

Symbols Used in this Book

Riding Experience

We have classified riding ability into three broad groups, Beginner, Intermediate and Experienced. For each ride the coloured circles give you a quick guide to the level of experience that holiday would suit. Also on each page is a more detailed description of the riding that you should expect. However, this is still a guide and we always recommend that you call us before booking to speak to someone who has been on the ride so that you get exactly the type of riding you are looking for.



Beginner or Novice Rider. This includes those who are learning to ride and those with limited riding experience.



Intermediate Rider. Confident and in control on a forward going horse at a steady canter in the open over even ground.



Experienced Rider. Confident and in control on a forward going horse at a fast canter in the open over rough and variable ground. There are likely to be long stretches of fast riding and/or you will be riding in areas with potentially dangerous game.



Small tents, sleeping bags, limited or no washing and loo facilities.



Simple camping, sleeping bags. On most nights there are shower and/or loo tents.



Comfortable camping. Walk-in tents, made-up beds, shared loo and showers.



Beautifully furnished spacious tents with made-up beds and private showers and loos.



Centre Based ride. Rider and horses return to the same place each night.



Trail Ride. Riding from place to place. You may not move accommodation every night.



Game Viewing / Horseback Safari.



Beach Riding. May not be beach riding every day.



Ideal for families. Minimum riding age varies from ride to ride.



Instruction Available.



Working Ranch.



Exploratory Ride. A new ride accompanied by an In The Saddle tour manager.



Ideal for Non riders.



Basic dormitories or huts. Often mixed sex. Usually sleeping bag accommodation. Limited or no washing facilities and loos.



Comfortable accommodation, maybe twin, triple or quad sometimes with shared bathrooms. Single rooms may not be available.



Comfortable accommodation. Rooms have private bathrooms.



Luxury accommodation. Elegantly furnished en-suite rooms with superb service.



Join real working cowboys for a week of varied and interesting trail rides mixed in with the cattle work.

Arizona - Price Canyon Ranch



Open Feb - May and Aug - Nov
Arrive/depart any day
4 - 6 hours riding per day
Price from £1,106 (7 nights)

The Riding

Suitable for all levels of rider with groups split so that those with more experience can go on more challenging rides. The pace of ride varies according to the terrain with plenty of opportunities for a canter across the open grassy valleys. Children aged 12 years and over are welcome.

Set high in the Chiricahua Mountains near the Mexican border, Price Canyon is in an area full of history, famous for the Chiricahua Apaches who once roamed this land. Situated at 5,400 feet the altitude gives the ranch a temperate climate year round and its stunning location offers excellent riding.

Explore wide grassy valleys surrounded by high mountains, whose rocky peaks reach up to 9,000 feet. Morning and afternoon rides, together with all day rides, cattle work, and arena games ensure a varied itinerary for all riding abilities. Western lessons are available and longer cattle drives are offered at the beginning of each month. Accommodation and meals are of a high standard.

Stay at the ranch in February and combine your trip with a visit to the Tucson rodeo. Price Canyon also combines well with a visit to Monument Valley, The Grand Canyon and Las Vegas (see p 257).

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.





A resort ranch near Tucson, ideal for families, with plenty of activities besides riding.

Arizona - Tanque Verde Ranch



Open all year
Arrive/depart any day
1 - 4 hours riding per day
Price from £889 (7 nights)

Tanque Verde is one of the top resort ranches in America. Activities include horse riding, mountain biking, hiking, tennis, fishing, swimming and La Sonora spa.

The Riding

Lessons in Western riding are available for all levels. Beginners and novice riders will ride at a walk. More experienced riders can join the lope rides. Children aged between four and eleven have their own kids' club with a riding programme.

Located in the rolling foothills of the Rincon Mountains the ranch has over 200 horses. The riding trails explore the rugged and unique Sonoran desert with towering cacti all around. There are morning or afternoon rides plus some day rides and breakfast rides. Private rides, at extra cost, and team penning are also available. Western lessons are offered in the afternoon. Accommodation is in 74 fully air conditioned spacious rooms each with beautiful desert views. The ranch has a well deserved reputation for delicious food and a varied menu.

Tanque Verde combines well with a visit to Monument Valley, The Grand Canyon and Las Vegas (see p 257).

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.





Ride superbly fit endurance horses along the coastline, beaches and Redwood forests of northern California.

