



Cavalcade in Gaspésie

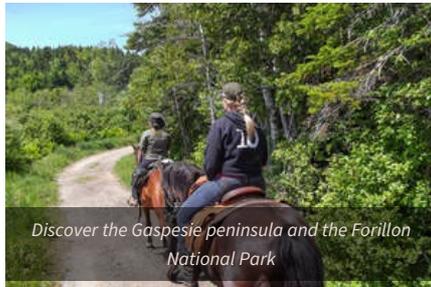
CANADA

Head out on a **horseback trail ride through Gaspésie** in wild Canada. Explore the peninsula's nature reserve known as the "end of the earth" and follow your guides along riverbanks and up mountain paths to private salmon pools and a frigidarium. End your **itinerant ride in Gaspésie** with a liberating gallop along the bay of Gaspe and whale watching from the beach.

Trail Riding	8 days / 5 days riding -	From £0		Family holidays from 10 y.o
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Beach riding in Gaspésie, Canada



Discover the Gaspésie peninsula and the Forillon National Park



Horseback riding on the beach

ITINERARY

Highlights

- Discover the Gaspésie peninsula and the Forillon National Park between the sea and the mountains
- Depending on the season, experience seal and whale watching from the beach
- Discover the tradition of the frigidarium, the large cold pools to refresh you after a long day in the saddle
- Discover the famous Quebec hospitality!

Day 1 — 1 : EUROPE - GASPE

Domaine du Centaure - ranch

Flying into Gaspésie, you will need to book a flight that will arrive towards the end of the afternoon or beginning of the evening. You will be met by your hosts at the airport and driven to the ranch for the night. Flights are not included but can be booked upon request, please contact us for rates.

Depending on your arrival time, you will enjoy a hot dinner or a simple snack.

Day 2 — 2 : FORILLON NATIONAL PARK - 4 hours riding

Domaine du Centaure - ranch

This morning takes you to a small hidden creek close to the ranch. You then ride up in hidden pathways up the mountains across Park Forillon, riding about 20 km.

You will then make your way to your hosts' ranch to enjoy a copious dinner.

Day 3 — 3 : LAKE BAILLARGEON, LAKE ROSS AND SAINT-JEAN RIVER VALLEY - 3-5 hours riding

 Domaine du Centaure - ranch

You will leave the ranch behind you after breakfast to saddle up your horse and head out for a new day in the saddle.

You will ride to the banks of the calm waters of Lake Baillargeon. In calm weather, the still water reflects perfectly the towering pines that border the lake's banks – a magnificent sight. You will continue your ride towards the valley of the river Saint-Jean until reaching the shores of Lake Ross.

Overnight at the ranch.

Day 4 — 4 : RIDING UP THE FOURCHE RIVER - 3-5 hours riding

You will rejoin the horses and head out towards the small Fourche River and follow its bed; the countryside's green and mossy undergrowth will slowly be replaced by areas of clear stretching plain. This terrain will offer good opportunities for sustained trotting. You can take the time to question your guide on the local fauna and flora, his knowledge and stories will be surprising!

This evening, you will set up camp on the banks of the Dartmouth River, with the river's wild salmon on the menu for the evening. You will spend the night in tents camping out under the night sky.

Day 5 — 5 : DARTMOUTH RIVER, MOUNT SERPENTINE AND MOUNT LÉZARD - 3-5 hours riding

After a hearty breakfast, you climb back in the saddle early and ride to Mt Serpentine - your knowledgeable guide will be able to answer your every question on the mountain's principal rock, the serpentine and he will tell the story of how the Appalachians formed 480 million years ago. There is a steep incline in a wild forest still untouched by civilisation, through ancient white pines which circumference can reach 5 meters! From the summit, at 1150 metres, you will discover an uninterrupted view of Gaspésie.

For the second part of the ride, a 8 km ride takes to the foot of the Lézard (Lizzard) Mountain, where you stop for lunch. You ascend the mountain and ride to the lake before heading back to Patewagja River full of cascades and filled with salmon.

BBQ dinner and night in a cabin.

