



## Hidden Mallorca

4 days/3 nights/ 4 days riding



This four day adventure takes you along the Via Verde of Mallorca, in the heart of the Balearic islands. Stop off at sandy beaches, hidden coves and welcoming fincas along the way. An adventurous trail for experienced riders, able to enjoy a fast pace and a relaxed way of life. Spend your nights under the stars while exploring Mallorca's national parks and diverse landscapes of mountains, cliffs, natural springs and forests on horseback.

### The Riding

The riding on this holiday takes you along the Via Verde, an old railway track which crosses the centre of the island and has been transformed into a highway for horse riders and hikers. You'll

also head down to hidden beaches and coves exploring a part of Mallorca that few visitors get to see. The pace can be fast where the terrain allows although there are some steep mountain sections where the pace is walking.

### Level of Riding and Fitness

You should be a capable rider who is able to spend several hours in the saddle and enjoys a good fast pace. You will be riding around 5-6 hours each day, so you must have a good level of current riding fitness.



### Guides & Group sizes

All the guides at this destination have an extensive knowledge of the horses and the island. They are relaxed, friendly & professional.

Strict maximum of 8 guests per trail.

## Horses and Tack

You will be matched to one of the incredible herd of fit, friendly, forward going trail riding horses which are a mixture of breeds, many have been rehabilitated and are ex-competition horses. Both English and Western tack is used at this destination so let us know when booking if you have a preference. Saddlebags are provided for essentials and luggage is transported by road.

## Accommodation & Dining

Accommodation on the trail is in tents, either shared teepee tents or 2-man traditional tents. Tents include mattresses for a comfortable night's sleep and sleeping bags are provided. The campsite has an outdoor fire area for cooking and socialising, a basic dry toilet and a tap for running water. The horses will graze around you. It is also possible to upgrade to stay in an eco lodge for one night which offers simple shared rooms with bathrooms.

A chef accompanies the trail and will prepare typically Mediterranean meals. Breakfast is usually freshly baked local bread, pastries, seasonal fruits, tea and coffee. Lunches are a Spanish-style tapas picnic and evening meals are either cooked over an open fire in camp or are set menus in local restaurants.



## Itinerary

### **Day 1**

Enjoy welcome drinks at the stables in Sa Cova Vella, where you can get to know the horses and the team. In the afternoon you'll start the adventure riding through ancient farmland and rural country lanes until reaching Finca Sa Mortera where the horses can graze around us. We will sleep out in our cosy tipi and in individual tents. A simple dinner will be cooked out on an open fire under the stars cowboy style. The tipi and tents are equipped with comfortable mattresses and cushions - sleeping bags will be provided. Sa Mortera has dry toilets and basic water facilities.

### **Day 2**

After a good breakfast at camp it's time to saddle up the horses and ride along The Via Verde (Green Way) which leads through the centre of the island towards the east coast. The paths are ideal for horse riding, with many stretches perfect for galloping past fields of corn and Mediterranean forests. Stop off along the way at a traditional restaurant for lunch. After lunch you'll ride up to the old town of Arta where you'll be staying at a beautiful finca just outside of town in the forest where the guides will cook a simple dinner out under the stars. There is plenty of space to relax in the forest where small tents will be set up for our overnight stay. There is access to hot showers and toilet facilities.



### **Day 3**

After breakfast, you will saddle up and ride through the old town of Arta once more and then up into the mountains of Llevant. Stop off for lunch at a beautiful mountain lodge looking out to sea before continuing riding through this wild unspoilt area far from civilization. You can gallop along long white sandy stretches of beach, discover rocky coast, old goat tracks and cool forests until we reach the eco finca in the forest where you will enjoy dinner, showers and set up camp.

### **Day 4**

Today is the final day of the trail, after breakfast you'll ride through the mountains and down to the coast to wild, little known beaches and coves backed by wild pine, juniper forests and protected sand dunes. You'll stop for a picnic along the way and finish the ride in the town of Arta where you'll be picked up and driven back to Sa Cova Vella where you started. Here you can have a drink to celebrate the end of the journey before saying goodbye.

### Flights & Airport transfers

You should fly into Palma airport. Transfers are not available but you can either hire a car or take a taxi directly from the airport to the stables.

We recommend arriving at least one night before the trail starts. The nearest town is Manacor, which is only about 5 minutes from the stables. There is a train from Palma to Manacor and a free transfer is available from Manacor if you choose to stay there. We recommend staying an extra night on the island after the trail ends.

### What to bring

It is warm to hot all year round, although in the evenings it may be cooler in the autumn, winter and spring.

- Riding hat (available to borrow and not compulsory)
- Jodhpurs/riding trousers
- Long sleeved shirt
- T-shirt
- Riding boots/hiking shoes (short boots are infinitely preferable to long ones for trail riding)
- Half chaps
- Sun protection (hat, sunglasses, suncream)
- Toiletries,

- Waterproof coat
- Camera
- Swimwear
- Shorts

## Climate

Mallorca benefits from a Mediterranean climate all year round. Summer is generally hot and dry, while winters are usually mild. Even in the colder parts of the year, you can expect the sun to shine and spring and autumn offer some of the most pleasant temperatures for horse riding.



## 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 Spain please visit the Foreign Office website here

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

For entry requirements to Spain for non-British citizens, please visit your local embassy website to check entry requirements.

Having the correct travel documents is entirely your responsibility.

## Currency & Tipping

The local currency in Mallorca is the Euro. Your holiday is fully inclusive but we recommend bringing some local currency for before and after your trip. You will also need some cash if you plan to take a taxi from the airport to the stables.

Tipping your guide is at your discretion.

## Cancellation policy

Payment & Cancellation Terms

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

Book with confidence – Covid Guarantee:

If a ride operator is closed or you are unable to travel – due to lockdown:

1/ The deposit is reissued as a rebooking voucher to rebook anytime.

2/ Any balance payment will be refunded to you in full within 1 week of departure date.

## 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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