

Cappadocia Adventure Ride, Turkey

Sunday 23rd to Sunday 30th September 2018
~ Itinerary planned ~

Sunday 23rd September - Arrive Kayseri, a transfer will be arranged by shuttle to a guesthouse in Ortahisar, within the Cappadocia National Park, about an hours drive. Dinner and night at the guesthouse. (D)

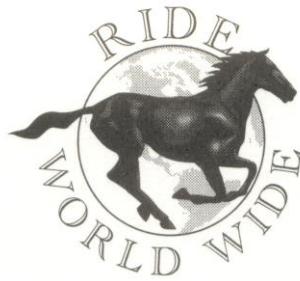


Monday 24th September - After breakfast you will be driven to the ranch to meet your horse and get acquainted with the riding equipment. Mount up and the first hour's riding follows a stream through lush vegetation in the Uzengi canyon. A first long canter up towards Avlak mountain, with magnificent views of Cappadocia (if it is raining the mountain will be avoided). Lunch is served in a tiny canyon, whilst the horses graze around you. In the afternoon continue through the valley, past the ghost village of Karain, before arriving at the village of Akkoy. Dinner and the night at the guesthouse in Akkoy. (B,L,D)



Tuesday 25th September - In the morning continue across the open hills surrounding Lake Damsa (in good weather perhaps a swim in the lake with your horse). Lunch cooked for you on a woodfire, at the foot of steep rock walls into which dovecotes have been carved. Trots and canters take you along tracks of soft red clay to the village of Mustafapasa and the ancient Greek mansion which is base for the next two nights, horses spending nights in the nearby garden. Time before dinner to stroll among Mustafapasa's old stone houses, Ottoman madrasa and painted church. Dinner and the night guesthouse. (B,L,D)





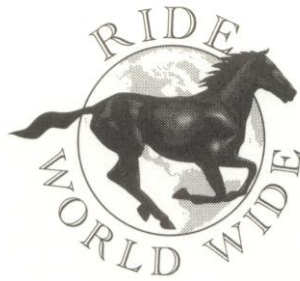
Wednesday 26th September - Ride from the guesthouse up the valley of St Nicholas towards the far south of Cappadocia. The route is well off the beaten track through extraordinary rock formations, vineyards and orchards, surrounded by table-mountains. After a canter time to visit the underground village of Gologli, then climb a scenic plateau, with more good chances to move on. Arrive at the village of Ayvali through a hidden canyon and stop for lunch at a restaurant nestled in the rock. In the afternoon, the riding is varied, narrow tracks, small canyons, farmed land, and the wide-open spaces of Bahceli, where shepherds lead their flocks. You sneak your way along the lush, narrow canyon of Sorkumlu, before the chance for some fast riding on broad sandy tracks. Time to visit another underground village, and in the evening the route leads you back to the guesthouse in Mustafapasa for dinner and the night. (B,L,D)



Thursday 27th September - Today you sneak your way through the rock tunnels, arches and small woods of the spectacular, 4 km-long canyon called the Green Valley. You make a detour through the famous Love Valley and its gigantic phallic rock formations, then onto the Sword Valley and Red Valley. With its citadels of red, pink and ochre rock, and its beautiful troglodytic churches, this is Cappadocia's most spectacular ensemble of geological formations. Lunch is at cave café located in an ancient monastery. In the afternoon, you continue through the Red and Rose Valleys, then ride out into the fields, surrounded by the rocky hills of north Cappadocia. The winding paths of the Shepherd's Valley take you back to Uchisar, in time for a drink on the terrace at sunset. Dinner and the night at the guesthouse. (B,L,D)



Friday 28th September - Set off riding crossing Urchisar and Pigeon Valley. Your small, agile horses are able to pick their way up the valley and on into the White Valley through a narrow path carved in the rock. Climbing to the plateau again there will be a long canter before stopping for lunch at the ancient village of Cavusin. After lunch a scenic path carved in the red rock of Mount Boztepe leads you to the famous rock formations of Pasabag. After a long canter across the plain of Avanos, you ride along ridges overlooking the forest of fairy chimneys in the Devrent Valley. Dismount to ascend the Boz Tepe mountain in order to reach the mausoleum of local saint Alil Dede. From his resting place, you have a 360° view over Cappadocia. Descend through the maze of tracks and paths up the crests and down the canyons of the Red Valley. With its rock castles of red, pink and ochre rock, this is Cappadocia's most spectacular valley. Enjoy the sunset over this valley from troglodyte caves where the night is spent. (B,L,D)



Saturday 29th September - After breakfast set off riding, leaving the tortuous paths behind you to take advantage of wider tracks for a long gallop. Cross the Valley of Pancarlik and its multicoloured rock formations and canter on past gardens and orchards to the natural rock circus of Taslik. Stop for a picnic lunch in a shady canyon (or perhaps at a restaurant) and in the afternoon ride on past the rock towers of the Gumuslu valley and through the narrow corridors and arches of the Tahtali canyon. Arrive back at the ranch by early afternoon. After a farewell tea on the terrace, you are driven back to the pension in Ortahisar. Those who wish can visit a 'hamam' (Turkish baths and massage) in the nearby town of Urgüp. Drive back to the guesthouse for a farewell dinner and overnight at the pension in Ortahisar. (B,L,D)



Sunday 30th September - Breakfast and transfer to Kayseri for your flight to Istanbul. (B)

NOTE - Please note that this is only an example of the itinerary planned but day-by-day arrangements and routes may be varied by your guide in his / her absolute discretion if the weather or other local conditions require.

RATE - 1375 Euros per person (single supplement 210 Euros)

Rates INCLUDE - 7 nights twin accommodation, all riding, guiding and equipment, meals and transfers from / to Kayseri within set times. Rates assume twin bedded rooms in hotels / tents.

Rates EXCLUDE - International flights / travel to Kayseri and taxes, any visa fees, personal medical / travel insurance (which you must have), bar bills, airport transfers outside set times, optional activities (eg balloon flight, Open Air museum etc. except on the Pasha Ride), and any tips you may wish to leave.

Single travellers - Single rooms can be booked (subject to availability) on paying the supplement above, although solo travellers need not pay the supplement if happy to share if required.