California - Redwood Coast



Runs April to September
Set departures & private groups
6 nights / 5 days riding
4 - 6 hours riding per day
Price from £1,550

The Riding

You should be a competent and confident rider. There are plenty of opportunities for long trots and canters on logging tracks through the Redwood forests and on the long sandy beaches. Children are welcome as part of private groups.

Owner and manager Lari Shea has competed extensively in endurance for many years. Her horses include such breeds as Akhal-Teke, Arabians, Appaloosa and Quarter Horses and many have won high placings at endurance races.

On a set departure week, there are an average of twelve riders making for a highly sociable affair. On most days the group is split according to experience level with riders taking shorter or longer routes and meeting up a few miles further on.

Ride on miles of sandy beaches; on coastal headlands with the waves crashing on the shore way in the distance; and twist and turn through the huge Redwood forests.

You stay all week in beautiful Mendocino and travel out each day to meet your horses which are transported separately to the trail head.

See inthesaddle.com for prices, itinerary, trip reviews and photo galleries.





A great ranch for families and as a base to visit
Calgary and explore the Rockies.

Canada - Homeplace Ranch



Open April to October
Arrive Saturday
6 nights / 5 days riding
2 - 5 hours riding per day
Price from £856

The Riding

The horses are well mannered and ideal for novice to intermediate riders. Children are welcome to join trail rides from age seven.

Homeplace Ranch was first homesteaded in 1912 and many log buildings from that period are currently in use. Mac and his family have been guiding for over 30 years.

The riding terrain includes mountain valleys, and high foothills, crossing numerous streams, mountain meadows and old Indian trails.

You can choose from half day and full day rides leaving time to explore the surrounding area by car. Trips to nearby Spruce Meadows for the show jumping competitions can easily be arranged. The ranch takes an average of 14 guests.

We can arrange for you to combine your ranch stay with a visit to the Calgary Stampede in July, or to visit Banff or Lake Louise high in the Rockies or to journey by train through to Vancouver (see p 256).

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews, photo galleries and ideas for add-ons to your ranch stay.





A working ranch just south of Calgary in the foothills of Alberta's Rocky Mountains.

Canada - Lucasia Ranch



Open May to October
Arrive Sunday
6 nights / 5 days riding
4 - 6 hours riding per day
Price from £800

The Riding

The ranch can take all levels of riding ability. The gentle pace of the riding is set by the terrain and respect for the horses. Children over twelve years old are welcome.

Established in 1881, Lucasia Ranch is a 4,000 acre family owned and run working ranch. Join the cowboys as they ride around the ranch, checking over the 600 head of cattle and the breeding horses.

The ranch has a herd of over 80 horses, many of them homebred. A stay during the branding week or one of the cattle drives will give you an insight into the modern rancher's life and offer more challenging riding.

The ranch accommodates an average of six to eight guests.

We can arrange for you to combine your ranch stay with a visit to the Calgary Stampede in July, or to visit Banff or Lake Louise high in the Rockies or to journey by train through to Vancouver (see p 256).

See inthesaddle.com for prices, details of the accommodation, trip reviews and photo galleries.





A working ranch where you can learn from real cowboys, skills such as roping and cutting cattle.

Colorado - Cattle Company



Open May to October
Arrive Sunday
6 nights / 5 days riding
4 - 6 hours riding per day
Price from £1,230

The Riding

All abilities can be catered for. Beginners will start on steady horses and as their experience and confidence grows may move onto more challenging horses. There are lots of hours in the saddle for experienced riders who will be able to cover some of the longer distances at a trot or lope. You need to take responsibility for yourself when riding in a group of other riders.

Colorado Cattle Company in the north-east of the state covers 7,000 acres, caring for around 1,000 cows and calves.

Rise early to work with the cowboys as every horse is checked and fed. After breakfast the job to be done will depend on the time of year. In spring the ranch will be busy with calving, branding and moving pairs to summer pastures. Then in autumn there are several cattle drives a week as cattle are shipped to winter feedyards. In the afternoons learn the correct way to handle a rope from a horse and how to read and work cattle.

The number of guests at the ranch is usually around 12 and the ranch takes adults only, minimum age 21 years.

This is one of the easiest ranches to get to from the UK with British Airways flying direct from Heathrow to Denver.

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.





David R. Stocklein

A working cattle ranch in a remote setting between the Castle and Crazy mountains in central Montana.

