



Equus Journeys

HORSEBACK TRAVEL & EQUESTRIAN TRADITIONS SINCE 1972

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Spectacular Three Park Trail (10 days)

UNITED STATES

An adventurous camping experience in the pure tradition of the Old, Wild West. This **trail ride** takes place on the border between Utah and Arizona, with breath taking views over the **Grand Canyon or Bryce Canyon area**. You will ride out from the Pariah River Canyon, making your way towards Grand Staircase-Escalante and some of America's best National Parks. "**Spectacular**" almost comes as an understatement! This ride is split between two routes - a southerly route and a northerly route to allow for more variety on different dates.

Trail Riding	 10 days / 6 days riding	 From £2,171	
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ITINERARY

Highlights

- The chance to discover some of the US most famous national parks in the saddle
- Ride with an experienced team of wranglers
- Be welcomed into this cowboy family and leave as friends
- A real camping experience, perfect for those who want to switch off.

Day 1 — 1: EUROPE - ST GEORGE OR LAS VEGAS

Fly from Europe to St George. There are no direct flights, but same-day flights are usually available through Phoenix. You can also fly directly to Las Vegas, then take a shuttle bus tonight (3 hours - to book on <https://saltlakeexpress.com/>).

Flights are not included. We can help with your travel arrangements, please contact us if you require assistance with your flights.

Night in St George to recuperate from the jetlag before the start of your ride the next day. The cost of this hotel is not included but we can book it for you on request - please contact us. We recommend you stay at the Red Lion where your pick up is scheduled the next day.

Day 2 — 2: ST GEORGE - PARIAH RIVER CANYON

Camp

Free morning at your leisure. Your pick up is scheduled for 2:00 pm at the Red Lion conference centre, where you will meet your fellow riders and your team. You will be transferred to the first camp, located in the Pariah River Canyon, near an old movie set where western movies were filmed. Welcome dinner and overnight at camp - on this camping trip everyone is asked to pitch in and help with the horses, tents, or meal preparation.

Day 3 — 3: THREE PARKS TRAIL



This ride is split between two routes - a southerly route and a northerly route to allow for more variety on different dates.

NORTHERLY ROUTE

Today's ride takes you into the heart of the Paria River Canyon, rich in cinematic history. Descend into the Paria Box, riding through its narrow corridors before visiting the historic Old Paria movie set. The day is spent exploring the surrounding side canyons before returning to camp for dinner beneath the night sky.

SOUTHERLY ROUTE

Ride today through sandy washes set within the high-desert piñon and juniper terrain. Travel across slickrock sandstone formations, with distant views into Zion Canyon. The route leads to the scenic rim of Cottonwood Canyon before looping back to camp for the evening.

Day 4 — 4: THREE PARKS TRAIL



NORTHERLY ROUTE

After breakfast, break camp and ride north along the Paria River drainage, following the gentle course of the creek. Upon reaching Sheep Creek, the scenery changes dramatically as red canyon walls transition to soaring white sandstone cliffs. The highlight of the day is riding through the Willis Creek Narrows, a series of beautifully sculpted slot canyons so narrow you can touch the smooth Navajo sandstone walls on both sides. By late afternoon, set up a new campsite at Willis Creek, where you'll stay for the next two nights.

SOUTHERLY ROUTE

After breakfast and breaking camp, ride to the Moccasin Mountain Dinosaur Tracks, where ancient footprints are remarkably preserved in sandstone. In the early afternoon, meet the support vehicles for a transfer across the Arizona Strip to the next campsite near Mount Trumbull.

Day 5 — 5: THREE PARKS TRAIL



NORTHERLY ROUTE

Following breakfast, enjoy a more relaxed pace. Guests may choose to remain in camp or take a short nearby hike. Those looking for more riding can join a dedicated trail from Willis Creek to a spectacular overlook atop the White Cliffs section of the Grand Staircase, returning to camp via an alternate route. Reunite in the evening for dinner and a second night at the Willis Creek campsite.

SOUTHERLY ROUTE

Today's ride winds through peaceful ponderosa pine forests and ancient lava flows as you ascend Mount Logan. From the summit, take in expansive panoramic views of the low desert far below, with the vast, colorful amphitheater of Hells Hole spread out beneath you.

Day 6 — 6: THREE PARKS TRAIL



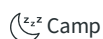
NORTHERLY ROUTE

Break camp in the morning and travel along dirt roads, crossing the rugged Bull Valley Gorge. As the route climbs toward higher elevations, distant views of the Aquarius Plateau begin to unfold. After a midday lunch stop, connect with the Grandview Trail and continue through national forest terrain before arriving at the peaceful meadows of Chicken Springs, where camp is set for the night.

SOUTHERLY ROUTE

Break camp in the morning and ride from the base of Mount Trumbull down into the lower desert terrain. Along the way, enjoy distant views toward the Grand Canyon. In the early afternoon, rendezvous with the support vehicles and establish camp.

Day 7 — 7: THREE PARKS TRAIL



NORTHERLY ROUTE

Ride high along the Grandview Trail today, passing beneath the striking Pink Cliffs that mark the edge of the Bryce Canyon Plateau. The trail winds through high-elevation forest and open landscapes, offering sweeping views of the vivid, rose-colored formations rising above.

