



Virgin beaches of Andalucía

SPAIN / SPAIN

A **horseback ride** in the heart of the Cabo de Gata Natural park. Enjoy the magnificent **Spanish bays and beaches** of Andalusia, and ride through villages that witnessed the era of piracy in the Mediterranean. In a region that is renowned for its beauty, experience some of the whitest beaches as you **discover the hidden gems of Spain**.

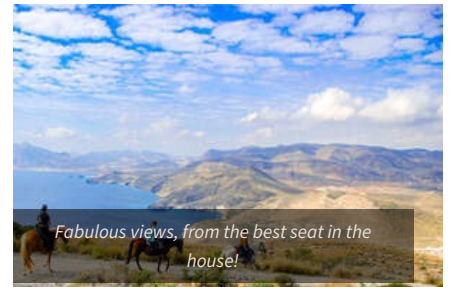
Beach Ride	 8 days / 6 days riding	 From £1,135	
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Horseback riding in the heart of Cabo de Gata



A lovely trail riding experience in Spain



Fabulous views, from the best seat in the house!

ITINERARY

Highlights

- Discover the untouched beauty of the landscapes of Andalusia
- Ride along the white sand beaches and discover hidden bays
- Enjoy being on the set of some of the most famous Wild West films
- Relax in the comfort of local hotels
- Ride horses trained to the Parelli methods which are steady and sure-footed.

Day 1 — 1: EUROPE - ALMERIA

Arrival before 6pm. You will be transferred to the equestrian centre where you will meet your guide and fellow riders. Enjoy your first night in Spain with a delicious locally cooked dinner, before a good night's sleep in your comfortable hotel.

Day 2 — 2: RODALQUILAR- EL PLAYAZO- CALA DEL CUERVO - 5 hours riding

After breakfast, your guide Manolo will introduce you and pair you with your horse, starting with an introductory ride in the arena. You will then start your ride in the eastern part of Cabo de Gata natural park, Andalusia's largest coastal protected area. You will begin your discovery of some of Europe's oldest geographical features. Here, you will ride towards "The Torre de Los Lobos" that on a clear day will give you the most fantastic view of the peaks of Sierra Nevada. Continue on and ride across the beach of "El Playazo" and uncover the land of the pirates. End your first day on horseback in the comfort of a hotel.

Day 3 — 3: RODALQUILAR- LA ISLETA DEL MORO- SAN JOSE - 5h-5h30 riding

As you leave behind Rodalquilar, you will ride along the beautiful coast line on a track that was once used to protect the local villages from pirate attacks. Take a look back into history as you pass the small castles and watch towers of this idyllic region. After an adventurous morning, enjoy a picnic in a small

oasis, under the shade of large palm tree leaves on the beautiful beach of Escullos.

Day 4 — 4: SAN JOSÉ - CABO DE GATA - GENOVESES BEACH - SAN JOSE - 5h-5h30 riding

An early morning wake up call before your ride towards Genoveses - arguably one of the most famous beaches in Spain. Discover the pristine coastline of the Mediterranean as you allow your horse to stretch their legs across the white sands of Monsel, Media Luna and El Arrecife de las Sirenas. A perfect photo opportunity set in one of the most iconic film sets for films such as “Indiana Jones” or “Lawrence of Arabia”. Enjoy a picnic at the foot of the Cortijo “El Romeral”, an Andalusian farm situated amongst centenary olive trees. End your day on a high as you ride up into the Del Tesorillo valley. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 5 — 5: SAN JOSÉ – LAS NEGRAS - 5h-5h30 riding

After breakfast, you will start today’s ride in the north of the park where the Sierra de Gata Mountains are located. Enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the mountain range as your ride across the beautiful landscape, and pass through an original Spanish village of Los Albaricoques. Today, most of the village houses have been refurbished, stripping away the original Old West style theme, but as you ride through the narrow streets, you may see some familiar street names of famous films and actors that were made here. Let your horses have a well deserved break in the iconic spot of El Cortijo del Fraile, where you can enjoy a picnic lunch. You will ride back to the hotel in the afternoon. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 6 — 6: FERNAN PEREZ – LAS MINAS DE RODALQUILAR – LAS NEGRAS - 5h-5h30 riding

