Equus Journeys
HORSEBACK TRAVEL & EQUESTRIAN TRADITIONS SINCE 1972

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Kerewong centre-based ride

AUSTRALIA

Enjoy a **relaxing centre-based riding holiday** in the Lorne Valley of New South Wales, Australia. Join Kathy at her lovely farm and become part of the **Kerewong family**. Every day, you ride out in a different direction, exploring trails and riding across a variety of terrain and sub-tropical natural landscapes. Highlights of the trail include an exhilarating **beach gallop**, and a winery tour!

Centre based holidays	**7 days (5 days riding)**	**From £1,850**		Open to non-riders


On horseback in Australia


Ride friendly, responsive horses - a mix of Arabians, Brumbies and Andalusians


Enjoy the Jacaranda trees in bloom from October to November

ITINERARY

Highlights

- Experience the best of the Australian hillly bush landscape, eucalypt-& rainforest, secluded beaches and green farm valleys of the NSW East Coast of Australia.
- Return to your comfortable farmhouse accommodation at the end of each day ride for relaxing late afternoons and evenings in scenic surroundings - a peaceful place to unwind, relax and enjoy the horses, hospitality and Australian nature and wildlife.
- You may encounter Wallabies, Pademelons, Bandikoots, Reptiles, Goanna's and many Australian bird species including Parrots, Lyrebirds, Black Cockatoo's. Occasionally you may even see a koala too!
- Ride fit and forward horses - Arabians or Brumbies, all very responsive and a pleasure to ride.

Day 1 — 1: PORT MACQUARIE - KEREWONG

Kerewong lodge

Fly to Port Macquarie, NSW. Flights are not included but we can help with this on request.

On arrival at Port Macquarie airport, you will be picked up by your guide and transferred to the farm, in Kerewong (1 hour drive). If you are already travelling throughout Australia, we can also arrange pick-ups from the Port Macquarie bus station or Kendall Trail station (20 min drive). Transfers are scheduled at set times – please see dates and prices for specific transfer information. You can also self-drive to the farm if you have a car.

You will arrive at Kerewong Farm in the late afternoon or early evening, on time to meet the Kerewong horse herd in their home pastures. You will have dinner with your host and other riders, giving you a chance to be briefed on the week's riding program and discuss your previous riding experience with your guide.

Please note: The itinerary below is not a set order as riding days can vary according to circumstances. The tour guide chooses the order of the day

rides to give riders the best possible experience in their specific riding week.

Day 2 — 2: KEREWONG FOREST RIDE - 3h riding / 22 km

Kerewong lodge

Your first day in the saddle starts with an introductory forest ride through the hilly terrain of the Kerewong State Forest. Enjoy its tall eucalypt forests, pockets of rainforest, beautiful quiet bush trails and fun canters. You will stop for lunch under tall gum trees in the middle of the Aussie bush. You may encounter Wallabies, Pademelons, Bandikoots, Reptiles, Goanna's and many Australian bird species including Parrots, Lyrebirds, Black Cockatoo's. Occasionally you may even see a koala too!

This is a shorter ride with an easy-going pace, to enable riders to get accustomed to the terrain and horses and settle international travellers into the time- and climate zone. Back to the farm and relaxed afternoon before dinner.

Day 3 — 3: MOUNTAIN TOP RIDE - 5h riding / 30 km

Kerewong lodge

Today's trail ride takes you to the impressive Comboyne Mountain (670 m), which peak can be seen from the farm. Enjoy magnificent 360-degree view at the top, over the expanding eucalyptus forest landscape, beautiful coastline, farmlands and the start of the Great Dividing Range. This is the most strenuous day ride for the horses with uphill cantering, long steep up-and downhill sections and some rough terrain. Horses and riders enjoy a well-deserved lunch break at the peak, brought to you by a Kerewong helper in the 4wd support vehicle. You ride back home downhill at an easy walking pace.

Day 4 — 4: WINERY RIDE - 5h riding / 35 km

Kerewong lodge

Today is a long riding day to local Bago Vineyards and Maze, a small family-owned and operated winery. Enjoy beautiful scenic creek crossings (platypus live here but are rarely seen) and maybe move some cattle while riding through neighbouring farm properties. Saddlebag sandwich lunch while sitting in the shade of tall eucalyptus trees.

In the afternoon, you'll enjoy some lovely long canters or gallops on beautiful forest trails. On arrival, taste the wine of this unique little winery and enjoy a gourmet local cheese plate under the pergola. If riding in October – November, a highlight of this ride is the purple blossoming Jacaranda Trees. And the best news is… you can taste and drink as much as you like – you will be transferred back to the farm by car (45 minutes drive).

Day 5 — 5: BEACH RIDE - 2h riding / 15 km

Kerewong lodge

One of this riding holiday's most popular features is definitely the beach ride… Get ready for long uninterrupted gallops on a deserted beach – an unforgettable lifetime experience for many horseback adventurers. Watch out for dolphins in the waves and a chance of a close encounter with kangaroos. Lunch is Fish & Chips at the local "Fish Coop". Transfers each way to the beach is by car (45 minutes each way).