Montana - Bonanza Creek Ranch



Open June to September
Arrive Sunday
6 nights / 5 days riding
3 - 5 hours riding per day
Price from £1,050

The Riding

From July through to August the ranch can take all levels of riding experience but is not suitable for complete beginners who have never ridden before. In June and September the ranch only accepts competent riders who are in control of their horse outdoors at trot and canter. Children eight years or over are welcome except for the first two weeks of June and all September which are adult only.

This is big sky country with beautiful open scenery and high wooded valleys. Bonanza Creek is owned and run by the Voldseth family who have been ranching here for over 100 years.

The ranch is suited to guests who prefer to ride every day. The ranch horses are well schooled, responsive and enjoy their work. Explore the wonderful Montana landscape on horseback, taking in breathtaking views across meadows, wooded mountainsides and past sparkling lakes. Rides are split according to ability and western lessons are available. There are morning and afternoon rides, cattle herding and team penning plus wagon rides and evening cook outs.

Accommodation, for an average of 10 guests, is in very comfortable log cabins and guests eat with the family in the main lodge.

A stay at the ranch combines well with a visit to Yellowstone National Park (see p 258) or Glacier National Park.



See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.



A working ranch in the foothills of the Rockies where you can pan for gold when not riding.

Montana - Hidden Hollow Hideaway



Open May to August
Arrive Sunday
6 nights / 5 days riding
3 - 5 hours riding per day
Price from £1,003

The Riding
Suitable for all levels of rider. There may be opportunities for faster riding depending on the experience of the group. Weeks solely for experienced riders are available in May and June, please call for details. There is no set minimum age for children to ride; they may have lessons in the arena and join the trail rides if capable.

The ranch is rich in history from the early gold rush years of the 1860s. After working in the gold mines, Kelly Flynn's ancestors settled the site and developed it into a successful working ranch of tens of thousands of acres.

Taking only a few guests each week, the riding is tailored to the group with short half day or longer full day rides through beautiful meadows and forest covered mountains.

There is cattle work to do every week from driving the cattle between pastures to checking the stock. Salt may need replacing and you may get involved in hay making.

Hidden Hollow Hideaway is perfect for families and singles alike and there is fishing, archery, target shooting, elk spotting and plenty of other activities for non riders.

This is a peaceful place to relax and unwind. A stay at the ranch combines well with a visit to Yellowstone (see p 258) or Glacier National Parks.

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.





A family owned and run guest ranch with the emphasis on natural horsemanship.

Montana - Rocking Z Ranch



Open all year
Arrive/depart any day
3 - 6 hours riding per day
Price from £875 (7 nights)

The Riding

There are horses to suit all riding abilities. The pace is varied from walk on the steeper slopes to a faster pace on the open spaces. Western riding instruction is available. Children from the age of six years can learn to ride in the corral and go on trail rides if capable.

The ranch has over fifty horses, all much loved and well mannered. Most are trained using Parelli Natural Horsemanship techniques.

You are encouraged to be involved in grooming and saddling your horse and the wranglers will show you the Western reining and Parelli approach.

The itinerary is flexible with a mixture of half day and all day rides. Explore the beautiful Montana valleys, or ride up into the Rocky Mountains, where on a clear day there are views of up to 250 miles. Try your hand at moving cattle, barrel racing and roping. Non riding activities include archery, fishing and hiking. Massage treatments can also be arranged.

Accommodation is in one of eight spacious en-suite rooms at the ranch. Stay for two weeks and use the ranch as a base to explore the local area. In July and August there are a number of local rodeos nearby.

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.





Work alongside the cowboys as they undertake their daily tasks.

South Dakota - Fortune Ranch



Open April to October
Arrive/depart any week day
3 - 7 hours riding per day
Price from £919 (8 nights)

The Riding

You should be confident at all paces, able to look after yourself and keep up with the ranchers. The pace of riding varies with the terrain and the type of work. Not suitable for children under 16 years.

The Fortune family work cattle in much the same way as their grandfathers did with horse, rope and neighbour helping neighbour. The ranch runs a herd of Black Angus on 10,000 acres of South Dakota Badlands and prairie. This is a homestay experience and just two guests at a time are taken in as part of the family, working alongside Bob and his son Charlie.

The ranch calendar is dictated by the seasons and also very much influenced by the weather. May, June and late August to early October will see the most action. You should be prepared to get up early and ride from first light if necessary. Sometimes you trailer the horses to help on a neighbouring ranch.