SOUTHERLY ROUTE

Ride through the tranquil Water Canyon, a hidden gem of the Arizona Strip. The trail crosses rugged, rocky terrain to reach the dramatic rim of Hack Canyon and the expansive Kanab Creek Wilderness. After taking time to admire these deep, water-carved gorges, return through the high-desert landscape to camp for the night.

Day 8 — 8: THREE PARKS TRAIL

NORTHERLY ROUTE

On the final morning of this section, break camp and begin a steady ascent through dense forest, gaining several hundred feet in elevation. The climb culminates at a stunning overlook at the Pink Cliffs, one of the highest viewpoints on the Bryce Plateau. Continue riding across broad alpine meadows before meeting the support vehicles.
Afternoon transfer for a 7.00pm arrival in St George, Utah.

SOUTHERLY ROUTE

On the final day, break camp and ride across the open, flat terrain of the Arizona Strip. Reach the edge of the Grand Canyon for a lunchtime stop on the rim, offering a final spectacular view. After lunch, ride away from the rim to meet the support vehicles. Afternoon transfer for a 7.00pm arrival in St George, Utah.

We recommend you spend the night at a hotel in St George - please contact us for recommendations in St George (not included in the cost of your stay, invoiced separately unless you want to book it yourself).

Day 9 — 9: DEPARTURE

Make your way to the airport (transfer to your own account) on time for your flight home. There are no same-day flights and you will arrive in the UK the following day. Flights are not included but can be booked upon request.

Alternatively you can continue your trip through the USA with an extension.

Day 10 — 10: EUROPE

Arrive in Europe in the morning.

DATES & PRICES			
DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	STATUS
01/05/2026	10/05/2026	£2,171	Last seats
15/05/2026	24/05/2026	£2,171	Open
11/09/2026	20/09/2026	£2,171	Open
25/09/2026	04/10/2026	£2,171	Open

Price details

- International flights are not included.
- Hotel nights in St George (before and after the ride) as well as potential shuttle transfers from/to Las Vegas are not included. We are happy to help with this upon request.
- Groups comprise of 6 - 12 international riders plus guides
- Price is based on shared double room accommodation and a shared tent. Solo riders who request it will be given a solo tent at no extra charge.
- Gratuities are not included in the price of the ride - we recommend around \$250-300 payable in cash.
- Sleeping bags can be rented locally - \$50 per bag payable in cash locally.

- An electronic travel authorisation (ESTA) is required to enter the USA. It is your responsibility to organise this. Please visit <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/> and contact us if you need help.

- This ride runs over two routes - a southerly route to the Grand Canyon, and a northerly route to Bryce Canyon plateau. In 2026:

May 2nd – 8th East Zion to GrandCanyon

May 16th – 22nd Paria to Bryce Canyon Plateau

September 12th – 18th Paria to Bryce Canyon Plateau

September 26th– October 2nd East Zion to GrandCanyon

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 horse guide

LOGISTIC

1 horse equipped with saddle and bridle per rider

1 groom

1 cook

1 vehicle and driver

1 local team

INLAND TRANSPORTS

Private bus as described in the itinerary

ACCOMMODATION

2 person tents and foam mattress

MEALS

Full board from dinner on day 2 to lunch on day 8

EXTRAS

Taxes

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Beverage and personal extra

Meals in St George.

TRANSPORTS

International flights bookable on request

Visa fees (ESTA) which must be arranged in advance

Airport transfers

EXTRAS

Gratuities for the team - see dates and prices

INSURANCE

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.

Optional

ACCOMMODATION

Single tent supplement

First and last night hotel accommodation in St George: see price details for more information

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

Working horses including mustangs, paints and quarter horses. They are well trained, forward going, confident and independent.

Guide & local team

The Heaton family will be your hosts for this adventure.

The father, Mel, used to be lead guide and is now Camp manager.

Justin, his son, is a true cowboy at heart.

Val and her husband Cade help with guiding and with logistics. Val is a French woman who met Cade on the trail years ago, and fell in love with both cowboy and country!

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

You need to be an intermediate to experienced rider who is used to riding across varied terrain for several hours. There are some long riding days. There are some areas of difficult terrain.

Rider weight limit: 100 kg/220 lbs/15,7 stones. Riders weighing more than 90 kg should contact us before booking.

PACE

There are long stretches of walk as the horses need to complete the whole ride, and some trots and canters when the terrain allows.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

Everyone is expected to assist in caring for the horses (tacking up, un-tacking etc) and setting up camp (erecting tents and helping prepare meals).

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

You must be physically fit. There are some long days (up to 8 hours riding) and generally you should expect to ride at least 5-6 hours. The ground is uneven and you have to be able to trust your horse to find his way. On some occasions you may be asked to dismount and lead your horse on foot. This ride is not recommended for riders who are scared of heights. In addition to the physical demands of the trail, you need to be able to help with all camp chores (set up tents, break down camp, carry bags and boxes, help with meals....)

Please check with us before booking if you have any medical conditions as you will be far from medical help.

