

Circle Bar Ranch

Weight limit: 110kg
Nearest airport: Great Falls / Bozeman / Billings
8 days / 7 nights / 6 days riding



Experience the magic of Montana where the rivers are cool, the air is crisp, and the sun feels good on your face. At 5000' in elevation, Circle Bar Ranch hosts the best of Montana's weather. The 520 acres sit at the base of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest allowing guests to explore the mountains by horseback, fish for trout in cascading streams, hike to see the bountiful wildlife, or follow a mule train for overnight stays in a mountain cabin. There is enough time to do it all!

The Riding

Horseback riding is what the ranch is known for. There are horses suitable for every level of experience. You'll traverse the wide-open prairies, ride along (and through) the Judith River and explore the mountains of the National Forest. For more experienced riders, trotting and cantering can be incorporated into rides where the terrain allows. For those who would like to get more comfortable in the saddle, lessons are available for an additional charge.

Level of riding and fitness

All abilities are catered for, and guests will be grouped together depending on their ability. Children are also welcome; the minimum age for slow rides is 5 years old and for faster rides it's 8 years old.

There are two rides per day, except Sundays when the horses get the afternoon off. New guests will take a slow walking ride first, and then can move onto more advanced rides with trotting and cantering if you demonstrate you can safely control your horse.

Archery is available for children 5 years and older. .22 calibre shooting is available for those 8 years and older. Clay pigeon shooting is for those 16 years and older. Children must be at least 100 lbs and 5'2" to ride the e-bikes.



Guides & Group sizes

There are a maximum of 40 guests at the ranch at any one time. The group size whilst riding is dependent on whether it is a slow or fast ride; the slow rides have bigger groups but for the faster rides there is usually one wrangler per 8 guests.

Horses and Tack

There are approximately 40 horses on the ranch, mainly quarter horses with a few crossbreeds and mules. They are ridden in western tack.

Accommodation & Dining

The historic cabins offer spectacular views of the ranch and surrounding landscape with fireplaces, living areas, wet bars or a kitchenette depending on the selected cabin. There are 9 cabins available, all slightly different but have either a queen bedroom, twin bedroom and at least one bathroom.

The lodge is where guests can gather for meals in the dining room and in the large living area. There are also three guest rooms called the Buffalo Rooms. Two are fitted with king beds and the Buffalo Suite has a king and twin bed.

The Ranch House is perfect for larger groups or families. It has a full kitchen, four bedrooms and three bathrooms and sleeps eight. The house features two king bedrooms and two queen bedrooms. Every room on the ranch is equipped with basic toiletries, a hair dryer and free wi-fi.



There are no televisions in the rooms. There is no cell service at the ranch, but there is wi-fi available in all guest areas (public areas and guest rooms). If your phone is capable of wi-fi calling, we recommend you set it up prior to your trip. For emergency calls, staff can assist with the use of a landline.

Start your day with homemade breakfast classics: pancakes and waffles; biscuits and gravy; breakfast burritos, with lighter, continental style options also available. Lunch will fuel you up for an afternoon of adventure. Before dinner, gather in the Lodge for cocktails and then dine on steak, pork chops, pastas, fresh trout and more—with a roaring fire in the wood-burning fireplace on chilly evenings. Special requests, diets or allergies can be catered for with advanced warning.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive at the ranch and check in to your accommodation after 2pm. There is no afternoon ride on Sundays, so you have free time to explore the ranch and try out one of the many other activities available, or simply relax in the hot tub before dinner. Dinner will be served in the ranch house.

Day 2- 7

The itinerary for your week's stay is completely flexible. Monday to Saturday you can enjoy 2 rides a day at varying paces depending on your ability. Or try your hand at shooting, take one of the e-bikes out for a spin or for those who enjoy fishing you can purchase a fishing licence and borrow some gear.

Day 8

Enjoy a relaxed morning with your last full American breakfast. Check out is at 11am.

Price includes

- Three meals a day
- All horse riding (excluding lessons)
- Ranch activities (UTV Tours, Fat Tire Bike Tours, Shooting and Archery)
- Use of all ranch amenities
- 15% service charge

Not included

- Riding lessons

- Flights
- Transfers



International flights & Airport transfers

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

The nearest airports are Great Falls International (1 hr 45 mins), Bozeman (3 hours) and Billings (3 hours). Check in is from 2pm on your arrival day, and check out is from 11am.

What to bring

Ranch attire is casual, but if you wish to dress up for evenings, western wear is appropriate. We always suggest dressing in layers as temperatures will vary throughout the day. Below is a list of suggested packing items:

- T-shirts/Sleeveless tops/Comfortable shirts
- Long sleeve shirts – we highly recommend riding in long sleeve shirts to block the sun
- Comfortable western or denim shirts
- Bike Shorts / Tights / Underclothing – To minimise possible chafing from riding

- Jeans/Long Pants – Pairs for riding and pairs for evening/daytime wear
- Shorts
- Outerwear – Jackets, vests and layers are suggested
- Hoodies or pullovers
- Rain Jacket (we do have limited slickers available to borrow in the barn)
- Bathing suit – For the pool / hot tub
- Footwear
- Walking/Hiking boots
- Riding/Cowboy Boots – Boots with a slight heel are the safest if you do not have riding boots
- Sandals/Flip flops – For the pool/hot tub area
- Cowboy Hat (w/Stampede String) and/or Ball Cap
- Gloves for riding
- A beanie or warm hat for chilly evenings
- Riding Helmet (recommended, but not compulsory and can be borrowed)
- Sun Protection Items – Sunglasses, Lip balm, Sunscreen, After-sun moisturizer
- Camera
- Plug adapter
- Reusable plastic or stainless-steel water bottle
- Lightweight backpack – allows you to carry your essentials around the ranch
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Insect repellent
- Personal fly-fishing equipment for the avid fisherman

Climate

Generally, summer temperatures at the ranch will see highs of 21 - 26 degrees celcius and lows below 10 degrees. At 5,000' in elevation, the ranch offers some of the best of Montana's summers, but unexpected weather can always happen. Before your trip, we recommend you check the weather forecast for Hobson, MT and plan accordingly. Always pack rain gear and plenty of layers for the unexpected!

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 National Travel Health Network and Centre website: <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>.



Travel documents

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

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

For any other nationalities, please contact your local embassy to check entry requirements. Having the correct travel documents is entirely your responsibility.

Currency & Tipping

Tipping is an important part of American culture, however a 15% service charge is included in the price of your stay. You are welcome to further tip housekeeping staff and your guides if you wish to do so.

Alcohol is not included in the price so you will need local currency or a credit card to purchase drinks.

Cancellation policy

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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