

Overview of Country Trails & Riding School Guided Horseback Trail Rides

1 Irvine Park Rd, Orange, CA 92869

TEL: (714) 538-5860

www.ctridding.com

Location

We are located inside Irvine Regional Park, across from parking lot #5.

Directions after entering the park:

- Once through the park entrance, continue straight.
- Follow the signs that read “Horse Rentals.”
- Pass the first parking area (lot #6) on right, and turn right immediately after lot #6.
- Park in the next parking area (lot #5), which will be on the right, Country Trails will be on the left.
- Our office is a brown, barn-style building with a large sign that reads “Rental Horses”
- Enter through the gate to the right of this sign.
- Check in at the window, sign in, and complete paperwork.

Weekends and holidays can be fairly busy at the park. If the lots are ever full due to park activities, guests are welcome to park on the dirt in front of our office during their trail ride.

The Park charges a vehicle fee per each entry. This is a separate fee. The park usually has a set fee of \$3 per vehicle on weekdays and \$5 per vehicle on weekends. Prices for holidays can be anywhere from \$5-\$10 whether it is a weekday or a weekend.

Our Hours

Country Trails is open Tuesday through Sunday. We are closed major holidays. Please note that we are an active, working ranch, and our office hours vary depending on rides, vet calls and other barn work to be done throughout the day. If we are unable to answer phones or greet you at our guest window during normal business hours, CTRS staff will promptly return emails and voicemails at our earliest availability. While we can often accommodate walk-ins, we highly recommend calling or emailing at least 3 – 7 days in advance to schedule your trail ride, especially when requesting a weekend reservation. Availability is first-come-first-serve.

You may call us at (714) 538-5860

Or email us at: countrytrailsridingschool@gmail.com

Release Form

For your convenience, you may download our “Horse Rental Liability Release Form” on our website. Please scroll to the bottom of this page: www.ctridding.com/trailrides and click the button to download and print your release forms. For an expedited check-in (and to ensure your ride departs on time), we highly encourage guests to complete their release in advance, and bring a printed copy of your completed release form to your reservation. All riders must sign a liability waiver to be permitted to ride. Riders under 18 must have a legal guardian present to sign their release forms.

Rider Restrictions

We are proud to host riders of all ages and experience levels at Country Trails and Riding School. For the safety of our guests, staff, and horses, we do require that riders adhere to these parameters:

- Riders must be at least 8 years of age and no older than 86 years of age.
- Riders under 18 years of age are considered minors, and require a parent/guardian to sign their liability form(s)
- Riders’ weight must not exceed 200lbs.
- Riders must not be pregnant.
- Riders may not ride double, or share their horse. (Only one rider per horse, per hour, per reservation.)
- Riders must be able to understand and obey verbal directions spoken in English.
- Riders must not have any physical or mental impairment that would limit or otherwise inhibit their ability to understand and execute instructions for horseback riding.

We reserve the right to refuse service to any guests who do not meet the aforementioned qualifications. At the discretion of the CTRS staff, we reserve the right to refuse service to any guests who misrepresent the aforementioned qualifications or any other information that would otherwise render them unsuitable to ride. We reserve the right to refuse service to any guests who do not follow the instructions of CTRS staff.

Pricing and Payment

One Hour Ride ~ \$55 Per Rider
Scout Badge Program ~ \$65 Per Scout, \$55 Per Parent Ride-along

Gratuuity is not included in the price of your ride, but greatly appreciated! Tips of any amount are more than acceptable, and if you enjoy your riding experience, gratuity of 10 – 20% of your party is a wonderful gratuity!

We accept payment in cash or credit card

Riding Attire

For the comfort and safety of our guests, we require that our riders adhere to the following attire requirements:

- Riders must wear long pants or jeans, no shorts, capris, skorts, dresses, or skirts.
- Riders must wear boots or sneakers, no riders will be permitted to ride wearing open-toed shoes
- Riders under 18 years of age are required to wear a helmet, adult riders may refuse to wear a helmet at their own discretion. **CTRS provides helmets at no charge, and we highly recommend all riders wear one.** Guests are welcome to bring their personal helmet (bicycle helmets are acceptable) should they prefer to use their own.
- Riders may not bring “carry-ons” (purses, backpacks, fanny-packs, tote bags, cameras, etc.) on their ride, unless the rider has a medical reason for bringing an item with them. CTRS provides secure storage for guests’ personal items during their trail ride.

For the safety of our guests, we do not permit cell phone or camera usage while on horseback. Any guests found using their cell phone or camera on trail will be asked to relinquish their device to a CTRS guide until after the ride. We will gladly take group or individual pictures at the end of your ride upon request.

Reservation Policy

We offer 1-2 hour rides, and require a minimum of 2 riders to make a new reservation. Single riders may be added to an existing reservation with another party. We can accommodate up to 8 riders at a time, please call or email to discuss large groups.

