



## Puszta Plains Trail

### HUNGARY

Discover the flat plains of Puszta on this **riding holiday in Hungary**. The flower-filled meadows of the Puszta plains are perfect for fast riding and nature lovers, with a multitude of birds accompanying your journeys. Horses here are part of the local culture and you can marvel at the skill of the local horsemen.

<b>Trail Riding</b>	 <b>8 days / 6 days riding</b>	 <b>From £1,365</b>	
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


### ITINERARY

## Highlights

- Unforgettable long canters across the Puszta Plains.
- Comfortable accommodation (including sauna and jacuzzi)
- Warm Hungarian hospitality
- Visit Kiskunsági national park, a UNESCO world heritage site.
- Pass traditional farms and admire the local Magyar riders at work
- Hungarian food and wine

## Day 1 — 1: FLY TO BUDAPEST - PUSZTA - No riding

 Maya's Farm

Flights to Budapest are not included. You should arrive between 1:30 pm and 5:30 pm if possible.

You will be transferred from the airport to the farm (about 1h) drive. Transfers to/from the airport are included, but you may require a private transfer if you arrive late. At the farm you will be met by your guide who will show you around and talk to you about your ability and horse preferences.

Dinner and night at the farm.

## Day 2 — 2: RIDING ON THE FARM - 2-2.5 hours riding

 Maya's Farm

After breakfast you will be introduced to your horse before setting off for an introductory ride of couple of hour to another farm and return. This is your first chance to glimpse your beautiful surroundings. You will have lunch and then the afternoon is free to relax or explore the farm.

Dinner and overnight at the farm.

## Day 3 — 3 : FARM - PUSZTA PLAINS - 4 hours riding

After breakfast, riding for two hours across the plains until reaching a charming traditional farmhouse where you stop for lunch. The farm animals will roam freely around you!

In the afternoon continue riding until reaching your accommodation for the night.


## Day 4 — 4: PUSZTA PLAINS - 5 hours riding

 Sarlopuszta hotel

Today is your longest day of riding as you spend almost 5 hours in the saddle. Cross the pristine landscape of the national park - vast meadows, sandy hills and forests where you may spot wild boar, birds of prey, rabbits and deer, Your lunch is taken by the famous sand dunes.

Dinner and overnight at a hotel in the plains, where you stay for two nights.

## Day 5 — 5: PUSZTA PLAINS - 2.5 hours riding

 Sarlopuszta hotel

In the morning you ride for two hours to discover the beautiful countryside surrounding the hotel - including sand dunes!

In the afternoon you can make use of some of the hotels luxurious facilities - outdoor pool, sauna, hot tub etc.

## Day 6 — 6: PUSZTA PLAINS - 4-5 hours riding

 Maya's Farm

Today you ride back to the farm and the pace increases as you cross terrain which is ideal for longer canters! Stop for lunch en-route at the Red Castle (or picnic lunch if the weather allows) before continuing on to Maja's farm where you'll spend the night.

## Day 7 — 7: RIDING ON THE FARM - 3 hours riding

 Maya's Farm

Set out riding across the untouched nature of the Puszta. Lunch will be taken during the day before returning to the farm in the afternoon for dinner.

If you prefer then you can be transferred to Budapest in the afternoon to spend a night there - dinner will be to your own account and we will book you a night at a hotel in town.

## Day 8 — 8: BUDAPEST - DEPARTURE - No riding

After breakfast you are transferred back to Budapest for your flight home (departure from the farm between 7:30 am and 11:00 am).

If your flight is late in the day then you can be dropped in the city and explore for the afternoon. A taxi to the airport will cost c. 20 euro

### DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	STATUS
13/07/2024	20/07/2024	£1,365	Full
14/09/2024	21/09/2024	£1,365	Full
21/09/2024	28/09/2024	£1,365	Full
12/10/2024	19/10/2024	£1,365	Full
19/10/2024	26/10/2024	£1,365	Guaranteed departure

## Price details

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- Flights to your destination are not included, but can be booked on request - please contact us for rates.
- Rates are per person, based on two riders sharing a double or twin room.
- Groups are composed of a minimum of 3 international riders and a maximum of 6 riders, plus guides.
- Please note: the ride will also confirm for 2 riders on payment of a supplement of c. €250/£220/\$295 per person. Once the group has reached 3 people, we will remove this supplement from your invoice and refund you if you have already paid it.
- Transfers to and from Budapest airport are not included and have an extra cost of €60 per person, return rate (paid locally). The times for arrival/pick-up should be between 2:00-6:00 pm and for departure 7.30-11 am. If your flights don't match this schedule, a private transfer can be arranged for around €100/£90/\$110 per car, each way. Transfers to/from the city centre are possible on request.
- 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. €140/£120/\$155. You will then be reimbursed if a sharer is found for you at a later date.
- Non-riders are welcome and benefit from a €450/£400 discount.
- Accompanied children 12 years and older are welcome
- You can choose to spend the last night of the trip in Budapest for a supplement (around €30/£25 per person). Please contact us.
- Private dates can be arranged for groups of 4-6 riders.
- Rider weight limit: 85 kg/187 lbs/13.3 st. Riders over 85 kg can sometimes be accommodated on request. They must be excellent riders with a light seat. (please contact us before booking)

