

Lake District Trail Riding Holidays

Our Cumbrian Heavy Horses Week Trail Riding Holiday Experience!!!

Ride dates for 2008:

- JUNE** Arrive evening of Friday 13th June;
Final Riding Day Thursday 19th June
- JULY** Arrive evening of Friday 11th July;
Final Riding Day Thursday 17th July
- AUGUST** Arrive evening of Friday 8th August;
Final Riding Day Thursday 14th August
- SEPTEMBER** Arrive evening of Friday 12th September;
Final Riding Day Thursday 18th September

Details:

Arrive at your accommodation on Friday evening, liase to ensure a meal should you require it; enjoy your first day's ride from Chappels Farm on Saturday to return, finally, in the afternoon of Thursday, leaving your accommodation on either the Thursday evening or the following morning. Accommodation on either the night before or the last night can be arranged, during the ride it is inclusive and is based on two people sharing. We will have to make a charge for single folk dependant upon availability in the Hotels. The final evening on the ride is spent in a walking hut at Wallabarow Farm, a National Trust property, with fantastic food at the nearby Newfield Inn, please be aware this is a shared room!!!

Ride details:

We ride through the stunning scenery of the Lake District National Park, from our base here at Chappels Farm along the beach, over hills and mountains, through streams, pretty valleys, woodland, fields... a ride of such mixed terrain with stunning views from the back of our magnificent Clydesdales! These surefooted horses excel over this ground, and will demonstrate how wonderful they are as a riding horse. We ride for a minimum of five hours daily, a maximum of eight. Due to the terrain this ride is for more experienced riders only, with a reasonable level of fitness, as we'll be riding at all paces.

Spaces:

We have a maximum of ten spaces on this experience, so if you are interested please contact me for further information! We also run a variety of short breaks throughout the year, keep watching the website!

Itinery:

You will arrive at your accommodation on the Friday evening (you may if living closeby, join us on the morning of departure) then either under your own steam or via arranged transport

arrive at the farm by 09.30 armed with your lunch to meet both our human team and the horses. We will give you saddlebags to pack with clothing, cameras, lunch etc and run through any ride details, and Health and Safety issues generally. We will assess each of you, this is an excellent opportunity to discuss any fears or worries, and ask any questions, then ensure you are well matched to your trusty steed, then Off we go!

Day one: This is a weather dependant day, as we have a choice of routes, either along the beach or heading up into the hills.

We either (1) spend the day along the Duddon Sands and Estuary then through Hodbarrow Nature Reserve around the old mining village of Millom before finding ourselves on miles of golden Sand ideal for some fast work, long canters and gallops, paddles in the sea, great fun, as we head along the beach ending the day's riding at Gutterby Farm.

Alternatively (2) We climb over White and Black Combe, (the tallest "hill" in the UK as it's just under 2,000 feet high) and from where, on a good day, we can see not only Blackpool Tower but also the north coast of Wales, before dropping down towards the sea, heading towards Gutterby and the Western Coastline of Cumbria. Our horses are staying here for the evening, we'll take you to your accommodation for a pleasant and relaxing evening.

Day two: After your breakfast and armed with lunch, we head off for a wonderful days riding along the coast towards Muncaster and Ravenglass. Part of the beach we'll be riding along is used by the Ministry of Defence as a shooting range therefore it is rather imperative that we are here over the weekend!!!! As we head north we'll enjoy both some lovely paddling and gallops on the beach and the views - as we get towards Ravenglass and Muncaster it becomes apparent how valuable this was as a port, going back centuries!! We'll cross the river mouth and head inland, stopping for the evening at local Hotel accommodation with the horses on the Muncaster Farm fields.

Day Three: After a good evening, a good breakfast and hopefully not too tired from the previous two days riding we'll saddle up and head towards Muncaster Castle. It's a lovely estate, very pretty with excellent views across the bay. We track along the bridleway at the side of the river before heading off towards the beautiful Eskdale Valley, into the heart of the Lake District, spending time exploring the tracks as we go. We end up in Wasdale, with yourselves and the horses staying closeby, you get the Hotel rooms!!

Day Four: We continue along the Wasdale tracks heading north towards Wastwater, where we'll ride alongside the Lake towards Wasdale Head, enjoying the lakeland scenery as we go. This is serious Lake District scenery, after all, it was voted "The Best View In England" this year and is a spectacular day. We often stop at the Wasdale Inn at the head of the valley for a decent pint (!!) if wished, before we traverse the head of the lake with amazing views across to Great Gable and Scafell Pike before heading across Eskdale Fell dropping into Boot and Dalegarth for the evening, near the base of Hardknot Pass, where we'll stop for the night.

Day Five: Today is a day of climbs, we head up through the head of Eskdale towards the Roman Fort, Hardknott, on the Hardknot Pass, stopping for a while to imagine what life must have been like for the poor Romans sent there to guard their slice of

the UK! We then continue up and over the pass before heading off on a track to our right towards Seathwaite. We have a climb up, and a drop down, riding through lovely woodland as we descend from Harter Fell, into Wallabarrow in the Dunnerdale Valley. Our night is spent in accommodation close to the Newfield Inn where we'll have dinner. This is the last night of the actual ride, and is a wonderful setting to enjoy the company of the friends you will have made along the journey.

Day Six: This is, sadly, our final day in the saddle. We leave along bridleways leading onto the Dunnerdale Fells, again with wonderful views across to the high peaks. We thread our way through the Duddon Valley, across the fells and woodlands back towards the Whicham Valley and Chappels Farm over fell roads and tracks, beautiful lakeland scenery, enjoying our wonderful horses (we will have built up a strong relationship with them by now) as we head for home.

Tonight you can stay and enjoy each other's company for the last time, (often these friendships endure!) or head wearily back to your own homes for some TLC! I hope to have a booking form online for you to fill in in the near future, along with Booking Conditions, alternatively please email or call me and I can send it to you. Any questions or queries please phone, evenings up until 9pm is fine.

WEIGHT LIMIT

Our weight limit is around 15 stone, dependant on ability and height, more details re clothing, what to bring, what to wear etc will be sent on request.

PRICE!

Each 24 hour day's riding inclusive of accommodation, breakfast, lunch and evening meal is £ 180 so the full week ride is £ 1,080.

Should riders wish to remain for the last night, the Thursday, please advise and we'll get you booked in!

AND ALSO

We very much hope that everything offered, the riding, accommodation, the horses - every aspect of this riding experience - is to your liking!!

If for any reason you come and ride with us and something is not as you would wish it, please tell us so we can rectify the situation! Equally, constructive criticism is always welcome, we can only improve what we do if we know what requires tweaking!!

Do see the Great Clydesdale Migration site and blog should anyone wish to get an inkling on how we run our rides, we are a big family!! and how everyone gelled into a fantastic team on each leg.

We hope you make friends on this ride who will last a lifetime.