MAKING A RESERVATION

To make a reservation, simply give us a ring at the barn and leave us a message, or send an email with you name, phone number, number of riders in your party, and the day and time you would like to ride. We will return your call/email shortly to confirm your ride! To make a reservation more than 48 hours in advance of desired ride time, we require a 50% deposit to reserve your ride. To make a reservation within 48 hours of desired ride time, we require a 100% deposit to reserve your ride.

ONCE YOU’VE MADE A RESERVATION

A CTRS staff member will call to confirm your reservation one to two business days before your scheduled ride. We request that guests fill out paperwork prior to arrival, and provide an easy link to download all paperwork by clicking on the link at the bottom of our website: www.ctriding.com/trailrides Guests who bring completed paperwork must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to their scheduled ride time to ensure an on-time departure. Guests without computer/printer access may also fill out paperwork at our barn, we request that guests who plan to complete their paperwork at the barn arrive at least 30 minutes prior to their scheduled ride time to ensure an on-time departure.

RESCHEDULING A RESERVATION

Reservations may be rescheduled until 48 hours in advance of desired ride time. (Please note that while we always to our best to accommodate our guests' schedules, during peak seasons, we may not be able to fulfill all requests for rescheduling). Reservations must be re-scheduled within one month (30 days) of original scheduled reservation to prevent forfeit of deposit. **Reservations may not be moved, re-scheduled, or cancelled within 48 hours of scheduled ride time without forfeit of deposit.**

CANCELLING A RESERVATION

Reservations made in advance of seven business days may be cancelled until one week of scheduled ride time with full refund of deposit. **Reservations made may not be cancelled within seven business days of scheduled ride. Cancelling a reservation within seven business days of scheduled ride will result in forfeit of deposit.**

Frequently Asked Questions

Please read below to find answers to other frequently asked questions about our trail rides:

I've Never Ridden a Horse Before, is That Okay?

Certainly! We take out first-timers on a weekly basis, and every single one of our trail horses is gentile enough for a beginner rider. We move at an easy-walking pace, and will help you along the way.

What Should I Expect on my Ride?

Our guides will take you for a walk-only horseback ride through the park, informing you of flora, fauna, history and interesting facts about the area. At anytime we encourage you to chat with us and ask us questions, we want you to have the most enjoyable ride possible.

Do I Need a Reservation?

Yes, although rarely we can accommodate walk-ins. We encourage you to make an appointment at least a week in advance for weekend rides and several days in advance for weekday rides to ensure that we can make arrangements for your party. Please call or email to make an appointment!

Can I Ride for Less Than an Hour?

No, we only offer 1-hour rides, this gives our guests enough time to experience the beauty of our nature park.

Can I Ride Double / Can I Share a Horse With my Child?

No, only one person per horse, per ride, no exceptions. Double riding isn't safe for the horses or rider, and we wouldn't expect you to carry a backpack with twice your normal load through the chaparral for an hour, either!

How Many Riders Can Go at a Time?

We can take up to 6 riders at a time. If your party exceeds 6, we can divide your group into multiple 1-hour rides. Please call or email us for scheduling large groups.

Do You Offer any Discounts?

For birthday party rides of 6 riders or more, the birthday rider is free! We also offer military discounts, please ask for the manager when scheduling your ride.

Do I Have to Wear a Helmet?

Guests under 16 years of age are required to wear a helmet. Guardians must sign off for riders 16 – 18 who wish to ride without a helmet. We have helmets available for all of our guests. Adults may choose whether or not they would like to use one, although we always recommend wearing helmets.

Why is there a Weight Limit?

We use light saddle horses, and our horses can only safely carry one quarter of their body weight, including the saddle and tack. Carrying a rider over 200lbs may cause strain to our horses back, and poses a liability should the horse stumble on trail whose weight exceeds 200lbs. We have no minimum weight.

Why Can't Children Under 8 Years of Age Ride?

Horseback riding requires focus, multitasking skills and the ability to listen to direction. Our horses weigh around 1000 lbs, and we find that children under 8 are unable to effectively control horses on trail.

Can I Ride Without a Guide?

No, all riders must be taken on trail by a guide. Parties of 2 will have one lead guide, and parties of 3-8 will have a lead and a tail guide.

Can I "Run" My Horse on Trail?

No, we offer walk-only rides. We want our guests to enjoy the scenery and relax with us. Our horses are trained to stay at a walk.

Can I Take Pictures While on Trail?

We will be happy to take pictures of your party after your ride. However, we do not allow guests to take pictures while riding on trail as we want riders to focus on steering their horses and enjoying the experience. No cell phone usage allowed while on trail. We have a safe location to store your camera and other personal belongings back at the barn.

Can I Pick My Horse?

We will assign you to a horse that is best suited for your experience. However, if you have ridden a particular horse with us in the past, we will be happy to let you ride that horse again! We also may be able to accommodate color preference.

How Much Should I Tip My Guide?

Gratuities are not included in the price of your ride but are greatly appreciated! If you have enjoyed your ride, consider tipping your guides comparable to any other service industry (massage, dining, etc).