



Equus Journeys

HORSEBACK TRAVEL & EQUESTRIAN TRADITIONS SINCE 1972

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Clare County Trail

IRELAND

On this six-day **Irish trail ride** you will discover one of Ireland's most picturesque regions and its colourful history on horseback. You will ride over approximately 80km of quiet country lanes and rugged terrain, between the Slieve Aughty Mountains and the river Shannon. This **trail riding holiday on the west coast of Ireland** is best suited to intermediate and competent riders looking for a relaxed equestrian experience.

Trail Riding	 6 days (4 days riding)	 From £1,557	   	Open to non-riders
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Galway Clare County Trail



Galway Clare County Trail



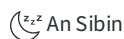
Galway Clare County Trail

ITINERARY

Highlights

- Ride Irish horses and ponies: Connemaras, Irish Sport Horses, Cobs, Tinkers, many of them bred by your guides and well-suited to the rugged environment of the Atlantic Coast.
- Discover some of Ireland's most picturesque scenery in the Slieve Aughty Mountains.
- Enjoy a relaxed trail ride and warm Irish hospitality.
- Stay at comfortable, cosy accommodation on a renovated equestrian farm.

Day 1 — 1: Arrive in Shannon



Fly to Shannon on the West coast of Ireland. Flights are not included but can be booked on request.

At around 4:00 pm, you will be transferred from Shannon airport to the equestrian farm, approx. 2 hours away – this is where you will be staying for the first four nights. Please see “dates and prices” for notes on transfer arrangements and costs.

Today you can just relax and recover from your journey before starting your riding holiday tomorrow, or explore the walking trails around the property. In the evening, you will get to know all your fellow riders for this week. You will have dinner in a tastefully restored 300-year-old equestrian farmhouse by candlelight and turf fire.

Overnight at the farm.

Day 2 — 2: Slieve Aughty Mountains - 2-3 hours riding

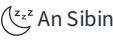


After meeting your horse and getting to know one another through grooming and saddling, set out on an easy half-day ride.

The trail leads along the wooded slopes of the Slieve Aughty Mountains and across wide stretches of open bogland – a gentle introduction to the week ahead.

Overnight at the farm.

Day 3 — 3: River Shannon & Holy Island - 4-5 hours riding

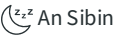


Today’s ride takes you past traditional turf-cutting areas, with sweeping views over the majestic River Shannon.

Along the way, you'll learn about the Neolithic tombs and the legends surrounding the ruined monastic settlement on Holy Island.

Overnight at the farm.

Day 4 — 4: Lough Graney - 4-5 hours riding

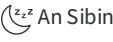


This morning you'll head for the top of the hills overlooking endless woods and grazing land to the north, west and south. Long before you get there, you can spot way below the sandy shores of Lough Graney.

After lunch, your trail ride follows the water and soon you will be splashing right across the refreshing lake with the horses! The riding trails in the later afternoon take you through the typical farmland of rural Ireland with its lush green fields and endless old stone walls, dotted with peacefully grazing sheep and cattle.

Overnight at the farm.

Day 5 — 5: Wildflowers & Boggy Uplands - 4-5 hours riding



Today’s trail leads you along narrow country lanes and through tranquil forest tracks, where the air is filled with birdsong and the scent of pine.

Emerging onto the open boggy uplands, you’ll feel the vastness of the countryside unfolding around you – a patchwork of soft green fields and rugged heather hills. The trails are lined with vibrant gorse, foxglove, and purple heather, painting the landscape with colour.

Overnight at the farm.

Day 6 — 6: Departure

After breakfast, you'll be transferred to the airport for your flight home. Please make sure to book a flight departing after 12:00 noon.

DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	STATUS
02/05/2026	07/05/2026	£1,557	Guaranteed departure
16/05/2026	21/05/2026	£1,557	Open
30/05/2026	04/06/2026	£1,557	Open
13/06/2026	18/06/2026	£1,557	Full
27/06/2026	02/07/2026	£1,557	Guaranteed departure

11/07/2026	16/07/2026	£1,557	Open
25/07/2026	30/07/2026	£1,557	Open
08/08/2026	13/08/2026	£1,557	Open
22/08/2026	27/08/2026	£1,557	Guaranteed departure

Price details

- Flights or transportation to your destination (Shannon airport) 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 triple room during the ride.

- Groups are composed of a minimum of 4 riders and a maximum of 8 international riders, plus guides. The ride will also confirm from 2-3 riders on payment of a supplement - €185 / £165 / \$215 per person.

- If you sign up to the ride as a solo rider and there are no other riders likely to share your room, you will be charged a single room supplement of approx. €210 / £185 / \$235. You will then be reimbursed if a sharer is found for you at a later date.

- Transfers will be arranged from and to Shannon airport but are payable locally in cash at €55 per person, per way, based on a minimum of 4 riders sharing the same transfer. The pick-up is scheduled around 4:00 pm on arrival. On departure, please book a flight departing after 12:00 noon. Transfers from/to Loughrea bus station can be arranged at a rate of €45 per person (each way), where you can catch a bus to Dublin if you'd like to fly into or out of the city.

- Accompanying non-riders are welcome and will benefit from a discounted rate: €750 / £665 / \$900 (full board + drinks included). Non-riders can enjoy sightseeing during the day (you will need a rental car), play golf, go fishing, cycling, hiking, etc. Please note that none of these activities is included in the price.

- Accompanied young riders are welcome from 12+ yo, provided they match the riding requirements.