Perhaps you will be able to try the frigidarium; a natural bath of cold water created by the current running along the riverbed; the many natural whirlpools leave the water highly oxygenated. The challenge for you will be to stay in the water for as long as possible before dashing out to the fire or another heat source!

Day 6 — 6 : SANDY BEACH - 3-5 hours riding

 Domaine du Centaure - ranch

Around 9:00 pm, you will set out for your final day's ride in Gaspésie. Today your guide will lead you along the St Jean River until you reach the sea, finding salmon pools along the way, named after British aristocrats.

You get your horses in a trailer and are taken to Sandy beach (40 min drive). The horses as much as the riders will get a lot out of the sense of pace and freedom.

Dinner and night at the Ranch.

Day 7 — 7 : GASPE - EUROPE

After your breakfast, your hosts will drive you to Gaspé airport for your return flight to Europe. Alternatively, you may choose to extend your stay in Canada. Contact us to find out the tariffs for renting a car, accommodation ideas and/or a tailor made itinerary.

Day 8 — 8 : EUROPE

Arrive into Europe.

We are currently updating our dates and prices they will be online soon. If you want details of this holiday, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Price details

No departure for this destination. Please contact our travel advisers for more information.

- Flights to your destination (international/domestic) are not included, but can be booked on request - please contact us for rates.

- Rates are per person, based on two riders sharing a twin or double accommodation.

- Groups are made up of 2 - 6 (max.) international riders. Groups of up to 8 booking together can be accommodated

- There is no single supplement if you are willing to share a room/tent with another guest of the same sex. To guarantee your own room/tent there is a single supplement of £195

- The weight limit for riders is 100 kg / 15stone 7 / 220 lbs. If you weigh more than this and wish to take part, please contact us

- Children over ten and accompanied by an adult are welcome as long as they meet the minimum riding level requirements - please contact us for more information

- Your guide will speak both French and English

Please Note

The itinerary may be modified at anytime for security reasons, meteorological or events beyond our control such as blocked roads, rivers in flood, drought, strikes and local holidays. Equus Journeys, our local partners and their local guides will always strive to find the best solution and will alter the itinerary as needed.

The names of the hotels and accommodation are given for information only and depending on availability, they may be modified without notice and replaced by another of a similar standard.

Price includes

SUPPORT TEAM

1 English-speaking guide

LOGISTICS

1 cook

1 horse (with tack) per rider

INLAND TRANSPORT

Support vehicle

Return airport transfers

ACCOMMODATION

A variety of accommodations (camping, dormitory, guesthouse)

MEALS

Full-board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8

EXTRAS

First-aid kit

Double saddlebags

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Drinks (wine and other alcohol) and personal extras. Approx. \$20 for a bottle of wine (750ml), and from \$3 to 10 for a bottle of beer

TRANSPORT

Visa fees - around \$7 for the AVE completed online before departure

International flights

EXTRAS

Tips for the local team - approx. \$100 per person

INSURANCE

Cancellation and travel insurance are not included in the above listed price. Please note that insurance is mandatory. We recommend taking out an insurance policy as soon as your trip is booked to cover you in case of cancellation

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

The stable houses around 16 horses of which 12 are ridden on the trail ride. Your mounts will be either Quarter-horses, Appaloosas, Canadian horses or Pintos. The horses live year round in the pasture and have consistently shown proof of their excellent temperament.

The weight limit for riders is 100 kg / 15 stone 7 / 220 lbs

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

This ride suits intermediate-level riders. Riders must have mastered all three paces (walk, rising trot, galloping in a forward seat) across varied terrain.

Children over ten and accompanied by an adult are welcome as long as they meet the minimum riding level requirements and ideally with previous experience of riding trips over several days.

Riders weight limit: 100 kg / 220 lbs / 15st7

PACE

Throughout the ride, there will be occasions for all 3 base paces over short to long distances depending on the terrain and the level of the riders. Your guide will make sure that the safety of both the horses and riders is being prioritised when deciding the pace. The horses will generally ride single file. Where the paths widen, riders can ride side by side to allow for chatting!