Try to make time to stay on and visit Mount Rushmore, the Black Hills and the Badlands National Park, where bison still roam free.

See inthesaddle.com for prices, trip reviews and photo galleries.





Challenging rides in the foothills of the
Big Horn Mountains.

Wyoming - Renegade Rides



Runs in May and June
Set departures
7 nights / 6 days riding
4 - 7 hours riding per day
Price from £1,266

The Riding

You should be a fit and experienced rider, confident to canter and gallop in a group of horses over rough terrain. You are also expected to brush and saddle your own horse. You ride Western style with a loose rein at all times.

These rides are demanding in terms of distance, pace and terrain and are not for the timid or inexperienced rider.

Your guide Belinda Daugherty, is full of knowledge of the area and will lead you on a fast, fun ride through this rough and rugged land.

Spring is a great time to visit, while the grass is green and the temperatures moderate. It may appear rather desolate at first, however wildlife abounds here including pronghorn antelope, coyotes, eagles, prairie dogs and sage grouse.

This vast, open land has many surprises: striking cliffs, hidden gullies and castle-like badland formations of reds, ochres and browns and mile upon mile of sage. There are some long periods of trotting and galloping over uneven terrain, through thick sagebrush and steep, rocky climbs.

There are two itineraries: the Bunkhouse Ride, which is based from Belinda's house; and the Spring Ride, which includes two nights camping.



See inthesaddle.com for prices, detailed itineraries, trip reviews and photo galleries.

Honeymoon Riding Holidays

A riding holiday makes a truly memorable honeymoon. Whether it's a luxury lodge on a game reserve in Africa or a ride along the beaches of Andalusia; many of our destinations can be arranged as honeymoons.

Please ensure that you let us know when booking that this is your honeymoon so we can notify your hosts on the ride.

The price is the same as if you book as a holiday but there is always that little bit of extra care and attention to detail that goes into organising honeymoons.

A number of the horseback safaris have honeymoon suites but it is essential to reserve these early as there are usually only one or two per camp or lodge.

We also operate a guest gift service where instead of buying you a traditional wedding present your friends and family can contribute to your once in a lifetime holiday by giving you a honeymoon voucher.

Honeymoons tel: 01299 272 240



Honeymoon suite at Ant's Hill, South Africa, p 115

Weddings on Horseback

A wedding on horseback has to be the most romantic way to start your life together.



We have been privileged to arrange a number of weddings over the years with venues ranging from a ranch in the Rocky Mountains of Montana to an escarpment in the middle of the African bush.

We only do a few weddings each year so each one is unique. There is no set wedding package and it can be as simple or extravagant as you like. It may be just the two of you or a full plane of friends and family but we can help make the most important day of your life even more memorable.



If you would like to discuss some ideas and suggestions please give us a call.

Weddings tel: 01299 272 235



Calgary | Extensions

Calgary Stampede

The ten day Calgary Stampede in July is billed as “The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth”. Each day there is a world class event from bareback riding to bull riding, and the evening Grandstand Show includes the daily chuckwagon races. There are stages and venues around the Stampede which include an authentic First Nations village, a recreated frontier town and a variety of agricultural events. Visits to the Stampede can be arranged from either Lucasia Ranch (page 147) or Homeplace Ranch (page 145).



Rocky Mountaineer Train

The Rocky Mountaineer takes you between Vancouver, Calgary, Banff and Jasper on one of the most spectacular train trips in the world. The route goes through the valleys and mountain passes of British Columbia, Alberta and the Canadian Rockies. The Gold Leaf service has clear domed carriages for 180 degree views of the scenery and wildlife, whilst the Red Leaf carriages have large picture windows.



Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper

An alpine community nestled in the Rocky Mountains, at an elevation of 1,383m, Banff is the highest town in Canada. Lake Louise, with its famous turquoise waters, is a spectacular 40 minute drive from Banff through the Bow Valley. Dominated by the majestic Victoria Glacier this is probably the most photographed scene in the Canadian Rockies. The road north to Jasper is also renowned for its breathtaking views with mountain peaks crowning the horizon in every direction.



Arizona | Extensions

Grand Canyon

It stretches a massive 227 miles in length, zig-zags from 4 to 18 miles across and at its deepest, drops for more than a mile beneath your feet. Nothing prepares you for that first glimpse of the Grand Canyon. A visit to the Grand Canyon combines perfectly with a stay at either Tanque Verde (page 141) or Price Canyon ranch (page 139) and as part of a longer trip including Monument Valley and Las Vegas.



