

Horseback Trail Rides

Half and Full Day Adventures

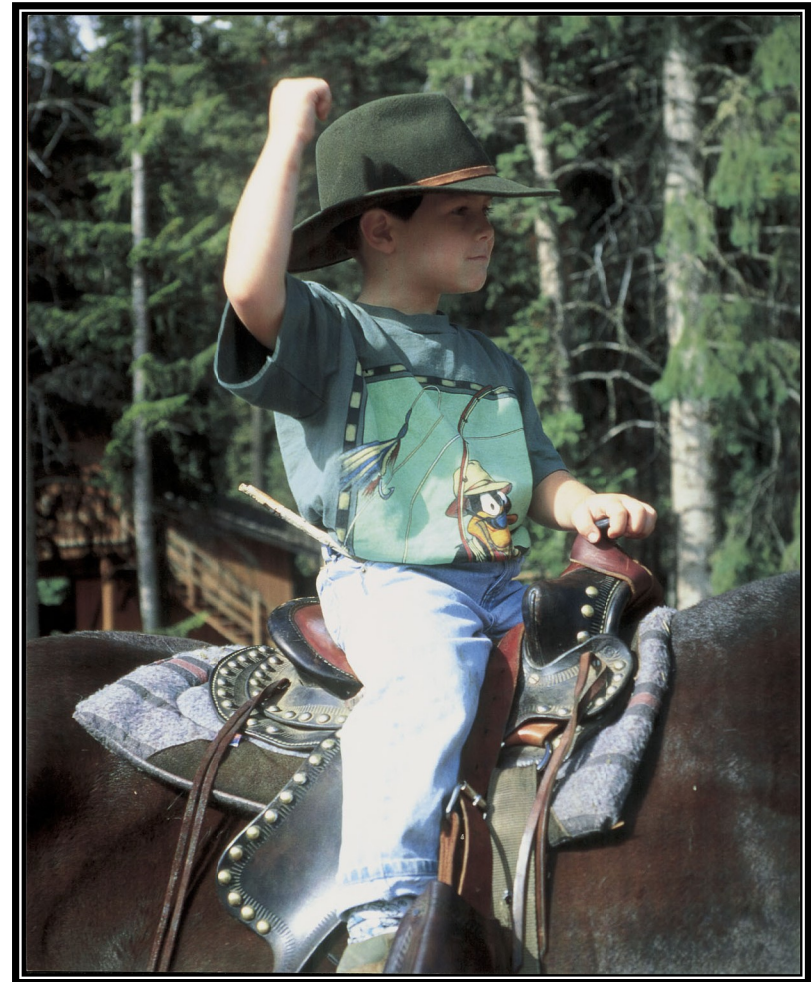


Dates

Dates available May through early September

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Half or full day trail riding above the Salmon River Canyon in the beautiful Idaho backcountry
- Ride to your ability
- Professional, experienced and fun-loving guides
- Seasoned well-mannered horses and riding equipment
- Full-day trip includes lunch
- Appropriate for ages 10 and up



Trip Overview

Our trip begins atop the Salmon River Canyon, above the small town of Whitebird in Idaho. Here you will meet your guide for the day and be paired up your trusty steed. Our guides have been working with these horses for years and truly know their personalities. After meeting and talking with you, your guide will have a sense of your ability and desire, and pair you up with just the right horse. From the ranch, we ride high above the Salmon River with amazing views of the Salmon River Canyon, Seven Devils Mountains and Gospel Hump Wilderness. Our day is spent walking and trotting along the trails within the National Forest. The full day ride includes an excellent lunch while you are out on the trails in the forest.

Difficulty Rating

Our horseback rides are rated EASY, and are considered appropriate for any physical ability, including children ages 10 and up. While this adventure is not physically challenging, people with knee or back problems should talk with us before booking their trip.

Weather

The weather in Idaho in the summer is beautiful! Most summer days are hot and dry, with temperatures ranging from the 80s to the occasional 100s, with very low humidity. We do have the occasional afternoon thunderstorm, but they usually dissipate within an hour or two. The spring is typically warm as well, but there can be occasional days of chilly weather or rain. The fall is a beautiful time here with mild temperatures in the 60s and 70s.

Detailed Trip Itinerary

Whether you choose a half or a full day ride, your trip will begin at the ranch above Whitebird, in Idaho. Morning trips typically meet at the ranch at 9:00, afternoon trips at 1:00 – PACIFIC TIME. The trip start times can vary from season to season, so we will finalize the details with you before your trip. *Please note, this trip runs on Pacific Time.*

After meeting your guide and your horse for the day, you will mount up and enjoy your ride through the wilderness. On the full day ride, we will stop for a great lunch mid-way through the day. The full-day ride generally returns to

the ranch by 4:00. The morning half-day returns by 12:30 and the afternoon half-day by 4:30.

Trip Cost

1/2 Day Trail Ride- \$69
Full Day Trail Ride - \$129

What's Included

- Professional, experienced and fun-loving guides
- Seasoned well-mannered horses and riding equipment
- The full-day trip includes a full lunch

What's Not Included

The cost of the trip does not include transportation, optional gratuities, and applicable taxes.

