



WORLD
HORSE
RIDING

GREAT HORSES. GREAT PEOPLE.
WWW.WORLDBHORSERIDING.COM

TIMOTE GRASSLANDS - URUGUAY

WHERE HORSES ARE PART
OF THE FABRIC OF LIFE



ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR ADVENTURE IN URUGUAY?

In the pitch-dark night your horse still navigates fine, with you trusting his every step. The smells from the nature at night are intense, and fire-flies flutter all around you. The Milky Way is clear and the asado-barbeque is getting ready, at a distance you can already see the dancing lights of the fire. Soon you hear the sounds of voices, of the gauchos who rode ahead to set up dinner. You have arrived.



The capybara, one of South America's furry inhabitants - here with a cattle-tyrant.

Come along on a gaucho ride in one of South America's more colourful countries, Uruguay. We'll ride across the "estancias del Timote", an area rich in history, traditions and family bonds, following trails that only gauchos know, to places tourists seldom visit. Our journeys with the gauchos will lead us not only through the country's hinterlands, but also into the lifestyle of the people who forged its identity.

SMALL GROUPS, CARING GUIDES

My groups are hardly ever bigger than eight people, making it possible for each guest to feel not just like any other guest. Here in Uruguay we are cared for by a set of incredibly interesting people. We are guided by very local, very colourful horsemen like Ricardo Bonner and his cousin Marcos Gorlero.

Criollo horses. We have all heard about them. Some of us have ridden them. Here you will have your real criollo adventure with the local gauchos.

A SPECIAL TRAIL RIDE

I only do these rides once or twice a year, in March/April and October/November. For 2005 we are planning a November ride, 9-16. I can also set up a trail ride for you and your friends on other dates – four or more travellers needed.

We stay in traditional estancia homes and in magnificent ranch houses built in the early 20th century and now beautifully appointed to receive guests. One night camping the gaucho way is a must for those who like to experience nature even more intensely, sharing the simple delight of cooking on an open fire under the star-studded sky and gently fall asleep, nursed by the sounds of wilderness. Full board is part of the program, and meals are both exceptionally enjoyable and plentiful. A special choice of vegetarian food is of course a given.

The food during the tour is typically homemade, Uruguayan style, in a variety to please all palates. If you like barbecues, this is the place for a real "asado" (BBQ).

GREAT SADDLES

Even if you may not want to buy a whole saddle, how about some chaps or boots? We visit a local saddlery before we start the trail so that you can tack up and get your own equipment, perfectly suited for the gaucho ride.

RIDES OFFERED IN 2005

November 9-16 2005

Other dates possible if you are a group of 4 or more.



**WORLD
HORSE
RIDING**

GREAT HORSES. GREAT PEOPLE.
WWW.WORLDBORSERIDING.COM

World Horse Riding
Via Bern Butinone 3
IT-24047 Treviglio (BG) - ITALY
0363-30 14 34
info@worldhorseriding.com

World Horse Riding
Östra Vallgatan 57
SE-223 61 LUND - SWEDEN
046-14 52 25
info@worldhorseriding.com

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM:

Day 1 Welcome at Montevideo International Airport, from where we will go to our lakeside hotel in the residential Carrasco area, just minutes away from the airport. After taking a rest we may visit a local saddlery where our guides will advise us on how to complete our riding gear with comfortable gaucho outfits (the ones everyone wears in the countryside). We will then be invited to get a glimpse of Montevideo and out for a delicious dinner.

Day 2 After breakfast, a two-hour drive will lead us to “El Tornero”, a traditional estancia in the heart of Uruguay, where the Gorlero-Gallinal family, leading members of the Criollo Horse Breeder’s Society, will greet us and open the doors to the wonders of the gaucho lands. In the morning we will get acquainted with our criollo horse and tack during our first ride at the estancia. Then you will surely want to taste your first “mate” (hopefully not the last one, believe me its bitter!). After a homemade meal we will enjoy a demonstration of Marcos Gorlero’s horsemanship –he is World Cattle Penning Champion 2002– together with his cousin, our special guide Ricardo Bonner. We are invited to participate, of course. The rest of the afternoon we will ride at our leisure across this typical cattle & horse ranch. And when the evening comes we may sit by the fireplace, savoring a glass of excellent Uruguayan wine, while sharing the so many local stories this family has to tell us.

Day 3 An exciting ride over the grasslands and rolling hills of enormous country properties, home to the ñandú (rhea ostrich) is ahead. On our way we may be invited for lunch at “Las Rosas”, a special treat which will definitely surprise you, or maybe at the gaucho Felipe’s home, simple and warm, to share his asado. Our trek will finally lead us to “San Pedro de Timote”, a magnificent old ranch house, which belonged until recent years to Marcos’ and Ricardo’s grandfather. The very history of the entire Timote area, which Ricardo will be so proud to tell, was born here. A guitar strumming and the sound of the soft words of the gaucho folklore will close a day full of experiences.