Day 6 — 6: COMBOYNE PLATEAU - 5-6 hrs riding/40 km

Kerewong lodge

Enjoy today's trail ride to the beautiful green rolling farmland of the Comboyne Plateau. Comboyne is a volcanic plateau with a unique topography and fertile red soil. You ride past dairy farms and avocado orchards, enjoying panoramic views over the Three Brother Mountains, an Australian Aboriginal Place of spiritual significance to the local Biripi Aboriginal people. On clear days the view goes all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Morning coffee stop and grazing for the horses on arrival at the Comboyne Plateau and a second stop for a late picnic lunch. There are several great galloping sections in the morning and afternoon, as well as long walks to take in the beautiful scenery. In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner.

Day 7 — 7: KEREWONG – PORT MACQUARIE

Kerewong lodge

Depart Kerewong after breakfast. Transfer to Kendall Railway station or Port Macquarie airport or bus station (set times). Optional stop at Port Macquarie Koala Hospital (only included with departure transfer to Port Macquarie).

DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	STATUS
29/11/2026	05/12/2026	£1,850	Open
14/03/2027	20/03/2027	£1,995	Open
25/03/2027	31/03/2027	£1,995	Open
11/04/2027	17/04/2027	£1,995	Open
25/04/2027	01/05/2027	£1,995	Open
13/05/2027	19/05/2027	£1,995	Open
27/05/2027	02/06/2027	£1,995	Open
09/09/2027	15/09/2027	£1,995	Open
23/09/2027	29/09/2027	£1,995	Open
07/10/2027	13/10/2027	£1,995	Open
21/10/2027	27/10/2027	£1,995	Open
04/11/2027	10/11/2027	£1,995	Open
19/11/2027	25/11/2027	£1,995	Open

Price details

- Flights or transportation 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 room during the ride.

- Groups are composed of a minimum of 2 riders and a maximum of 4 international riders, plus guide. Please note: the ride will also confirm for 1 rider on payment of a supplement of c. US$350 / €305 / £260. Once the group has reached 2 people, we will remove this supplement from your invoice and refund you if you have already paid it.

- There is no single supplement on this ride and genuinely solo travellers will be given a single room (bathrooms may be shared).

- Transfers to/from Port Macquarie and Kendall (train station) are included at set times. Private transfers can be arranged and will be priced on request.

Pick up from Port Macquarie (airport, central bus station or hotel) at approximately 5pm, depending on the group and flight times.
Pick up from Kendall train station at 6:15pm to meet the train from Sydney. (If getting the train from Brisbane, please contact us as arrival time will be different).

Drop off at Port Macquarie (airport, central bus station or hotel) at approximately 9am (earlier on request for international connections).
Drop off at Kendall train station at 9am for clients getting the train to Sydney. (If getting the train from Brisbane, please contact us as arrival time will be different).

- The ride is full-board except for one meal (lunch or dinner) at a local establishment, at your own cost.

- Minimum age for this ride is 18 years old.

- Non-riders are welcome to stay at the lodge with accompanying riders. We recommend you rent a car to explore your surroundings - fishing and golf are available locally, and the beach is a 30-minute drive. It is possible for you to meet the group of riders during their picnic lunches.

SPECIAL WEEKS IN 2026
The will some weeks in 2026 with a more relaxed riding programme, dedicated to ride training and learning about natural horsemanship -- they are suitable for intermediate riders and above. The programme will include morning and afternoon sessions with lunch on the farm. Group size is a maximum of 4 riders, so each guest will receive time and attention. The programme will include learning about horse behaviour, horse handling and care, horsemanship lessons in arena and the Mountain Trail Obstacle Course, trail riding training (exercises to improve your riding skills, balance and feel that will help you when riding out on the trails), some fun with liberty, bareback riding and bridle-less riding, small jump exercises.
Trail rides will be 1-3 hours in duration. If suitable, the weeks will conclude with a beach ride or a longer trail ride in the forest. Dates are as follows:

3-9 September
18-24 October

SPECIAL WEEKS IN 2027:
Please contact to us to request a horsemanship week, which can be arranged subject to availability.
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 vehicle and driver
1 horse per rider

INLAND TRANSPORT

Airport transfers at set times (see above for details)

ACCOMMODATION

Double, twin or single room - guesthouse

MEALS

Full board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 7, except one meal (lunch or dinner) at local establishment, at own cost.
All non-alcoholic drinks and wine served with dinner

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

Saddle bags

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Extra beverages and personal extras
Excludes meal (lunch or dinner) at local establishment, at own cost.

TRANSPORT

International and domestic flights or transportation to Port Macquarie/Kendall
Local airport fees

EXTRAS

Tips to the local team
Small group supplement - see above for the details

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
Visas and personal purchase

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

There are 16 horses on the farm, but most are older, retired horses. The small herd of a 7 working trail horses is made up of 4 Australian-bred, pure- and part-Arabian horses, 2 Brumbies (captured wild horses) and 1 Andalusian x TB.
Arabians are a spirited breed and very forward, excellent with the warm Australian climate. Brumbies are level-headed and sure-footed, well adapted to the varied terrain. All the horses are very forward. The horses are between 14.1 and 15.2 hands. The Andalusian-TB is the only taller horse at 16.1 hh. Each horse has its own personality. They are part of the family and well looked after by Kathy and her team. They live outside in the herd year-round. .