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 per rider (same throughout the week)

INLAND TRANSPORTS

Inland transfers as mentioned in the itinerary

ACCOMMODATION

Double or triple room at the equestrian farm

MEALS

Full-board accommodation from dinner on arrival to breakfast on departure

EXTRA EQUIPMENT

First aid kit

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Beverages and personal extras

TRANSPORTS

Airport transfers at set times (see dates and prices)

International flights

EXTRA

Tips to the local team

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 room supplement

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

The Irish horse is renowned for its stamina, versatility and gentleness and will provide an ideal companion for an unforgettable horse riding holiday in Ireland. The horses at the equestrian farm are proud examples of several typical Irish breeds such as the tall but gentle Irish Sport Horse, the lively and clever Connemara, the fine and energetic Irish Hunter, the beautifully coloured and surefooted Tinker/ Gypsy Vanner and the intelligent and comfortable Irish Cob.

Our local team breeds many of their horses at home. Each year some new foals join the growing herd. They are specifically trained by our guides to become the willing, safe and sure-footed trail horses they are – really the perfect mount for a week-long riding holiday in the Burren!

Guide & local team

Bertie and Nicola are your hosts. They are very friendly and open people. They have been operating trail rides in the west coast of Ireland and the Burren for many years.

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

You need to be a strong intermediate rider, able to control your horse at all paces and in open spaces. You should be able to canter in forward seat and be balanced with good hands.

Rider weight limit: 85 kilos, 187 lbs, 13.3 st.

PACE

The pace varies depending on the terrain. There are opportunities for long trots and canters when the terrain is suitable. There are also long stretches of walking. Canters are in single file.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

You will be responsible for your assigned horse during the week: grooming, tacking and untacking. You can also help feed and water the horses in the evening. Assistance is always on hand if needed.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

Guests who do not ride regularly are requested to get fit prior to your riding holiday. It is of particular importance to ensure you are comfortable and balanced when riding across rough terrain and open spaces.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

English saddles and bridles. Saddlebags are not provided - we recommend bringing a small bum bag.

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

TRAVEL INFO

COMFORT

On this riding holiday, you will be staying at a renovated equestrian farm that is our guides' home base. Riding guests stay in double or triple en-suite rooms and can enjoy the cosy ambiance of the sitting rooms. This is charming farm setting is perfect for those who want to reconnect with nature, including many friendly pet farm animals and sign-posted walking trails.

A laundry room is available (no dryer).

MEALS

Full Irish breakfasts are served in the morning, or a choice of home-made bread, yoghurt, cereal...

Light picnic lunches are provided during the day and eaten on the trail: salads, bread, cakes, cheese platters...

Three course dinners at the farm always tasty and fresh – meat, potatoes and salads are a staple! On the nights you're staying in guesthouses, dinners will at a local pub or restaurant.

Wine, cider and beer, and sodas can provided at an extra cost (in cash).

Vegetarian, lactose and gluten-free diets can be accommodated on request. Please make sure to mention it at the time of your booking.

CLIMATE

The west coast of Ireland has an oceanic climate which is changeable and can be wet. In spring the temperatures range from 8-12c. April is particularly pleasant. In summer (May-July) the highest average temperatures are 18-20c, whilst in Autumn (Aug - Oct) the temperatures range from 14-18c. September is considered to be mild and temperate. The coldest months are January and February and sometimes temperatures drop below zero. Snow is rare, but there can be heavy rainfall at any time of year.

TIPS

Tips are not mandatory but very welcome if you are pleased with the service provided.

PACKING LIST

Head

- A riding helmet is mandatory. Helmet makers (GPA, HKM, LAS Helmets, Lamicell, Troxel, Equithème) now offer horse-riding helmets that are ventilated, strong, light and comfortable.
- Sunhat: cap for when not riding
- Sunglasses - with a cord attached so they don't fly off when riding

Upper Body

- Thermals in case of cold weather (long or short-sleeved T-shirts)
- Short or long-sleeved cotton shirts (to provide protection from the sun) or T-shirt in a quick-drying material
- Lightweight fleece or jumper
- Warm polar fleece or equivalent (plus a spare in case one gets wet)
- Warm Goretex-style jacket (water-proof and breathable)

Legs

- 2 pairs of jodhpurs or long leather trousers
- 1 change of trousers for the evening.
- 1 pair of waterproof over trousers
- Cotton or synthetic underwear (non-irritant)

Hands and feet

- 1 pair of comfortable riding boots. We recommend short boots with half chaps but you may wish to take long chaps or long boots.
- Lightweight shoes or trainers for the evenings
- Several pairs of socks

- Gloves - your hands are particularly exposed to the sun, wind or rain whilst riding

Other useful items

- Small bum bag to be worn whilst riding
- A soothing cream may be useful to treat areas irritated by long hours in the saddle
- Backpacks are not to be worn whilst riding. Everything should be kept either in pockets or in a bum bag: lip balm, sun screen, small camera, glasses, rope etc.
- Water bottle (1.5 litres or 2 equivalent)
- Head-torch or small torch for moving around at night - bring spare batteries and bulbs
- Toiletries
- Small plastic bags for your rubbish
- Ear plugs (may be useful)
- Camera and high capacity memory card. Spare battery

Medical kit

- Sunscreen and lip balm - should be high factor
- Insect repellent
- Any medication you regularly take
- Vitamin C tablets
- Blister plasters in case of any rubs
- Antiseptic cream, plasters, aspirin, anti-histamine, insect-bite salve etc..
- 10cm wide bandage
- Painkillers
- Spare prescription glasses/contact lenses
- Eye drops
- Imodium or similar anti-diarrhoea medication
- Re-hydration sachets
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

Other recommendations:

- We recommend taking a copy of your passport and insurance documents with you in case you lose your originals
- In your hand luggage carry any valuables, such as your camera, ipod, ipad etc.
- 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!