### 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

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### **SUPPORT TEAM**

1 English-speaking horse guide

### **LOGISTICS**

1 support vehicle

1 horse equipped with saddle and bridle

### **ACCOMMODATION**

Double room in local guesthouses

### **MEALS**

Full board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 8

Mineral water and hot drinks at breakfast

### **EXTRAS**

Use of the sauna at Maja's farm (two sessions of 1.5 hours)

## Price doesn't include

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### **MEALS**

Soft drinks, alcoholic beverages and personal extras

## TRANSPORT

Airport transfers

International flights can be booked upon request

## EXTRAS

Tips to the local team

Small group supplement. See above for price 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

## Optional

### ACCOMMODATION

Single room supplement

## EQUESTRIAN INFO

### Horses

The horses are a mixture of Hungarian warmbloods, sport horses, Furioso (from English Thoroughbreds) and Kisberi. They are very forward going, balanced and well trained. They are all in great condition and have very healthy, hard hooves, allowing them to be ridden barefoot.

### Guide & local team

Your guide, Maja, is from Budapest and speaks good English. She left the formality of riding schools in the city for the wide open landscapes of the plains for unbridled gallops!

### Minimum riding ability

#### MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

You must be a competent rider, capable of cantering and galloping in balance across open terrain in a group whilst maintaining full control of your horse.

- Rider weight limit: 85 kg/187 lbs/13.3 st. Riders over 85 kg can sometimes be accommodated on request. They must be excellent riders with a light seat. (please contact us before booking)

#### PACE

There are lots of opportunities for longer trots/canters and gallops across the open plains where the going is a mixture of sandy tracks and grassy meadows. There can be some long periods of canter.

#### TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

Guests can help groom and tack, although this is not expected. You can also assist with feeding and watering if you wish.

#### TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

You will cover 160 - 180km over the week and some of the days are long, so you need to be fit and in good physical condition. Previous experience of a trail ride lasting several days is an advantage but not essential.

#### EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

English tack only.

Saddlebags and seat savers are not provided.

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

### COMFORT

4 nights at the farm of your guide, which is comfortable but basic. They have recently added a sauna and jacuzzi which can be used on request (two sessions of 1.5 hours are included). There is WiFi in the main areas but not in the rooms.

3 nights in hotels or local guesthouses.

### MEALS

You eat traditional local Hungarian fare. Lunches and dinners are taken at small restaurants along the way or at your hotels.

Water is included throughout. Extra drinks and beverages are not included but can be purchased locally.

### CLIMATE

The southern plains have a continental climate with strong differences between the harsh winters and hot, dry summers. It can be humid in May/June with thunderstorms. Maximum temperatures are around 26c in summer and 1c in winter, although it can reach 30c in July/August.

### TIPS

It is customary to tip 10% in restaurants and to taxi drivers.

### PACKING LIST

#### Head

- Equus Journeys strongly recommend that you wear a riding helmet and that you take your own to ensure a correct fit. 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 add an extra layer
- T-shirts
- Lightweight fleece or jumper
- Warm fleece or jumper (and a spare in case one gets wet)
- Warm and waterproof jacket - it can rain at any time of year and the evenings can be particularly cold

#### Legs

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

#### Hands and Feet

- Comfortable riding boots. We recommend short boots with half chaps.
- Trainers or equivalent light shoes for the evenings
- Several pairs of socks
- Gloves - your hands are particularly exposed to the sun, cold or rain whilst riding. Waterproof gloves can be particularly useful

#### Nightwear

- Pyjamas

#### Other useful items

- A soothing cream to alleviate any areas irritated by long days spent in the saddle
- Camera and high capacity memory card. Spare battery
- Bumbag for carrying your camera and small items whilst riding
- Water bottle
- Swiss army knife (or equivalent)
- Ear plugs (for light sleepers)

#### 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
- Re-hydration sachets
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

#### Miscellaneous

- We recommend taking a copy of your passport and insurance documents with you in case you lose your originals
- Backpacks cannot be worn whilst riding. We recommend a small bum bag 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!

#### In your hold luggage

- Any liquids, such as shampoo, moisturiser, deodorant unless they are less than 100ml and all bottles can fit in a small, clear, plastic Ziplock bag. We recommend biodegradable washing products where possible.

#### In your hand luggage

- Any valuables, such as your camera, ipod, ipad etc.

## 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](#) .