








Horse Riding & Pony Trekking

Sustainability Code of Conduct

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As part of our commitment to sustainable tourism, we provide activity participants with the sustainability savvy travel tips below.

- ✓ Be **selective** – choose tourism businesses that share how they benefit people & planet
- ✓ Tread **lightly** – choose activities & transport options with a reduced environmental impact
- ✓ Be **informed** – learn a bit about local nature, history & culture beforehand to enrich your experience
- ✓ Respect your guide's **instructions** regarding safety, local etiquette & dos & don'ts, especially:
- ✓ Safe conduct, including mounting/ dismounting
- ✓ How to interpret horse / pony **behaviour** & what to do if they bolt
- ✓ **Safe following distance** & general rider etiquette, including communication signals
- ✓ What to do if **wildlife or vehicles are encountered** during the ride
- ✓ Appropriate etiquette when crossing **private property or villages**, using farm gates, safely crossing public roads, etc.
- ✓ Do a '**test round**' in the immediate vicinity to get used to your horse / pony before the ride starts
- ✓ If riding in a sensitive environment, **clean your footwear** before setting out to prevent the spread of invasive species
- ✓ **Remain on the trail** & keep your horse / pony in the middle to avoid trail widening
- ✓ Don't **gallop** in sensitive environments or when passing riders who are going more slowly
- ✓ Use designated **watering** points & don't allow your horse / pony to **graze** on natural vegetation
- ✓ Use bridges to **cross natural watercourses** otherwise at designated crossing points & at 90° to the bank / shore
- ✓ Don't collect or disturb **flora or fauna**, or their habitat
- ✓ **Reduce waste** – from food to paper, remember to take only what & as much as you need, & bring **re-usable items**, e.g. water bottle, coffee cup, shopping / carry bag (or buy a locally made one that can be re-used!)
- ✓ **Dispose** of waste responsibly & use local **recycling** facilities where available
- ✓ Be **waterwise** – your participation shouldn't place additional stress on water-scarce environments
- ✓ **Save energy** to reduce your carbon footprint & your impact on local supply challenges
- ✓ Support **climate change** action, e.g. offset or regeneration programmes
- ✓ Be respectful of **privacy**; obtain permission before taking photos / videos of people or sensitive sites
- ✓ **Respect others** using the area so that their experience & access are not compromised
- ✓ Be **sensitive to the inequalities** of our world & avoid displays of wealth, particularly in less privileged contexts
- ✓ **Ask questions** – your local guide will happily share their knowledge
- ✓ If you want to **give**, ask us how to do so responsibly; offering sweets or money to individuals, for example, can often do more harm than good
- ✓ **Buy** from local, small &/or community-owned businesses, especially if they feature local nature or culture
- ✓ Be cautious about **buying from children** – you could unknowingly be supporting their exploitation
- ✓ Refuse to buy **souvenirs**, food & beverages that harm the environment, people, or wildlife, especially those that are illegal to buy / sell
- ✓ Respect customary **tipping & trading** practices – such as bartering – & pay fair prices
- ✓ Provide **feedback** about what you liked or how we can do better

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