Two nights at the Grand Canyon is the bare minimum to give you time to walk down as far as Plateau Point and see the Colorado river. This is a safe day's hike and although you descend 3,800ft, it is easily walkable in a day, taking a picnic lunch and lots of water. By just going as far as Plateau Point you will get a very special view over the canyon's 1.8 billion year old inner gorge. Stay longer, if you can, as there are endless hiking opportunities. If you are determined to dunk your feet in the river you can go a further five miles but then you must stay at Phantom Ranch, actually in the Canyon, and extend your expedition by 24 hours. This hotel needs to be booked well in advance.

Upon leaving the Grand Canyon we suggest you drive along the rim, heading east along Desert View Drive to the Grand View Point and beyond. Then head south taking the scenic route to Sedona which comes as a real surprise, just when you think nothing will ever be as impressive again.

Las Vegas



By either flying into Las Vegas and back from Tucson or vice versa you can choose to visit before or after your ranch stay. One way car hire is easy to arrange and we can pre-book all of your accommodation enroute. In Las Vegas we suggest you fully immerse yourself and stay in one of the themed hotels on The Strip, perhaps at The Venetian or the Luxor Hotel.

Montana | Extensions

Yellowstone National Park

One of the first visitors to Yellowstone was John Colter in 1807. He discovered a region of steaming geysers bounding with wildlife. In 1872 that same area became the first national park in the world. If you are staying at one of the Montana ranches then the perfect extension to your holiday is to hire a car and explore the area in and around Yellowstone National Park.

There are various routes into the park and Cody on the eastern side is an ideal stopping point. Cody hosts a rodeo each night throughout July and August. This is the home town of Buffalo Bill and the museum is definitely worth a visit. Have tea at the Irma hotel which he built in 1902 and named after his daughter Irma Louise Cody.

It is a short drive between Cody and Yellowstone and two loop roads take in the best of the park. The scenery is spectacular at any time of year but is particularly stunning in September as the aspen trees turn a deep yellow. The Old Faithful geyser erupts on average every 74 minutes and there are a host of other geothermal features, including terraced springs, mud volcanoes and brightly coloured mineral pools.

You can choose to stay in the park itself but accommodation is limited and therefore gets booked up early, particularly in the peak months of July and August. The town of West Yellowstone on the western side of the park boundary also makes a great base from which to explore the area.

Other sights worth visiting while you are in southern Montana are the Wild Horse Range in the Pryor Mountains and the Little Bighorn Battlefield, scene of Custer's Last Stand. The Battlefield exudes a powerful aura and honours the fallen from both sides. Today it exists as the most moving memorial of the struggle by the Native Americans to retain their lands against encroachment by settlers.



Chile/Argentina Cruises | Extensions



The Mare Australis and Via Australis take you through the Straits of Magellan and the Beagle Channel, exploring one of the wildest and most beautiful regions of the world - Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. The cruises run between October and April and are an excellent way to start or finish your ride in Patagonia.

The voyages take you through channels, bays, fjords and past glaciers, snow-capped mountains, islands and unexplored forests of incomparable beauty. Each day you disembark on various excursions to experience the flora and fauna of this area - native forests, sea lions, penguins, seals, cormorants, exotic flowers and dolphins.

Punta Arenas to Ushuaia

Day 1: Check-in at Punta Arenas.

Day 2: Arrive at Ainsworth Bay and enjoy a walk in the Magellanic forest. On the beach you will hopefully see a colony of elephant seals. Continue on to Tucker Islet.

Day 3: Enter Pia Fjord and continue through Glacier Alley.

Day 4: Sail through the Beagle and Murray Channels visiting Cape Horn National Park and later Wulaia Bay.

Day 5: Arrival in Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world.

Ushuaia to Punta Arenas

Day 1: Check in at Ushuaia.

Day 2: Sail through the Beagle and Murray Channels to Cape Horn National Park and later Wulaia Bay.

Day 3: Visit Gunther Plüschow Glacier and sail to Chico Sound to observe great glaciers.

Day 4: Early morning visit to Magdalena Island the home of an immense colony of Magellanic Penguins. Arrive Punta Arenas late morning.

