

Caribou Wild Mountain Tours

Pre Trip Orientation and Safety Meeting

1. Everyone shares a brief introduction of themselves and their experiences and why they want to do this trip.
2. Horses – get to know them and their names.
3. Tack – Get familiar with your saddle, pad, halter, bridle, and horn bags.
 - how to saddle and unsaddle (left side only)
 - Note: where to put your personal belongings on your saddle.
4. Everyone saddles their horses.
5. Go over skills physically with their horse – stop, go ahead, turn left, turn right, mount and dismount, and keeping saddle straight on the horse.
6. How to and where to put your personal equipment on the horse.
 - Explain how weight should be more distributed in the front of the horse.

Trip

Communication: Be open about your wants, needs, and concerns. It's a long way from home out there, and we rely on each other for safety and a good experience. Feel free to share any concerns with your guide big or small. Not only the mountains, wild animals, and beautiful sceneries create your experience. The people are also a large part of it, and if they are happy, it is ultimate for the whole party.

Teamwork: It makes it more pleasurable all around when everyone helps out with the camp chores, which will include saddling and unsaddling your horse, bridles on or off, putting them away properly with the rest and covered with a tarp, and brushing your horse. Learning how to tie your horse on grass. Firewood gathering, water hauling, and purifying. The guides will usually set up the kitchen tarp last. Teamwork makes everything come together.

Stopping on the Trail:

- A. It is necessary to tie your horse to a bush or tree if not with him/her.
- B. If a person needs a bathroom break, then all must stop and wait.
- C. If anyone must stop for any reason when riding, then all must stop.
- D. We will stop often for pictures, however if anyone feels a need to take a picture at any time, then all must stop and wait.

Trip Continued

Staying together when riding: When moving, keep close together. Horses tend to run to catch up and not all people are comfortable with that. Also if there is a wildlife sighting, everyone is together to see the animal.

Tricky Stretch of Trail: Holes, soft ground, creek crossings – again it is best to be close together so the horse behind can follow the safe steps as the one ahead.

Bears: There will be bears out there. While together, we make enough noise to let the bears know we are there. Wild bears do not like to be around people so they move away. In the camp all food **MUST** be in the kitchen area, so your snacks should be in a bag with your name on them. **NO** food in the tent. We will have a couple of camp dogs and both guides are licensed firearm handlers, for any unforeseen circumstances.

Garbage: Every night before retiring to the tents, all garbage must be emptied from saddlebags and pockets to be put in the kitchen fire.

Attitude: This is a trip of a lifetime! Enjoy every moment. Laughter and joking are encouraged!