You should have previous experience of a long trail ride over several days and it is advantageous if you have experience of remote camping too.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

Western saddles and bridles.

Medium-sized saddlebags are provided.

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

Whilst on the trail you camp in large, comfortable two-man tents with camp beds and mattresses provided. You should take your own sleeping bag, or you can rent one with the outfitter (see dates and prices). Everyone's participation is expected when it comes to set up and break down camp.

There is limited access to water on the trail, there will be some water accessible to wash but not every night. A toilet tent will be set up.

This is a vehicle-supported trip.

You can charge certain devices on the generator, but this is shared between all riders.

MEALS

The food is always abundant and of very good standards for a camping trail.

- Copious breakfasts with a choice of sweet and savoury options
- Picnic lunches
- Hot meals at dinner (meat, potatoes or pasta, vegetables and salad).

Water and lemonade will be available at Camp.

Alcohol is not provided but you are welcome to bring your own drink. Please note Utah is a Mormon state and alcohol is not readily available. Your hosts, Justin and Mel Heaton, are Mormons themselves and do not drink.

Please make sure to advise us in advance of any dietary requirements you may have.

CLIMATE

The climate is that of a mid-latitude desert with relatively moderate temperatures. Annual temperatures average 20°C.

- June and May are very dry and hot (15-35°C, sometimes 35°C+) with cool nights.
- Summers (June-September) are long, hot and sunny (c. 30°C). Nights average 10-15°C. A few showers and the occasional thunder storm are possible.
- Expect extremely hot weather in Las Vegas - up to 45°C in the summer.

TIPS

Tips are compulsory in USA: hotels, taxi drivers, restaurants, etc.

Gratuities are not included in the price of the ride - we recommend around \$250-300 payable in cash

PACKING LIST

Head

- Equus Journeys strongly recommend that you wear a riding helmet and that you take your own to ensure a correct fit. There are many lightweight options available nowadays
- Sunhat for when not riding
- Sunglasses - with a cord attached so they don't fly off when riding
- Buff or bandana
- 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 cold
- Swimming costume - for swimming/bathing in rivers/hot springs

Legs

- Lightweight, comfortable riding trousers or jodhpurs - we recommend riding in them at home before taking them on holiday to ensure they don't rub
- Thermals
- Casual trousers for the evenings, such as jeans or tracksuit bottoms
- Waterproof over trousers

Hands and Feet

- Comfortable riding boots. 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
- Waterproof shoes/boots can be useful for abundant dew in the mornings or when it rains
- 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

Nightwear

- Sleeping bag. You need at least a comfort factor down to minus 5 celsius, but would recommend at least minus 8 or 10 celsius
- Sleeping bag liner - silk, cotton or fleece - adds an extra layer
- Pyjamas or tracksuits or thermals for sleeping in

Other useful items

- Towels - camping ones will both dry and pack more easily
- Camera and high capacity memory card. Spare battery
- Bumbag for carrying your camera and small items whilst riding
- Headtorch or small torch for moving around camp at night - bring spare batteries and bulbs
- Water bottle (there is no opportunity to refill water at lunch so bring 4L)
- Swiss army knife
- Biodegradable 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 and eye mask (for light sleepers)
- Zipbags to preserve fragile items from dust or rain
- A pair of leather laces could be useful to tie a jacket behind your saddle.
- Power bank

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 if you feel you will need them
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

Our Recommendations

- We recommend you bring your own enamel/reusable cup on this trail, to avoid over use of paper cups. The local team uses proper cutlery and plates, but non reusable cups.
- Please don't take a hard sided suitcase. Your luggage should be soft sided.
- Backpacks cannot be worn whilst riding. We recommend a small bumbag 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!
- We recommend taking a copy of your passport and insurance documents with you in case you lose your originals
- Please take your rubbish home with you. There are no recycling facilities, so take your used batteries, aerosols etc back home and dispose of them appropriately. Try to leave excess packaging material at home before travelling
- If you prefer travelling in a "light way" please choose a biodegradable soap or washing powder/liquid.

In your hold luggage

- Any liquids, such as shampoo, moisturiser, deodorant unless they are less than 100ml and all bottles can fit in a small, clear, plastic ziplock bag. We recommend biodegradable washing products where possible.
- Swiss army knife (or equivalent)

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

1. **Travel light.** It's a little known fact, but the lighter you pack, the better for the environment as heavy bags will produce higher emissions (when flying a plane or driving a car!).
2. **Reduce plastic waste.** Take your favorite reusable bottle with you. Avoid single-use bags, cups, or straws.
3. **Preserve nature.** Always take your rubbish with you during the ride and recycle them. Leave all the flowers or plants as you found them, and never get too close when observing wildlife. Make sure to use eco-friendly products such as body wash or laundry detergent (if camping) to protect both

your skin and the environment.

4. **Choose your experiences carefully.** Respect animal life by not participating in any activities that abuse wild animals (shows, elephant rides, etc.).
5. **Support local populations.** Buy local handicrafts, be respectful of customs, and learn about the culture of local communities.
6. **Share!** Raise awareness among your family and friends about sustainable tourism.

For more information please [see this page](#) .