Useful Information

ACCOMMODATION

There is sometimes confusion over the terminology of bed arrangements. "Double" is recognised as meaning a room with a double bed (this may be two beds pushed together); "Twin" as having two separate beds. We will always pass on requirements for a double bed but we cannot guarantee this, particularly as many of the hotels and lodges we use take only a small number of guests and choice of accommodation is limited. In Shared Accommodation, for example in Iceland, you may be sharing your room with several other people of both sexes. A bathroom means a toilet and shower or bath tub. Bathrooms are shared unless specified as "en suite" or "private". Private bathrooms may not be adjoining your room.

BOOKING YOUR HOLIDAY

See page 13 of this book for details of how to book your holiday. Our booking conditions are on www.inthesaddle.com or we will post or email these to you. The useful information on pages 266 - 270 of this book form part of our booking conditions.

CHILD RATES AND FAMILY GROUPS

The ranch holidays generally offer the most variety for children and many have discounted child rates. These rates are shown on www.inthesaddle.com. Usually it is assumed that the family will wish to ride and enjoy their holiday together and so if you would like a child minding service for part or all of a day, this needs to be specially arranged.

Where a child rate is offered, then it is presumed that the child will be sharing the same accommodation as the parents. If there is no child rate offered, then we may be able to offer a group discount for your family.

There may also be discounted flight rates for children under 12 at the time of travel.

DATA PROTECTION

Before you confirm your booking please read the booking conditions which are included on the booking form or on our website at www.inthesaddle.com. The booking conditions set out our policy on how we manage the personal information you provide us with when we arrange your holiday.

FLIGHTS

If you are making your own flight arrangements you must not confirm a flight booking until your riding holiday has been confirmed by us in writing. You must also ensure the flight times will coincide with the transfer times for the rides, which may be at a set time.

If you have asked us to book flights, please note that we are not always in a position to confirm the airline, aircraft type and destination airport which is to be used. When this information is provided at the time of booking or subsequently, it is subject to change. The flight times given on booking are for general guidance only and are subject to change by the airlines. The actual flight times will be shown on your final itinerary which will be sent to you approximately two weeks before your departure. You must accordingly check your

tickets very carefully immediately upon receipt to check you have the correct flight times. It is possible that flight times may be changed even after tickets have been sent and we will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs. You must also ensure you observe any instructions for reconfirming your return flight.

FOREIGN OFFICE TRAVEL ADVICE

From time to time the British Foreign Office (0845 850 2829 or www.fco.gov.uk) issues Travel Advisory Notices giving advice regarding travel to a particular destination, which you should consult before making a booking. If the FCO advises against travel to the country, then following the advice of our insurers, we may have to cancel your holiday.

GROUPS

Many of the holidays can be booked by private groups, some from as few as two people. In these cases the itinerary can be tailored for your group. We offer discounts depending on the size of group.

MEDICAL PROBLEMS/DISABILITY

If you have any medical problem or disability which may affect your booked arrangements you must advise us in writing at the time of booking giving full details. If we feel unable to properly accommodate your particular needs, we must reserve the right to decline/cancel your booking.

Any medical or physical condition that is not disclosed at the time of booking but which, in the opinion of the guide, could affect your ability to ride safely, will result in you being refused to ride.

PASSPORTS

A full passport, valid for at least six months beyond the date of your return travel, is essential for all the holidays in this brochure. If you expect to need to renew your passport you should leave plenty of time for it to be processed. Information on how to apply for or renew a passport can be obtained by calling the UK Passport Office on 0870 521 0410 or online at www.passport.gov.uk. All children under 16 who are not already included on a valid ten year passport will need to hold their own passport since it is not now possible to add children onto British passports. If you are 16 or over and have not yet obtained a passport, our recommendation is that you should apply for one at least six weeks before your holiday.

PHOTOGRAPHS

We are always interested in seeing photographs of your holiday and the best may be printed in a future brochure. We also reserve the right to use in our brochure any photographs taken during your holiday which may include you.

RANCH HOLIDAYS

Ranch holidays are a highly personal affair. You may dream of being a cowboy and rounding up cattle, galloping across the prairies, camping out under the stars or riding into the mountains. We will do our best to help you choose a ranch to fulfil your dreams. However, it is important that you tell us what it is you really want to do. For example, if you want to meet other people and have quite a

sociable holiday, then you will not wish to pick a ranch where you might be the only guests. If you want to work cattle, then it is important that you visit at certain times of the year. It is not possible to guarantee a specific activity, since ranch work is dependent on the weather and local conditions.