Today’s ride will begin along the ancient paths of the goldmine. Let your horse guide you along the narrow ravines, before crossing the volcanic crater which now forms the Rodalquilar valley. As you ride through the valley, uncover the hidden gold, which is said to be concealed by mineral walls. End your day’s ride with a step back into history as you visit the old mines that were used throughout the 1930’s right until the end of the 1980’s. After a full day in the saddle, enjoy a delicious locally sourced dinner and a relaxing night at the hotel.

Day 7 — 7: LAS NEGRAS – RODALQUILAR - 3 hours riding

Your final day in the saddle. Here, you will uncover the beauty of Las Negras, an ancient fishing town. Las Negras gets its name from the “Black Mountain” of El Cerro Negro, situated close to the village. This impressive rock formation fills the shores in its dark black stones. Enjoy the bright blue waters of the bay whilst you soak up the sun and enjoy your last few moments on horseback. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Day 8 — 8: ALMERIA - EUROPE

The last breakfast with your group and your brilliant guides, before saying goodbye. Wish your horse and guides farewell before being transferred to the airport. Transfers are from 9.30am and are approximately 40 minutes.

DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	PRICE INCLUDING FLIGHTS	STATUS
18/04/2021	25/04/2021	£1,135		Open
02/05/2021	09/05/2021	£1,135		Open
16/05/2021	23/05/2021	£1,135		Open
19/09/2021	26/09/2021	£1,135		Open
17/10/2021	24/10/2021	£1,135		Open
14/11/2021	21/11/2021	£1,135		Open
26/12/2021	02/01/2022	£1,315		Open

Price details

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR DATE: this is a special date following the same route. However, on the 31st first, you will have a special NY dinner party at the hotel (included). On the 1st of January, you will have brunch and leave at 12:00 am, riding the whole afternoon with no picnic break.

- International flights are not included, but can be booked upon request.
- Rates are per person based on two riders sharing a twin or double room.
- The group is made up of 4 to 10 international riders. For groups of only 3 riders, we can guarantee the departure with a supplement of €260/£225 per person.
- Single room supplement of approx €210/£190 if you want to guarantee your own room. If you register alone and we do not have any other riders available to share a room, a single room supplement will be charged. Payable locally.
- Transfers:
 - > Transfers from/to Almeria airport or train stations are included. There is a transfer at 1:00pm and a transfer at 6:00pm. The transfer on your way back leaves at around 9:30 am or 2:00 pm (60 min transfer). If your flight times do not match, a private transfer can be organised at €60/£55 per car up to 4 riders.
 - > A transfer to and from Malaga airport can be organised and is payable locally. A fee of €200 per person return, for a minimum of 2 people per car (2h30 - 6:00 pm day of arrival, 9:30 am day of departure)
 - > A transfer to and from Granada airport can be organised and is payable locally. A fee of €150 per person return, for a minimum of 2 people per car. (2h30 - 6:00 pm day of arrival, 9:30 am day of departure)
- Children must be accompanied by an adult and are welcome from the age of 14, provided that they have the required equestrian level.
- A shorter version of this ride is available from the following dates: January 15th to 19th, March 4th to 8th, April 1st to 5th, November 4th to 8th and December 9th to 13th. Please ask for further information. On request we can also organise tailor-made itineraries to combine riding lessons, horsemanship, trail rides, yoga, hiking....
- No riding on arrival and day of departure.

- There is a rider weight limit of 95kg /208lb/14.9st.