Day 4 The excellent breakfast will provide the energy for a day which will start with a ride through San Pedro’s forests, followed by an Uruguayan style reining competition (if we dare try to defeat the gauchos!). After lunch we will leave for our camping journey in the native wood bordering the Timote stream. At our camp site we will take the time to enjoy fishing and discovering wildlife (lots of birds, capybaras, foxes, otters...). The evening will invite us to start the cooking ceremony on an open fire under the stars, while learning the tales and mysteries of the land, before we go to sleep nursed by the sounds of wilderness. Non-campers may ride back to San Pedro to spend the night.

Day 5 Early in the morning we will have a gaucho breakfast and get our horses ready to head out to the Bonner-Gallinal family estancia, “Espina de Cruz”. On our way we will pass by Ricardo’s aunt’s dairy farm to pick up some fresh cheese. No rush, Susana will be patiently expecting us for lunch. And then we may relax, take it easy, and get ready for a beautiful sunset and night ride.

Day 6 Sharing the early morning mate at this family estancia is almost mystical. We will then ride to see the horses running free with the “tropilla” and meet the gauchos who are working with the cattle. After lunch we will ride to “Parada Arteaga”. The landscape will suddenly change as we approach the deer-inhabited eucalyptus groves which lead us to this beautiful colonial ranch house, with its gardens surrounded by centuries-old araucarias (monkey puzzle trees). The place was named after the old train station which still exists right by the house – you may be surprised by the whistle of the old train passing by from time to time.

Day 7 After breakfast we will head towards Cerro Colorado village on a trek across fields, forests and country roads, stopping at a leather craftsman’s tack shop and enjoying lunch at a friend’s estancia or at the local “parrillada”. Back at Parada Arteaga, tea will be waiting for us. And then we will have time to rest, before getting ready for our farewell dinner.

Day 8 The day has come, we have to return to Montevideo airport. But if you can stay a little longer, we can make arrangements for you to keep on enjoying this incredibly friendly country.



Our criollo horses live freely in flocks, “tropillas”

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meeting Place: Airport of Montevideo, Uruguay, where the general meeting point is, pick-up service with a minibus to our ranch.

Arrival Time: Guests usually arrive during the early afternoon and then we are transferred to a small, lakeside hotel. We take a quick stop at a local saddlery, before a huge welcome dinner in Montevideo.



Typical riding day: You will be riding the criollo horses of the real gauchos of the Timote grassland area. We will help out in any work there is to do. Following trails that only gauchos know and visiting places tourists never visit, will lead us not only through the country's hinterlands but also into the lifestyle of the people who forged its identity. 4 to 6 hours daily with a lengthy break for lunch.

Meals: all the food served comes from the surrounding area, like game, fish and vegetables.

Sleeping Arrangements: in double or triple rooms with bathroom in traditional estancias. One night camping the gaucho way in hammock, and non-campers may ride back to San Pedro to spend the night.

Non-riding activities: Swimming or canoeing in the small rivers, possibility to prolong your holiday in Punta del Este, either before or after your ride.

Medical Requirements: You need insurance for accidents, no special shots required. Please advise us about special diets or physical conditions.

Weather Conditions: The weather during November is mostly sunny, but can also become rainy – good rainclothes for riding recommended - and take the advice from the gauchos when visiting the local saddlery! Temperatures vary from 15-30 degrees C. Bring warm clothes for the evening gatherings, as nights tend to be cool.

Dates 2005: November 9-16 2005

Riding ability: Good, general physical condition, master the three basic gaits: walk, trot and canter. Some faster moments may occur.

Weight limit: 100 kg/220 lbs

Age limit: 18 years (12 years if already a confirmed rider and accompanied by tutor)

Group size: Average 4-8 riders

Price: 1550 Euro per person, based on a double occupancy

Single supplement: 250 Euro

Included in the price: 8 days and 7 nights in full pension with wine/water with the meals. Accommodation in double or triple rooms with bathroom in traditional estancias. All activities. Assistance by car and luggage transports. Pick-up service from Montevideo airport. Multilingual guide to translate and interpret the legends and myths of the River of Painted Birds - Uruguay.

Not included: After ride-drinks, airfare and travel to reach Montevideo in Uruguay

Equipment you should bring yourself: camera, knife and torch, good riding clothes – several layers to take off or put back on, depending on the weather, rainclothes, hat (in case you do not use a helmet), swimming suit, sun protection cream, good riding boots, helmet recommended by most insurance companies.



Our guide and estanciero Ricardo.