At many ranches you are a guest of the family. You may eat with the rancher and his family and spend most of the day with either the rancher or one of the wranglers. They welcome you into their lives and take great interest in sharing their lifestyle and knowledge of the mountains and ranch life. The vast majority of people find the ranchers totally charming; however, we cannot guarantee that you will find them so and occasionally there are personality clashes. We are confident that we offer excellent riding holidays; but we cannot guarantee that you will enjoy the rancher's company. The ranchers are characters and they may have different beliefs and attitudes to you.

RIDING EXPERIENCE

When completing the Booking Form, please provide us with detailed information regarding your riding skills and experience to help us establish that you have the appropriate ability for the holiday. This information will be forwarded to our partners overseas to ensure that you are matched with the right horse.

If you have overstated your ability the guide may refuse to take you on the ride if he/she considers it would be unsafe to do so.

SAFETY WHEN RIDING

We recommend for your own safety that you wear a hard hat that meets current PAS and BSEN safety standards. Some establishments may have hats to hire but you must not rely on these hats and you should always take your own. It is important that your hat fits properly. Some riders choose to wear a lightweight endurance style hat, such as those made by Troxel or Champion. Alternatively, wide brimmed covers in a range of materials which are designed to fit over a skull cap are available to purchase in the UK. We would be pleased to advise you on where to obtain either.

Whilst riding or in the vicinity of horses, you must comply with the instructions of your guide. It is a condition of your booking that you accept that the guide is entitled to require you to dismount or to refuse to allow you to ride if for any reason, such as ability, behaviour or health, they consider that you may endanger the safety or welfare of the horses or any person.

There are inherent risks involved in horse riding. At many of the riding holidays you may be required to sign a separate acknowledgement of this and acceptance of personal liability. If you are not allowed to ride because you refuse to sign this disclaimer or to wear a hard hat, you will have no claim against In The Saddle and will not be entitled to any refund or compensation.

SINGLE ACCOMMODATION

On some holidays single accommodation is not available and you will be expected to share. On others paying a single supplement will guarantee you a single room and in some cases, if you are willing to share then no single supplement is charged.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Special requests should be noted on your booking form. It is unrealistic to expect special diets to be effectively catered for in many of the locations we feature; some cannot be accommodated and you must be prepared to compromise. Whilst we will advise our suppliers of such requests, we can never guarantee their availability.

TIPPING

Where tips to overseas staff are obligatory they are included in the prices. Otherwise tipping guides, wranglers or other staff is at your discretion. We give guidelines along with your booking confirmation.

TRANSFERS

Transfers from the nearest airport are sometimes included in the price of the holiday and sometimes they are quoted separately. The web site www.inthesaddle.com, states exactly what is and what is not included for each ride. The transfer may be at a specified time so if you are making your own flight arrangements you must ensure that the flight times coincide with the times of the transfers.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is obligatory for all clients and you must confirm to us in writing that you have cover for the riding activities to be undertaken. In The Saddle reserves the right to cancel the booking if you have not taken out appropriate insurance.

VACCINATIONS

You should familiarise yourself before departure with the precautions recommended by health authorities. If travelling directly from the UK, no vaccinations are legally required for any of the countries featured in this brochure, but most medical experts will advise precautions against tetanus, hepatitis, typhoid and polio for travel to Africa, Latin America or Asia. Malarial protection is strongly recommended if visiting India or Africa, however our rides in Namibia and South Africa are in areas considered to be non-malarial, except for Wait A Little.

Full information about health requirements for travellers is available from 'MASTA' (Medical Advisory Service for Travellers Abroad) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Tel: 0906 822 4100 or www.masta-travel-health.com.

VISAS AND PERMITS

If you are a British Citizen you will need to obtain a visa in advance of travel for Australia, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and Tibet. Visas are issued on arrival for Jordan, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique and Zambia.

You must have a machine readable passport to visit the USA. All travellers to, or via, the United States must complete a Visa Waiver Form (known as ESTA) at least 72 hours prior to departure.

Other countries featured in this brochure do not currently require British Citizens to purchase a Visa; however regulations can change so you should check with the relevant consulate or embassy prior to travel. The cost of the visa is not included in the price of the holiday but we will supply full details and the relevant application forms on request. Visas need to be applied for around two to three months prior to departure.