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

LOGISTICS

1 horse equipped with saddle and bridle per rider

1 support vehicle

INLAND TRANSPORT

Airport transfers at set times from Almeria

ACCOMMODATION

Full board accommodation in hotels

MEALS

Full board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on the final day

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

First aid kit

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Beverages and personal extras

ACCOMMODATION

Single room supplement

TRANSPORT

International flights

EXTRAS

Tips to the local team

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

Optional

TRANSPORT

Return airport transfers from Granada or Malaga, or Almeria if outside of set times

EXTRAS

Trip extensions or additional activities

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

A team of 20 beautiful Andalusian, Hispano-Arab or Spanish bred horses. These horses have been trained using Pat Parelli methods. They are a very intelligent and responsive team of horses that are well-schooled and polite, with three even paces.

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

This holiday is suited for intermediate riders who ride regularly, or are planning to get back in the saddle before the trip. You will have to be in good physical condition and be ready for long hours riding under the sun. Riders must be able to ride confidently over varied terrain, but this is not a very technical or challenging trail.

There is a rider weight limit of 95kg /208lb/14.9st.

PACE

The main pace of the ride is the walk, with trots and collected canters when the terrain allows. This is not a fast ride.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

All riders are responsible for grooming and tacking their own horse. You are also expected to help the team to feed and water the horses when required.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

Good levels of fitness and endurance are needed since you will spend long hours in the saddle every day. The trip does not offer many technical difficulties but you must remain in control of your horse at all times and be comfortable riding in the outdoors.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

English tack.

Small saddlebags are 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

Along the trail you will be riding from village to village, spending the nights in selected hotels. The accommodation is of 3 or 4**** and most of the hotels have a pool or offer spa amenities.

Riders stay in double or twin rooms (or single room for solo riders, with a supplement), which are comfortable and have a private bathroom.

MEALS

The Spanish cuisines are varied and will give you a taste of the Mediterranean flavours.

Lunch will be mostly picnics of local, home-made food (no sandwiches).

Typical Spanish dishes will be served for dinner every night at the chosen hotels. Special diets can be accommodated with advance notice.

CLIMATE

During springtime temperatures generally reach 15-20°C, where as in summer the temperature rises at around 25°C (June) and can even reach 35°C In Autumn temperatures are approx. 20 – 25°C. December temperatures can get to 15°C with cool evenings.

This ride does not run during summer due to high temperatures and busy beaches.

GUIDE AND LOCAL TEAM

Manolo has been a professional guide for almost 25 years. He is the vice president of the equestrian tourism association in Andalusia, and he trains his horses himself to ensure complete professionalism for his clients. He knows the region extremely well, and strives to change his routes and trails every 3 to 4 years in order to offer you new paths to discover. He is extremely professional and very good at what he does, meaning you will be in safe hands throughout your week ride.

TIPS

Tips are welcome but not expected. You should tip what you feel is appropriate and you are comfortable with.

PACKING LIST

Head

- Riding helmets are mandatory and we recommend that you take your own to ensure a correct fit.
- Sunhat for when not riding
- Sunglasses - with a cord attached so they don't fly off when riding
- Buff or bandana for protecting your neck and face from the sun and dust

Upper body

- Thermal long-sleeved tops are a lightweight way of providing extra warmth if you need it
- Long sleeved shirts to provide protection from the sun
- T-shirts
- Lightweight fleece or jumper
- Warm polar fleece or equivalent
- Waterproof jacket - rain can be difficult to predict and it's better to be prepared.

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
- Waterproof over trousers
- Casual clothes for the evenings (jeans or walking trousers)

Hands and Feet

- Comfortable riding boots. We recommend short boots with half chaps.
- Lightweight shoes for the evenings
- Several pairs of socks
- Gloves - your hands are particularly exposed to the sun, wind or rain whilst riding

Nightwear

- Pyjamas etc

Other useful items

- Swimsuit - there are pools on some nights
- Small backpack for accessing items required during the day.
- Camera and high capacity memory card. Spare battery
- Bumbag for carrying your camera and small items whilst riding
- Water bottle (2 litres or 2 x 1 litre)
- Ear plugs (for light sleepers)

In your 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.
- Swiss army knife or equivalent

In your hand luggage

- Any valuables, such as your camera, ipod, ipad etc.
- Your riding hat

Medical kit

- Sunscreen and lip balm - should be high factor
- Insect repellent
- Any medication you regularly take
- 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
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

General information

- We recommend taking any valuables, such as your camera, iPod, iPad, medicines and glasses etc. in your hand luggage. Travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes is highly recommended - 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.