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

You will be asked to tack and untack your horse. From the outset, your guide will ensure that you know how to do this and will be happy to answer any of your questions and alleviate any concerns.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

The ride takes place across varied terrain – forest paths, woodland tracks and ranges (sections of drivable road crossing farmland, but infrequently used). Safety instructions will be given before the departure of the first day's ride.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

Western or endurance saddles.

Saddlebags provided.

Helmets are mandatory. We recommend our riders to wear a helmet to the correct standard and you should bring your own to ensure a proper fit.

TRAVEL INFO

COMFORT

At your hosts, you will spend the night in one of 6 double rooms with a private bathroom. You will have your dinner and breakfasts under a glass-roofed dining room and you can relax on the terrace with a view across Gaspe bay.

While camping on the banks of the Dartmouth River, you will spend the night in a 2-man tent near to a salmon pit. The tents have solid poles and are free standing. There will be no access to hot water. Dry toilets.

During your night in the dormitory cabin on the banks of the Patewagia River you will have access to a shared bathroom with hot water for a shower. You will be able to swim in the lake.

On the site at Lake Ross, you will spend the night in either a 2-man tent or in a chalet on the banks of this wild lake.

MEALS

Breakfast will be traditional Quebecois: eggs, crêpes, cereals and fried broad beans, hot drinks.

Lunch will be picnics

Dinner - traditional and local products : meat, fish (wild salmon), seafood, etc.

Please let us know any allergies or dietary requirements you may have in advance.

CLIMATE

The multitude of terrain and altitudes in Gaspésie means that the climate is unpredictable and varied; the climate is however considered boreal, meaning subarctic. Temperatures here are higher on the seacoast and the precipitation (rain and snowfall) are more significant at altitude.

The climate in Gaspésie is harsher than that found in other areas of Quebec due to the influence of the gulf of Saint-Laurent. In winter, the temperature fluctuates between -15° and -5°, in spring between 5° and 15°, in summer between 10° and 25°, and in autumn between 5° and 10°.

GUIDE AND LOCAL TEAM

Your guide for the ride through Gaspésie is Serge, with over 40 years experience he knows the region like the back of his hand and his enthusiasm to share it with newcomers to the area has never wavered. Serge describes himself as 'nice after one glass of wine and jolly after two'!

Serge's second-in-command is Mélissa who has accompanied him along the trails for the past 7 years. Welcoming and attentive, Mélissa will do her utmost to make sure your stay in Gaspésie is truly unforgettable.

TIPS

In Quebec, it is customary to leave a tip - primarily in restaurants and other service-based establishments. Expect to leave around 10-12% of the bill.

Your hosts are usually tipped around 100CA\$ per rider.

PACKING LIST

Head

- Equus Journeys strongly recommend that you wear a riding helmet and that you take your own to ensure a correct fit. Manufacturers such as GPA, HKM, LAS Helmets, Lamicell, Troxel, Equithème offer many lightweight, ventilated options. Protective shells to wear under hats are also available (Ranch & Rider, Lexington Safety Products) as well as Western helmet hats (Troxel).
- Sunhat to protect against the sun (indispensable)
- Sunglasses - with a cord attached so they don't fly off when riding
- Buff, bandana or scarf to protect you neck and face against the dust and the sun
- Warm hat for cold nights when camping

Upper body

- Thermals (long or short sleeved)
- Long sleeved shirts provide protection from the sun and are an extra layer
- T-shirts
- Lightweight fleece or jumper
- Warm fleece or jumper (and a spare in case one gets wet)
- Warm and waterproof jacket - it can rain at any time of year and the evenings can be particularly cold

Legs

- 2 pairs of lightweight, comfortable riding trousers or jodhpurs - we recommend riding in them at home before taking them on holiday to ensure they don't rub
- 1 change of trousers (jeans or riding trousers)
- Casual trousers for the evenings, such as jeans or tracksuit bottoms
- Waterproof over trousers (only Gore-tex, oilskin or fishermans' trousers will do, Kway are not suitable)
- Non-irritant underwear
- Swimming costume - for swimming/bathing in rivers/hot springs

