodation, all bedrooms are en-suite and some are in apartments with kitchenette facilities. Every room is unique, sympathetically integrated into the 16th century building and individually decorated with local artifacts and antiques. Some of the bedrooms are accessible for those with restricted mobility. There are hairdryers in each room and WiFi is available in all rooms. If booking as a single traveller you will have your own room with bathroom, sharing is not necessary. There is a lovely pool available for guests onsite with views over the olive groves towards the mountains in the distance.



Mealtimes are relaxed and food is prepared by a local chef. You can expect Andalusian dishes as well as classic Spanish cuisine. The food is sourced locally and fruit and vegetables are grown in the vegetable garden. Excursions can be arranged to local restaurants to sample the tapas and wines on offer. Mealtimes are sociable affairs where guests can come together and discuss the days riding over cocktails in the convivial atmosphere. Vegetarian and vegan diets can easily be catered for.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Malaga and transfer to the Hacienda. If settling into your accommodation before 2pm you'll have time to meet the horses and take part in an afternoon ride where you will be matched with one of the responsive and well-schooled horses. Have dinner and meet your fellow guests before spending the evening relaxing at the hacienda.

Day 2

After breakfast, head out on the trail, riding through beautiful scenery from 1 to 3 hours with plenty of opportunities to canter through the vines and olive groves, returning to the hacienda

for lunch. Relax and enjoy the pool, the gardens and the view before taking part in a lesson for around an hour in the large sand school arena.

Day 3

Riding could include an all day picnic ride, a hack to a local bar for refreshments or a riding amongst the vines, olives and pines in the area in the mornings and lessons in the afternoon. In the hotter months there is a change to the riding schedule to avoid the hottest part of the day so you will ride first thing in the morning and again in the evening.



Day 4

If you didn't arrive in time to ride on your first day you can have a morning ride after breakfast before heading to the airport.

NOTE : For riders on lead rein or beginners it is not always possible for them to ride the distance. When this is the case alternative riding will be arranged and transport to the hotel will be provided to join the other guests for breakfast.

In the hotter months there is a change to the riding schedule to avoid the hottest part of the day so you will ride first thing in the morning and again in the evening.

Please be aware we are based 4 kilometres from the village. In a secluded, private environment. Lifts to the village can be arranged with a local agent.

Luxurious Accommodation - see the website www.haciendahorses.com

Children on our riding holidays:

We are no longer accepting any bookings from agents that include children under 12 years of age.

Flights & Airport transfers

Do not book flights until you have received the Booking confirmation email from saddletravel.com.

Please plan your flights to/from as follows:

Please arrive at Malaga on the first day of your holiday after 10am and before 3pm

Please depart on the last day of your holiday after 10am and before 7pm

Day of arrival on any day apart from Friday. We suggest that guests arrive around midday.

Rooms are not guaranteed to be available until 2.00pm. If you arrive earlier than this and require lunch, can we please be advised beforehand.

Any guests after dinner time will have food left in their apartment and a generic breakfast basket if they have not chosen from our list.

Day of departure

The guest has an allowance for a trail ride in the morning, if their flight times allow.

They must leave the Cortijo 3 hours before flight time to ensure a smooth transition.

Transfers

Malaga Airport transfers cost €95 each way per car between 8.00am and 7.00pm.

Transfers are also available from Santa Ana Train station in Antequera, €50 round trip per car.

What to bring

We recommend wearing your riding boots when travelling and carrying one set of riding clothing and your helmet in your hand luggage, so should your luggage not make it to the destination you'll still be able to ride.

Please use the packing list as a guideline, bearing in mind the time of year you are riding.

- Riding hat
- Riding boots with a heel
- Jodhpurs/riding tights
- Riding gloves
- Light summer clothing
- Sunglasses
- Suncream
- Warm jacket if travelling in spring or autumn)
- Swimsuit
- Camera

Climate

Andalusia has a warm climate all year round and many warm, sunny days right through winter. Daytime temperatures vary from about 15°C from November to March and from 30°C and above during June, July and August. Rainfall is very light with virtually no rain from the beginning of May to the end of September. However it can rain in winter months with most rainfall in November and early December and again in March/April.

Health

For health and vaccine recommendations, please consult your healthcare provider at least 8 weeks before your trip.

Country specific information can also be found at the National Travel Health Network and Centre website: <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>

Travel documents

From 2nd December 2024 it is a requirement by the Spanish authorities that all visitors need to fill in an online form, before entering Spain. We have registered for this information with the government department administering this information, and we have created a link where you can fill in all the information required by the authorities.

LINK: <https://www.haciendahorses.com/guest-information>

Password: Haciendaguest

For entry requirements to Spain for UK citizens, please visit the Foreign Travel Advice website:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/spain/entry-requirements>

For any other nationalities, please contact your local embassy to check entry requirements.

Having the correct travel documents is entirely your responsibility.

Currency & Tipping

The currency in Spain is the Euro. You will need to bring local currency (or debit/credit cards) for lunch each day and if you want to buy additional souvenirs or drinks. The hacienda can take cash or card payments.

Cancellation policy

Payment & Cancellation Terms [saddletravel.com](https://www.saddletravel.com)

Holidays are confirmed with a 20% non-refundable deposit. The full balance is due 56 days before the start date.

If you cancel your booking less than 56 days before the start date of your trail we are entitled to receive full payment, less refunds as follows:

42 days or more before booking date - 50%

30 days or more - 30%

less than 30 days - nil

Insurance

All saddletravel.com customers are required to take out appropriate travel insurance that covers horse riding and holiday cancellation. Proof of insurance details will be required during the booking process.



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