



Rancho Las Margaritas

Weight limit: 100kg

Nearest airport: Mexico City, Mexico

5 days / 4 nights / 5 days riding



An adventure through the heart of central Mexico, where mountain landscapes meet warm, authentic hospitality. This short five-day trail takes you deep into the Sierra Nevadas, although you are only an hour's drive from Mexico City. The riding takes you across high plains, forested

valleys, and hidden canyons. Along the way, you'll experience traditional ranch life, feast on home-cooked Mexican cuisine, and stay in charming rural lodges. Ideal for confident riders seeking natural beauty, cultural immersion, and genuine connection - this is Mexico at its most welcoming.

The Riding

The riding is varied and well-paced, taking you across a range of terrain from forested trails to open valleys and high plains. The ranch itself covers five hectares and borders the Cumbres de Sierra Nevada National Park, providing direct access to fantastic off road riding. You'll tackle steep climbs heading to altitudes of 3200m which offer panoramic views across the surrounding valleys. Canters take place across plateaus and are long and relaxed, all the horses are extremely responsive and respond to light aids.

Level of riding and fitness

You'll need to be a confident rider secure in walk, trot and canter, and with a reasonable level of fitness to enable you to spend most of the day in the saddle. There are some narrow, steep paths to navigate so you should be comfortable with this. The minimum age for this ride is 14 years old, riders aged 14-18 must be accompanied by an adult and a signed letter of consent from the parent/guardian needs to be provided before they can take part in the ride.

Guides & Groups sizes

The guides on this ride are all expert local horsemen and you are usually also accompanied by the ranch owners. All guides are friendly and customer orientated local riders, born and raised in San Miguel Tecpán, they have been working at Rancho Las Margaritas for several years. They are all highly skilled horsemen and are first aid certified by the Mexican Red Cross so you'll be in very safe hands. The group size is a maximum of 8 riders.

Horses & Tack

The ranch is home to over twenty well-trained Quarter Horses, known for their responsiveness, fitness, and steady temperament on the trail. Ranging from 15hh to 16hh, these horses are sure-footed and experienced, handling steep climbs and descents with confidence, they really know their job. Ranch owner Alejandro is a respected breeder in the region – his trophy-filled room speaks to the quality of his horses and his dedication to the breed.

The horses are well-cared for both at the ranch and on the trail, the routes encompass natural water sources for them to drink and rest and many of the horses are homebred and part of the family.

Accommodation and Dining

During your stay, you'll be accommodated in a beautifully restored hacienda. The house features four spacious bedrooms with twin beds and sweeping views of the surrounding countryside. You'll have access to WiFi, a comfortable living room with TV, a large dining area, and a fully equipped kitchen. Outside, there's a garden, a grill for outdoor meals, and the stables are just a short walk away.

All meals are included from lunch on arrival to lunch on departure. Expect hearty, home-cooked Mexican dishes. Snacks and cold drinks are always on hand in the fridge. Meals are a highlight of the trip, whether you're dining in the hacienda or enjoying a picnic in a remote valley with warm tortillas and traditional fillings cooked over an open fire. One memorable stop includes riding through forestry to a local restaurant, tying your horse outside, and having lunch with local ranch hands – just like stepping into a classic Mexican western.

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:

You should fly to Mexico City and take a taxi from the airport to the Holiday Inn in Santa Fe. A driver will pick you up at 10:00am from the Holiday Inn hotel on Day 1 and take you to Rancho Las Margaritas, approximately one hour away. On Friday, you will depart the ranch at 16:00 and be driven back to the same hotel. Santa Fe is a high-class business district located about 45 minutes from Mexico City International Airport. We have an agreement with the Holiday Inn if you wish to stay there before or after the ride.

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/sunhat or cap
- Sunglasses
- Sun block
- Comfortable riding boots
- Comfortable shoes for after riding
- Light summer shirts
- Long-sleeved shirt
- Jodhpurs/leggings/trousers comfortable to ride in
- Waterproof jacket in case of rain
- Light jacket for warm weather
- Sweater
- Leggings or chaps
- Gloves
- Reusable water bottle
- Camera

Climate

January to March is cooler than the rest of the year with temperatures between 17 to 23°C during the day. April to June is drier and hot (between 25 to 40°C) and from June to September expect more humidity and a temperate climate between 17 to 25°C. July to September is when rain is most likely, usually in the evenings. October to December is considered winter, rain is unlikely and temperatures are between 17 to 23°C.

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

For entry requirements to Mexico for UK citizens, please visit the Foreign Travel Advice website:
<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/mexico/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 of Mexico is the Mexican Peso although US dollars are widely accepted along with credit and debit cards. You can exchange money in banks or in casas de cambio in towns and cities. The dollar sign is used to refer to pesos in Mexico; prices in US dollars are usually marked US\$ or USD.

We recommend tipping about US\$5-10/day but this is not at all compulsory. Tips are best given to your host who will arrange distribution amongst all the staff. During the rest of your stay in Mexico tipping is the norm, except in taxis.

Riding Declaration

“I am confident and in control at trot and canter out in the open and over uneven ground. I’m able to mount and dismount unaided and have a good level of current riding fitness. I do not suffer from any illness or disability that could prejudice my safety or that of others.”

Cancellation policy

Payment & Cancellation Terms 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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