VISA & HEALTH

Formalities

British citizens: other nationalities, please contact us.

Visas

If you hold a British Citizen passport, you don't need a visa to enter Spain.
The rules on travel will stay the same until 31 December 2020.

Visas from 1 January 2021

The rules for travelling or working in Europe will change from 1 January 2021:

- you will be able to travel to countries in the Schengen area for up to 90 days in any 180-day period without a visa as a tourist, to visit family or friends, to attend business meetings, cultural or sports events, or for short-term studies or training.
- if you are travelling to Spain and other Schengen countries without a visa, make sure your whole visit is within the limit. Visits to Schengen countries within the previous 180 days before you travel would count towards the 90-day limit
- The 90-day limit for visa-free travel will begin on 1 January 2021. Any days you stay in Spain or other Schengen countries before 1 January 2021 will not count towards the 90-day limit.

At border control for Spain, you may need to:

- show a return or onward ticket
- show you have enough money for your stay, and

- use separate lanes from EU, EEA and Swiss citizens when queueing
- Your passport may be stamped on entry and exit.

Passport validity

The rules on travel will stay the same until 31 December 2020.

Your passport should be valid for the proposed duration of your stay; you do not need any additional period of validity on your passport beyond this. This applies to the whole of Spain, including the Canary Islands and the Balearic Islands (Majorca, Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera).

Passport validity from 1 January 2021

From 1 January 2021, you must have at least 6 months left on an adult or child passport to travel to most countries in Europe (not including Ireland).

If you renewed your current passport before the previous one expired, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months needed.

Check your passport is valid for travel before you book your trip. You will need to renew your passport before travelling if you do not have enough time left on your passport.

Please visit for the FCO website for up-to-date information - <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/spain/entry-requirements>

ADDRESSES OF CONSULATES

- Paris | Ambassade d'Espagne
22, avenue Marceau
75381 Paris Cédex 08
Tél. : 01.44.43.18.00
Fax :
emb.paris@maec.es
- Ambassade de France en Espagne
Calle Salustiano Olozaga 9
28001 Madrid
Tél. : +34 91 423 89 00

Fax :
presse.madrid-amba@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Health

There are no vaccinations legally required to travel to Spain. Remember to take your EHIC card with you.

The health system in Spain is good. It's not exceptional, but certainly not bad. People who work in Spain are insured through a social security plan, which covers most of their needs. The only thing that is not included are dental treatments. There is also the possibility for a private insurance.

Pharmacies can be found in every town, and in bigger cities almost every street has one. Even at night it should not take you a long time to find a pharmacy that is open. Remember that more drugs are prescribed in Spain than any other country.

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.

Voltage

230 volts AC, 50Hz. Round two-pin plugs are in use.

Budget and money

Spain has adopted the Euro (EUR, symbol: €) as its official currency. One Euro is divided into 100 (euro)cents, which are sometimes referred to as eurocents, especially when distinguishing them from the US cents.

Euro banknotes come in denominations of €5, €10, €20, €50, €100, €200 and €500. The highest three denominations are rarely used in everyday transactions. All Euro banknotes have a common design for each denomination on both sides throughout the Eurozone. The Euro coins are 1 cent, 2

cents, 5 cents, 10 cents, 20 cents, 50 cents, €1 and €2. Some countries in the Eurozone have laws which require cash transactions to be rounded to the nearest 5 cents. All Euro coins have a common design on the denomination (value) side, while the opposite side may have a different image from one country to another. Although the image side may be different, all Euro coins remain legal tender throughout the Eurozone.

Telephone and jetlag

The international access code for Spain is +34. The emergency number for police, ambulance and the fire brigade is 112.

Time zone GMT +1