

# SOUTH AFRICA - CAPE WINELANDS RIDING

## ITINERARY

On your first afternoon, if you arrive in time you will have a short gentle ride giving you a feel for your horse and the general landscape. Then, back at your accommodation enjoy sundowners before a seafood dinner paired with local wines.



Your precise itinerary for the rest of your stay will be agreed with you when you arrive and will depend on how long you are staying, the weather, other riders in the group etc. It is always possible that some of the wine estates mentioned in the outline itinerary may be closed to the public and they would be replaced by another of equal quality. You will normally ride for an average of four hours each day. Guests staying for seven nights will have one non-riding day. Guiding and vehicle costs are included for this day, but entry fees are payable locally.

Different possibilities include the following:

### Ride to Anura Wine Estate

After breakfast saddle up and head into local vineyards and orchards stopping at a lookout point with the magnificent Paarl Valley stretched out below. You then head along the foot of Simonsberg Mountain towards Anura Wine Estate. Here you can enjoy a canter between the vines and along old farm roads. At Anura, enjoy a wine and cheese tasting before strolling over to the Estate restaurant for an à la carte lunch with your preferred wine.



After lunch head home through the mountains with an afternoon stop at award winning estate Neil Joubert, a vineyard not normally open to the public but which offers exclusive wine tastings for our riders. Arriving back at the yard at around 4pm there is time to relax before dinner.

### Ride to Backsberg and to Great Drakenstein mountains

This ride starts with a longer exhilarating morning ride through peach, pear and plum orchards and on to a wine tasting at Backsberg, another internationally-acclaimed vineyard and the first wholly organic wine estate in the region.



From there you head for the western face of Simonsberg Mountain, enjoying more spectacular views across the Paarl and Franschhoek Valley and over to the dramatic Great Drakenstein mountain range. The mountain trail takes you through refreshing eucalyptus and pine forests, ending back at the stables.

Enjoy a late lunch hosted by another local wine farm. Without an afternoon ride today, you can relax at your accommodation or amble through the historical towns of Stellenbosch, Franschhoek or Paarl any of which are a 10 to 20 minute drive away.

## Simonsberg Mountain Ride

This is a full day's ride along the Simonsberg Mountain with a picnic lunch in the forest. It is a fantastic route for riders keen on a faster, more invigorating ride through the wood mill forests.



## Riding fun and visit Franschoek

Today gives you the chance to play some Western Games in the large sand arena before lunch, followed by a faster afternoon ride through Glen Carlou.

In the late afternoon stroll through picturesque Franschoek, a small town famous for its gastronomy and with a historical Bastille influence evident in the charming culture, shops and eateries.