Hands and Feet

- Comfortable riding boots – smooth soled with a small heel. We recommend short boots with half chaps but you may wish to take long chaps as an extra layer against inclement weather. We don't recommend taking your favourite long leather boots in case they get damaged
- Trainers or equivalent light shoes for moving around the camp in the evenings
- Several pairs of warm, thick socks
- Gloves - your hands are particularly exposed to the sun, cold or rain whilst riding. Waterproof gloves can be particularly useful

Our Recommendations

- Bringing soothing cream is suggested for any areas irritated by the long days in the saddle
- Backpacks cannot be worn whilst riding. We recommend a small bum bag or a coat with pockets so that you can carry small items with you during the day (passport, camera, sunscreen, lipbalm etc)
- We recommend travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes in your hand luggage - then if your luggage goes astray you are still able to ride!

Other useful items

- Suitcase or backpack of 80 – 100 litres
- Towels - camping ones will both dry and pack more easily
- Camera and high capacity memory card. Spare battery
- Bum bag for carrying your camera and small items whilst riding
- Headtorch or small torch for moving around camp at night - bring spare batteries/solar powered battery charger and bulbs
- Water bottle (2 litres or 2 x 1 litre)
- Field glasses
- Wet Wipes or equivalent (for when washing facilities aren't available)
- Toilet paper and a lighter to burn it with
- Small plastic bags for rubbish
- Ear plugs (for light sleepers)
- Cord for attach clothing to the back of your saddle

Medical kit

- Any medication you regularly take
- Sunscreen and lip balm - should be high factor
- Insect repellent, preferably containing deet
- Blister plasters in case of any rubs
- Antiseptic cream, plasters, aspirin, anti-histamine, insect-bite salve etc...
- Spare prescription glasses/contact lenses
- Eye drops
- Imodium or similar anti-diarrhoea medication
- Re-hydration sachets
- Water purification tablets
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

Miscellaneous

- Airline companies allow one piece of hold luggage per passenger. Take care to not pass the 20kg weight limit, otherwise a surcharge will be payable at the airport.
- Cabin bags are limited to 7kg (dimensions 56 cm x 45 cm x 25 cm), they mustn't contain any sharp objects (knives, scissors, nail files, nail scissors, etc.) and no liquids over 100ml per container. It is recommended to carry in your cabin luggage your camera, glasses, medication and any other objects that you would not be able to do without in case of any (temporary) loss of baggage
- We recommend taking a copy of your passport and insurance documents with you in case you lose your originals
- If you prefer travelling in a "light way" please choose a biodegradable soap or washing powder/liquid.
- We recommend travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes in your hand luggage - then if your luggage goes astray you are still able to ride!

Equipment provided

- First aid kit
- 1 set of saddlebags of average size

Formalities

To find out if you need a visa and check formalities required, visit the official Canadian government website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada.html>

VISA AND ENTRY FORMALITIES

To enter Canada, a valid passport is required by all Australian, British and US nationals. All other nationalities should check with the local embassy. If you are travelling with children and only one parent is present, you should carry a letter of consent from the non-travelling parent.

UK Emergency Travel Documents (ETDs) are accepted for entry, airside transit and exit from Canada. You can apply for an Electronic Travel Authorisation using an ETD.

Visa-exempt foreign nationals, such as British nationals, are now required to have an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) to fly to or transit through Canada.

Applying for an eTA is a simple online process that takes just a few minutes. To apply, you must have a valid passport or acceptable travel document, a credit card, and an email address. You need to apply for an eTA before you book your flight to Canada. Most applications are approved quickly, even within minutes. However, some applications can take several days to process so don't wait until the last minute.

You can find more information about eTAs and travel to Canada by following the link below: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada.html>

In any case please check online the official government website for any updating or modification in the entry procedures.