Tipping is not required, but is generally customary if you feel your guides have worked hard and provided you with a wonderful experience. While any amount is appreciated, a gratuity of \$20 per guest per day is considered a nice tip.

Why Northwest Voyageurs

Safety: The most important part of any outdoor adventure is safety. Safety comes first and foremost from having experienced, well trained guides who know how to avoid dangerous situations and minimize risk. All outdoor adventures have inherent risks associated with them. Our job as your outfitter is to minimize that risk as much as possible. In 26 years of guiding adventure trips, we have never had a serious injury. Our safety record is impeccable and speaks for itself.

Exceptional People: When we consider hiring anyone in our company, we want to ensure first and foremost that the person is extraordinary. Maybe we are selfish - we like to surround ourselves with inspiring people! We know we can teach almost anyone the skills to row a boat, or work at our front desk. But we can't teach people to understand people and how to

exceed their expectations. This trait is inborn and we search long and hard to find these people.

Experience: Experienced guides bring more to the table than a safe trip. They bring deep knowledge and understanding of our horses and destinations - and they also know how to maximize the fun-factor while minimizing risk. We boast some of the most experienced guides in the industry, as evidenced by a fair amount of white and grey hair in our guide staff. We also boast a very high level of education in our guides and staff in a variety of fields.

Service: Our owners have extremely high expectations of themselves and our staff. We differentiate ourselves on providing an extraordinarily high level of service on our trips and in our lodge. Our goal is to solve your problems and issues before you have them and to smile the entire time. Ultimately, it's our passion for sharing the outdoors with people who may be out of their element that drives us to provide this level of service. It makes your experience that much more rewarding - and makes you want to come back again and again.

Professionalism: While our guides are fun-loving and relaxed, they are also professionals. They've been trained in customer service and are able to handle difficult situations with grace and poise.

Getting Here

Flight Information: Most guests choose to fly into Boise, Idaho which is about 3 hours from our lodge and headquarters. Boise is about 4 hours from the horseback ranch. All major carriers except American Airlines fly into Boise. Spokane, WA and Missoula, MT have major airports as well and both are 4 hours from us. If your itinerary includes a trip to Coeur d'Alene or Glacier National Park, these cities will likely be more convenient than Boise. Lewiston, Idaho (2 hours) is served by Horizon Air from Seattle. From all airports, most of our guests rent cars and drive to our facility.

Shuttle Service: Shuttle service for parties of 6 or more is sometimes available from Boise or Lewiston. Please call our office at (800) 727-9977 for more information.

Public Transportation: Bus service is available once per day between Boise, Lewiston or Spokane to our lodge via Northwestern Trailways. Please check

with us or the bus company for up-to-date schedules. Round trip tickets run approximately \$45 per person.

Driving Directions: The Little Salmon Lodge and Northwest Voyageurs' headquarters are located in West Central Idaho, 10 miles south of Riggins, just off Highway 95 on Pollock Road. Turn west on Pollock Rd. between highway mile markers 186 and 187 and you will see our lodge 100 yards down the road on the left.

Once you have found our headquarters, the horseback ranch is just a little further. From our headquarters, continue north on Highway 95 for about 40 miles. When you reach the top of the Whitebird summit, you will see a sign for the horseback ranch on the right hand side of the highway.

For more specific directions please contact Northwest Voyageurs and we will be happy to assist you.

Approximate driving times to the horseback ranch from regional towns and cities:

Riggins - 50 minutes
McCall – 1.5 minutes
Grangeville – 20 minutes
Lewiston - 1 hour
Boise - 3 hours, 45 minutes
Coeur d'Alene, ID & Spokane, WA - 3 hours
Tri-Cities, WA - 3 hours
Portland, OR - 6 hours
Seattle, WA - 7 hours
Salt Lake City, UT - 9 hours

Accommodations Before and After Your Trip

We invite you to join us at the lodge the nights before and after your trip. Nestled on the banks of the Little Salmon River, lies the Little Salmon Lodge, home of Northwest Voyageurs. The Lodge runs as a full bed & breakfast, featuring 12 guest rooms with private baths, a beautifully hand carved beer and wine bar, river side hot tub, great room, and the most hospitable staff around. With most adventures starting and returning to the Little Salmon Lodge, it is the perfect place to relax before and after your trip. Call ahead for dinner reservations in the summer.

If you prefer to camp or have an RV, consider our neighbors up the road at the Canyon Pines RV Park. If beach camping without facilities is more your style, check out the many free camping options along the Salmon River just upstream (east) of Riggins.

What to Bring

Summer Riding

In July and August, the weather in Idaho is typically warm and beautiful, with only a slight chance of precipitation. Average highs are in the 90s and average lows in the high 50s to 60s. We do have a week or two that can be considerably hotter, with daytime highs exceeding 100F.

In normal summer conditions, we recommend long riding pants (jeans), riding boots or sturdy tennis shoes, cotton t-shirts, perhaps a long sleeve cotton shirt for sun protection, hat and sunglasses for sun protection. **IMPORTANT:** cotton clothing is recommended for very hot weather and it stays wet and helps cool your body temperature. However, cotton is NOT recommended for cooler weather. If it looks like rain even in the summer, you should consider bringing some non-cotton layer. Our detailed packing list includes gear for rare cool summer weather. Even though we hope to never use it, it is very important to bring it along.

