

Cape Gourmet Wine Trail, South Africa

Itinerary

Day 1

Meet your guides and horses at 14:00 before a 2 hour introductory ride around the vineyards and orchards that surround the farm. Guests are expected to untack their horses at the end of each ride. Help, of course, is always at hand should you need it.

A welcome drink is served in the yard after the ride, then there is time to freshen up and change prior to dinner.



Accommodation for the first two nights will either be in the comfortable en-suite rooms onsite, or in a local guesthouse.

Dinner is a traditional 'braai' where you can get to know your fellow guests

Please note that the itinerary may change depending on the weather at the time and other local conditions, but always with your best interests in mind.

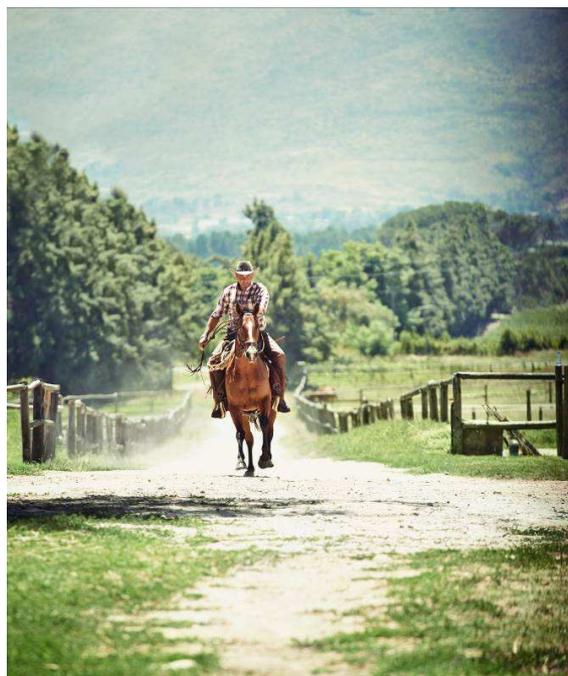
Day 2

After breakfast, you are transferred to Boschendal Estate, the start of the ride, where the horses are tacked up and waiting for you. The morning's ride will take you through the world-famous vineyards of Boschendal towards Plasir De Merle wine estate where you stop for wine tasting and lunch. Enjoy platters of cold meats, cheeses and preserves, all washed down with award-winning wines from this beautiful estate dating back to 1693.



After lunch, the trail heads to Kunnenburgh farm offering lovely views over the Franschhoek and Paarl Valleys, along the top contours of the vineyards.

After early evening drinks on the patio and stories about the day's ride, you are taken to your accommodation where you can relax and freshen up before dinner. You'll be staying in a traditional Cape manor house on one of the oldest wine farms in the Paarl region.



Dinner is a traditional feast at one of the finest restaurants in Paarl, prepared by local chefs showcasing the cuisine that has helped to make our region world-famous.

Day 3

After breakfast you set off at around 9:30 for the today adventure. The trail route takes you into the mountainside of Simonsberg with sweeping views of the Franschhoek and Paarl valleys behind you, through more wine farms and orchards such as Babylonstoren, Backsberg and Niel Joubert.



After about a 2.5 hour ride, you have a wine stop at Anura Vineyards. A full lunch is prepared by local chefs and showcases local produce. Combined with the wine tasting, this is one of those long, lazy lunches.

After lunch, the route continues past wine farms such as Marianne, Natte Vallij, Le Bonheur and Mitre's Edge. Finish at The Purple Windmill where the horses will spend the night.

After sundowners you head to your accommodation for the night.

Tonight, dinner will be at Mitre's Edge where the owner/winemaker will entertain, not only with a hearty home cooked meal, but with her own special hand-picked wines from the cellar.



Day 4

Moving on again today, the ride takes you over Klamputs koppie with far reaching views over the flat lands stretching out towards Table Mountain in the background. Continue onwards to Warwick wine

estate for a wine tasting before enjoying a lovely Cape Winelands Platter for lunch.

This day will probably be the longest riding day of the week with lots of inclines and declines. Depending on the season, riders might have to dismount to walk short distances with their horses.



After lunch continue to Knorhoek Wine Estate where both horses and riders will overnight. The day is rounded off with refreshing drinks or more wine and the horses are turned out to their paddocks for the night.

Tonight authentic South African home cooking will be on the menu. The owners of the farm accommodation where you are staying will prepare a traditional meal paired with wine from their own farm.

Day 5

This morning you meet the horses for the last ride of the week. The trail heads into the mountains offering views of Stellenbosch, the oldest town in South Africa after Cape Town itself. You should also get to see as far as False Bay towards the Atlantic Ocean.



After a slightly more technical ride you arrive at Morgenhof wine estate for lunch, complimented by the tasting of their lovely wines.

After lunch, the last leg of the trail route takes you along the Southern side of Simonsberg through Remhoogte wine estate. Champagne is waiting for you to toast the end of the trail.

After snacks and refreshments, you are transferred to the last night's accommodation where you can enjoy the pool and relax before a farewell dinner.

Day 6

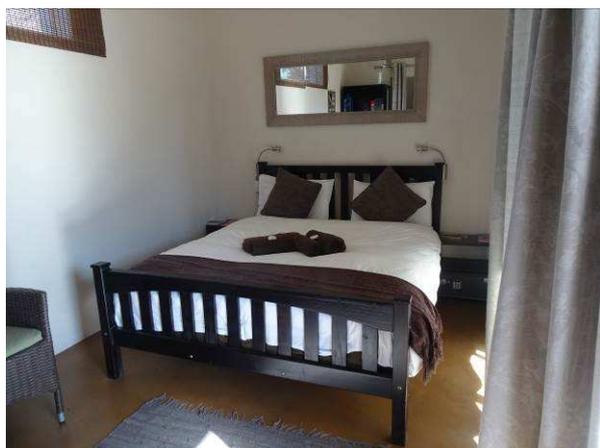
After a hearty breakfast you are free to depart for home.

Accommodation

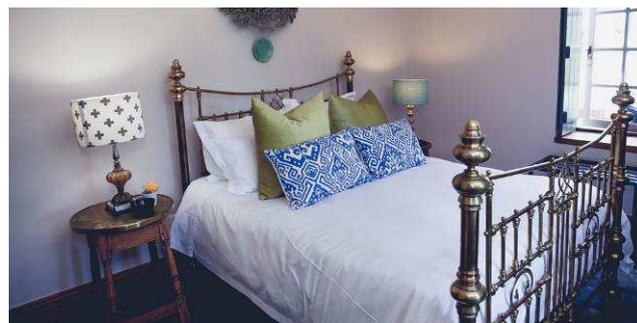
On this trail you stay at a number of different places, including wine estates and at the stables.

Cape Winelands Riding Farm

The on-site farm accommodation rooms are recently converted and are basic but comfortable. They can be either twin or double and all have en-suite shower.



Station House Historic Guest House.



Knorhoek Guest Farm and Wine Estate.



Laborie Wine Estate.





Uitkyk Guest Cottages



For more information contact in the saddle. Tel: 01299 272 997, Email: rides@inthesaddle.com, Internet: www.inthesaddle.com