TRAVELLING WITH CHILDREN

If you are travelling with children, and only one parent is present, you should carry a letter of consent from the non-travelling parent. Immigration officers have the right to question children using simple and appropriate language to establish whether there are any concerns about child abduction. A letter of consent may help to dispel potential concerns. For further information check with the Canadian High Commission or the Canada Border Services Agency.

TRAVELLING VIA THE USA

If you are planning on flying to Canada via the USA, You should complete an online pre-registration form on the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA) website, before you travel. The US Customs and Border Patrol recommends that you do this at least 72 hours before departure. Applying for and securing an ESTA is a separate process to your Canadian eTA.

ADDRESSES OF CONSULATES

- Ambassade du Canada
35, avenue Montaigne
75008 Paris
Tél. : 01.44.43.29.02
Fax : 01.44.43.29.86
- Consulat du Canada à Lyon
21, rue Bourgelat
69002 Lyon
Tél. : 04.72.77.64.07
Fax : 04.72.77.65.09
consulatcanadalyon@wanadoo.fr
- Canadian High Commission in the UK
Canada House, trafilgar Sq
Trafalgar Square,
London
SW1Y 5BJ
SW1Y5BJ London
Tél. : (020) 7258 6600
Fax :
- British High Commission in Canada
80 Elgin Street
Ottawa Ontario K1P 5K7
K1P5K7 Ottawa Ontario
Tél. : +1 613 237 1530
Fax :
ukincanada@fco.gov.uk
- Ambassade du Canada
Avenue de Tervuren 2
1040 Bruxelles
Tél. : +32 (0) 2 741 06 11

Fax : +32 (0) 2 741 06 43

bru@international.gc.ca

- Ambassade de France au Canada

42, Promenade Sussex

Ottawa

K1M 2C9 Ontario

Tél. : +1 (613) 789 1795

Fax : +1 (613) 562 3735

politique@ambafrance-ca.org

Health

There are no health requirements to enter Canada as a short-stay tourist. Visitors intending to stay in Canada for more than six months, either as tourists, students or employees, may be required to take a medical examination. Visitors working in an occupation in which protection of public health is essential may be required to undergo a medical examination even if employment is only temporary. Check with the Canadian Consulate or High Commission for further information.

Insurance

It is a condition of your booking with Equus Journeys that you have travel insurance which covers you for the riding activities to be undertaken. Your travel insurance should cover you for medical expenses and repatriation. Your guides will require your travel insurance details before they allow you to ride and may refuse to let you ride if you cannot provide them. You should take your insurance documents with you.

Our recommendation:

Cancellation and travel insurances are not included. Please note that insurance is mandatory. We recommend to take out an insurance policy as soon as your travel is booked in case of cancellation.

Voltage

110-120 volts AC, 60Hz. American-style flat two-pin and three-pin (grounded) plugs are standard

Budget and money

Canadian Dollar (CAD; symbol C\$) = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of C\$100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of C\$2 and 1, and 25, 10, 5 cents. Although the 1c coin (or penny) remains legal tender, as of 2013 it is being phased out of circulation.

Major credit cards are widely accepted. Use of debit cards is widespread, although many stores impose a C\$5 to C\$20 minimum per debit card purchase, and service charges may apply.

ATMs are easy to find in populated areas but are less common in remote regions such as rural parts of the Northwest Territories, Nunuvut and Labrador. Use a machine affiliated with a major bank to reduce service charges; independent machines in locations such as casinos and convenience stores may carry high charges and do not always accept international cards.

Telephone and jetlag

Mountain Daylight Time (MDT) -0600 UTC

To call Canada, the following dial code is required.

+1 to dial Canada its 001 from UK

The populous areas of Canada along the border with the USA have excellent cellular and wired telecommunications, meaning that travellers are never far from an international phone call home, a WIFI connection or an internet cafe. Turn yourself and start heading north, and it's not long until the traveller will find themselves in the vast and sparsely populated lands that make up the majority of Canada. With no phones and no cellular coverage, and probably pretty sparse on power, it provides a great opportunity to unplug and get away from it all. In the northern reaches of Canada, above the arctic circle, you may even find that satellite devices might not work without a clear view of the sky over the equator.