Spring and Fall Riding (April, May, June, September, October)

If you have decided to join us in the spring or fall for cooler weather, please pay special attention to the packing list for those seasons. The water and air temperatures are cooler and the chances of rain are higher. As we mentioned above, even though we hope we never have to use the bad weather gear, it is important that you bring it along, just in case.

During cooler weather, it is always appropriate to wear quick dry, non-cotton clothing to keep you warm even when you are wet. The well known saying "COTTON KILLS" applies to all of our spring and fall trips. Synthetic fabrics such as polypropylene, capilene, and polyester fleece dry quickly and keep you warm when wet. Wool is a good and less expensive option however it tends to dry more slowly and is less comfortable.

When planning your clothing for cool weather, think layers. The first layer is often your long underwear, which provides warmth and wicks away moisture. Again, the newer synthetic fabrics are an excellent choice. The middle layer is often a fleece, heavier or lighter weight depending upon the expected weather conditions. The outer layer is typically a water proof or resistant layer. Since most of our body's heat loss is through the top of our head, we highly recommend wearing a synthetic or wool hat.

If the weather looks like rain, please bring along fitted rain gear. Do not bring a floppy poncho or other type of covering that will flap in the breeze. This type of clothing can spook the horses.

Recommended Reading List

General:

Indian Creek Chronicles by Pete Fromm

River Tales of Idaho by Darcy Williams

Roadside Geology of Idaho by David Alt

Myths of Idaho Indians by Deward Walker Jr.

Emergencies

Should your friends or family have an emergency, please ask them to contact us directly at the lodge at (208) 628-3021. We will do our best to get any appropriate message to you. It is often exceedingly difficult for us to reach our trips with a message, as we are often in remote, roadless wilderness areas. You will be responsible for any cost associated with retrieving you early from a trip or getting a message to you. So please be sure to let your friends and family know that they should be very clear with us the urgency of the message.

Payment and Cancellation Policy

Northwest Voyageurs requires a 50 % non-refundable deposit from each person to secure your reservation on this trip. Final payments are due no later than 60 days prior to the departure date. If you find you must cancel your trip, please notify Northwest Voyageurs in writing as soon as possible. If we have not received your final payment by the due date, and if we have not received written notification of your need to cancel your reservation, Northwest Voyageurs may at its sole discretion charge the remaining invoice balance to your credit card on file or consider the reservation cancelled and release your spaces.

All payments are non-refundable. However, if you notify us in writing of your need to cancel your trip at least 60 days prior to your departure, we will hold payments on your account less the initial deposit for a period of one year. If you notify us less than 60 days prior to your departure, all payments will be forfeited. Please understand that once you sign up, we lose the right to sell your space to another individual. Therefore, we regretfully cannot make exceptions to our cancellation policies. Northwest Voyageurs STRONGLY recommends purchasing travel insurance for all multi-day reservations.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance can cover unforeseen costs or problems such as lost baggage, cancelled flights, and the costs of canceling your trip due to illness or injury. Northwest Voyageurs STRONGLY recommends purchasing travel insurance for this trip. It is very important to consider purchasing your insurance within 15 days of making your reservation, as there are additional benefits included in the policy including a waiver of pre-existing medical conditions. For more information, or to purchase travel insurance, please visit:

<http://www.travelinsure.com/what/selecthigh.htm?32922>

Other Questions

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us by email at info@voyageurs.com or by phone at (800) 727-9977 and we will be more than happy to assist you in any way that we can.

Detailed Packing List:

Clothing and personal items

- 1 Short-sleeve t-shirts
- 1 Long-sleeve t-shirts or old dress shirts (for sun protection)
- 1 Pair long riding pants or jeans
- 1 Pair socks
- 1 Pair riding boots or sturdy shoes
- Sunglasses with retainer straps *
- Plenty of waterproof sunscreen *
- Lip balm/chapstick*
- Brimmed hat, baseball hat, or visor for sun protection*
- Good quality rain jacket and pants (no ponchos please)

Spring and Fall Additional Clothing Items:

- Warm waterproof jacket and pants or good quality rain jacket and pants
- 1 warm top (fleece or wool)
- 1 set long underwear (synthetic, quick dry fabrics like polypropylene, capilene, and polyester fleece)
- 1 pair wool or synthetic socks
- Non-cotton winter hat and gloves

Gear & Equipment List

- Camera & film (disposable waterproof cameras available in our shop)*
- 2 - 1 litre water bottles*, refillable during the day

Where can I buy these items?

Asterisked items in the above list are available for purchase when you arrive at our headquarters, the Little Salmon Lodge. Many of the other items can be purchased from a variety of general stores or local sporting goods stores. For specialty river or camping items including synthetic clothing, some of the many vendors to consider are:

Northwest River Supply: www.nrsweb.com

REI: www.rei.com

EMS (Eastern Mountain Sports): www.ems.com