Licensed Trail Riding Stables/Guided Trail Rides



Tips To Enjoy Your Ride

1. Select a stable licensed by the Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB). The stables listed in this brochure have met the state's standards of care for horses and consumers. However, MHIB can only guarantee that the stables listed are licensed by the State of Maryland and have met these standards. MHIB is listing these stables as a courtesy to the consumer and stable and does not, however, in any way endorse any particular stable or guarantee its services.

2. What to Wear. Proper attire is recommended to protect yourself from potential harm. Wear long pants to protect your legs and closed-toe shoes with a small heel for safety purposes. Wear an equestrian helmet. Ask the stable if helmets are provided prior to your visit. Keep your cell phone on YOU and not the horse in case you would be separated for any reason.

3. Before the Ride. Listen carefully to the instructions of your ride leader and follow their directions. Let them know your level of riding experience. Ask how long they plan to ride and at what pace? Plan to ride in single file. Get to know your horse, talk to them and stroke them in a gentle manner. Follow all safety rules and policies provided by the trail riding stable.

4. During the Ride. Stay behind the ride leader. Maintain safe distance by keeping the length of one horse between you and the horse in front of you. Only mount and dismount horse when instructed by the ride leader. Sit up straight in the saddle with your heels down. Your posture helps you stay balanced and allows you to communicate better with your horse. Hold reins as instructed by the ride leader. Follow the pace set by your ride leader. Ride leaders should check with riders periodically to be sure they are comfortable at the pace. If you feel uncomfortable or have an issue, let the ride leader know immediately. Be aware of your surroundings, for example, low-hanging branches, wildlife or other trail users.

5. Trail Courtesy. Stay on designated trails. Watch your step. Tread gently when the trails are muddy; footprints, bicycle ruts and hoof prints can damage the trails. If you need to pass another horse, ask permission from the rider in front of you and pass to the left.

6. After the Ride. Thank your ride leader. Give them feedback that might be helpful. Give your horse a friendly word and let him know how much enjoyment he gave you. In the event you visit a facility that you believe is substandard in care and safety, please contact MHIB with your concerns.



Experience the thrill of horseback riding!

Enjoy the natural beauty of Maryland's open space, scenic horse farms, woods and park land.



Maryland Dept. of Agriculture mda.maryland.go

Learn More:



mda.maryland.gov

Maryland Horse Council mdhorsecouncil.org

Trail Riders of Today (TROT) trot-md.org

The Equiery equiery.com

Map & Design by Dianne Dougherty - Trail Rider's Path Photos by Anne Litz - MD Horse Industry Board Content by Ross Peddicord - MD Horse Industry Board and Dianne Dougherty - Trail Rider's Path

Saddle Up & Ride









Public Trail Riding Stables & Guided Trail Rides in Maryland