It is important that non-British citizens check with the relevant consulate or embassy as visa requirements may differ.

We regret we cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any flight or into any country due to failure on your part to carry the correct passport, visa or other documents required by any airline or authority.

WEIGHT LIMITS

On most rides there is a weight limit of 15 stone (approx. 100kgs) and on some rides it is less than this. Furthermore, there may only be one or two horses suitable for this weight but since it does depend on your experience and riding ability you must check with us before booking. Please inform us if your weight changes significantly prior to your holiday since this may affect horse allocation.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of all necessary travel and health documents before departure. All costs incurred in obtaining such documentation must be paid by you. We regret we cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry correct documentation.

If you or any member of your party is not a British citizen or holds a non British passport, you must check passport and visa requirements with the Embassy or Consulate of the country(ies) to or through which you are intending to travel. If failure to have any necessary travel or other documents results in fines, surcharges or other financial penalty being imposed on us, you will be responsible for reimbursing us accordingly.

The Riding Holiday Show

This unique event takes place in London on Saturday 6 November 2010.

Guides from all over the world will be there to tell you about their riding holidays. Alongside this there is a programme of talks from interesting speakers and experts on subjects such as "How to get fit for a riding holiday" and "Taking photographs from horseback". There will also be a series of presentations on individual rides.

The 2009 event was a great success with more than 30 riding guides from the Americas, Asia, Africa and across Europe. For tickets please contact us at rides@inthesaddle.com or phone on 01299 272 997.

If you are unable to come to London in November we hope to see you on our tradestand at one of the other equestrian events we plan to attend throughout the year:

Badminton Horse Trials, Gloucestershire
Cleobury Mortimer Horse Trials, Shropshire
Bramham Horse Trials, West Yorkshire
The CLA Game Fair
Gatcombe Horse Trials, Gloucestershire



Dublin Horse Show, Ireland
Burgley Horse Trials, Lincolnshire
Blenheim Horse Trials, Oxfordshire
Horse of the Year Show, NEC, Birmingham
Show Jumping, Olympia, London

Ten Reasons to Book with In The Saddle

1 Our reservations staff are experienced horse people. Many have their own horses and ride regularly. They visit the rides and can describe the holiday from first hand experience.

2 The rides are tested by someone from In The Saddle so you can be confident in the quality of the horses, guiding and accommodation. Not all rides we visit meet our requirements, only those that pass our rigorous standards make it onto our website and into our brochure. We revisit the rides on a regular basis to keep up to date with changes in local conditions, guides and horses.

3 We believe in giving you all the facts. When you call us we won't just tell you the good bits, we will give you the full picture, warts and all. In fact we are the only UK travel company to publish on our website, unedited, all the reviews we receive.

4 Booking with In The Saddle is a personal experience. We tailor the holiday to the individual. If you prefer to arrange your own flights or extend your holiday after the riding trip that's fine.

5 Having the right kit can make or break a riding holiday. Our overseas riding partners tell us that In The Saddle clients are better informed than those from other companies. Don't just take our word for it, next time you are on holiday, compare your trip dossier and kit list with those from others on the trip.

6 Our holidays will cost you no more than if you booked direct. This is backed up by our Price Match Guarantee: should you receive a lower quote from another company for the same holiday, we undertake to match the price. Also, we do not surcharge. In these times of fluctuating exchange rates we guarantee the price of your holiday once it is confirmed.

7 In The Saddle sends more people abroad on riding holidays than any other UK company. Because of this we carry significant influence with overseas riding centres. As an In The Saddle client you will be part of a select and influential club.

8 We reward you for loyalty. For every holiday you book with us you earn hoof miles which can be used to discount future holidays. When you have been on three or more holidays you get additional benefits like airport lounges. For more information on our Privilege Card and to see the range of discounts we have negotiated for you please visit our website at www.inthesaddle.com.

9 Our service doesn't stop when we send you your tickets. We have a 24 hour support line just in case something goes wrong when you are overseas.

10 As accredited members of ABTA and ATOL the two best known holiday financial protection schemes, any money you pay is safe; that's guaranteed by the government.



Olwen Law



Chris Day



Caron Floyd



Cathy Holloway



Tanya Johnson



Hannah Owen



Abbie Wood



Tracy van der Merwe



James Sales



Melina Woo
Denmark