All horses have completed 40 km endurance competitions as part of their early training. The Brumbies were originally captured as wild horses in the Guy Fawkes River National Park, NSW using humane passive trapping yards. They were then professionally trained using Natural Horsemanship Techniques.

Guide & local team

This is a one-woman (Kathy) operated small business. Local volunteers, international travelling helpers (backpackers) and casual workers (depending on group size) provide additional support (e.g. support vehicle for transfers and bringing lunch). Your guide carries a mobile phone (with limited reception), an emergency beacon (PBL) and UHF radio to communicate with forestry workers, and a first aid kit.

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

Strong intermediate and advanced riders only. You ride in open, varied, sometimes challenging country so need to be balanced in the saddle with an independent seat, and must be able to mount and dismount unassisted. Riders are requested to canter and gallop in a two-point position. You must be able to ride in English saddles.

Rider weight limit: Maximum weight is 75 kgs / 11 st 11 / 165 lbs.

PACE

The pace is moderate-fast paced on forward Arabian horses. All rides are for strong intermediate to advanced riders. Expect a lot of up and down hill riding. There are regular fast-paced canters and opportunities to gallop. You need to be able to control a forward horse ridden in a group in open terrain.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

Guests can offer to help with the horses and get their horse ready in the morning, saddle / unsaddle and wash & clean up the horses and tack, if they want (always supervised), but this is by no means compulsory or expected.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

Most country is undulating to steep terrain with some narrow overgrown rainforest trails. Rides go into remote and isolated areas, with limited mobile phone reception and assistance from third parties not immediately available. Leading the horses on foot over short distances may on occasion be required and a reasonable level of fitness is required for all horse riding tours. After each stop riders lead the horses for a few minutes to loosen the horses' (and the riders') muscles before mounting.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

Tack is of a very high standard and kept in good condition: Australian endurance saddles. The horses are ridden in snaffle bits, hackamores or bitless bridles / natural Horsemanship halters.
There are small saddlebags to carry a water bottle (supplied), and personal items for the day, lunch on some days. You will ride in endurance or English saddles.

Helmets are mandatory and can be supplied by the tour operator. Participants can also bring their own helmet, provided it is Australian Safety Standard Approved (or international equivalent) and it's less than 5 years from the manufacture date.

TRAVEL INFO

COMFORT

The farm is located in lush surroundings with gently sloping horse paddocks, timber post and rail horse fences, a few orange trees and many Australian native trees and plants, with an abundance of visiting birds and wildlife. The Kerewong Farm stay offers a total of 4 bedrooms (single, double

or twin) for up to 7 guests (maximum of 4 riders in any group). Enjoy a comfortable night's sleep in one of the Lodges bedrooms or in the separate studio-style Cabin. Guests can enjoy a saltwater swimming pool (4m x 9m) with a tropical garden feel (In use October - April). All linen and pool towels are provided.

There is no mobile phone or television reception on the farm, but there is free Wifi and guests can make calls using the internet.

MEALS

All meals are organized by your host. There is a focus on healthy home-style cooking and fresh ingredients with well balanced menus for your stay and when on day tours and treks.
• Breakfast: Buffet style continental breakfast with toast, condiments, cereals, yoghurt and fresh fruit. Cooked eggs & bacon, on some mornings on request.
• Lunch: Light salad lunches and picnics brought by support vehicle or saddle bag sandwiches
• Dinner: 2-course dinners are served at the dining table in the communal area and are home cooked International and Australian dishes.

Juice, soft drinks, filtered rain (tank) water, tea, coffee and hot chocolate are freely available on a self-service basis. Wine is served with dinner. Beer and additional wine can be purchased at a local bottle shop on arrival (during pick-up transfer), the winery ride destination or BYO (Bring Your Own).

Guests with special dietary requirements can be accommodated and must indicate their needs at the time of booking.

CLIMATE

During the month of April, May, August, September and October, the weather is generally pleasant with temperatures between 20-25°Celsius (68°F - 77°F).
The months of January, February, March, April, May, June, August, October, November and December have a high chance of precipitation. The summer months from December to February are rather hot and humid.

TIPS

Tips are not expected. It is, however, always welcome to show appreciation for exceptional service

PACKING LIST

Head
- Helmets are mandatory and we recommend you bring your own. 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

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
- Light and waterproof jacket

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

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
- Trainers or equivalent light shoes for evenings
- Socks
- Gloves - your hands are particularly exposed to the sun, cold or rain whilst riding.

Other useful items:
- Bathing suit
- 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) – one is provided.

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
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

Miscellaneous
- 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!
- You should also bring a copy of your passport/insurance in case you lose your documents. You can also save a copy into your mobile phone.

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 .