

Bandit Trail, Catalonia, Spain

Day 1

The starting point of the Bandit Trail is at St. Joan de Abadeses.

Over dinner you get to know your guide and chat about the week ahead. Please note that your transfers and catering fee is usually payable tonight.

The Bandit Trail is based on the biography of the famous “bandolero” Joan Sala Serrallonga, the Catalonian Robin Hood.

The following is the proposed itinerary but please note that changes are possible due to weather and local conditions. On occasions the itinerary may run in reverse.

Please also note that it is necessary to lead your horse on foot on some sections of the trail. Sometimes the ground can be rocky and uneven and most of the time it will be downhill. You normally need to get off and lead on three days. Each stretch is for about 30 minutes, although on day three you get off and lead twice. It is important that you wear boots which provide support for your ankle and which have a non-slip sole.



Day 2

Meet your horses, saddle up and set off for a long day of riding. The trail weaves through the mountain landscape.

High above on a mountain range, you stop at a small Roman church to enjoy a picnic. Continue riding, and

stay overnight in a little mountain village in a guesthouse.



Day 3

Ride to the high plateau of Collsacabra, where you can see the merging of the north and south Mediterranean Sea as well as the high mountains.

Cross meadows and dense beech forests and after a long morning ride, you stop for lunch in a local restaurant and then continue on your way.

In the heart of the valley you find the remote but comfortable guesthouse accommodation of Jordis horse farm. In the evening enjoy a glass of wine with your hosts, who can tell you old Catalonian stories of the desperados.



For more information contact in the saddle. Tel: 01299 272 997 Fax: 01299 272 935, Email: rides@inthesaddle.com, Internet: www.inthesaddle.com

Please note that bathrooms will be shared at this unique guesthouse.

Day 4

The terrain is challenging today. Your horse takes care of you as you ride the mountain paths.

Vast cattle meadows provide views over the valleys and the mountains and you stop for a picnic in the open air.

Enjoy some fast trots and canters as you approach the table mountains.



The small village of Tavertet is located on the edge of a table mountain. From here enjoy the view looking down at a canyon lake that shines below you.

Overnight in a local guesthouse.

Day 5

Today you will ride along the edge of the table mountain with its views to the mountains of Guillerries.

At a clearing you rest and have lunch, and then continue your trek through a hidden mountain village.

At the highest point of the table mountain the monastery 'El Far' rises up. You stay in the area overnight and wake the next morning to the sun rising up over the sea.



Day 6

Today is a long morning ride, leaving the Guillerries behind you. The extinct volcano landscape is well cultivated, but also has a wilderness about it. The last eruption was over one thousand years ago, only black lava and some craters remain.

Stay overnight in the medieval village of Santa Pau.



Day 7

Today you have your final long morning ride. Trot and canter along the brook "Ser" and leave the area of Garrotxa. The brook leads into the river "Fluvia" which goes on to the Costa Brava. Oaks and pines are the dominant trees here and under their shade you enjoy a picnic.



After a siesta, you and your horses will be transferred back to Besalú. This is a beautiful medieval village and you have the chance to explore. The hotel is situated beside a Romanesque bridge with views over the river and village.

Later, enjoy your farewell dinner.

Day 8

After breakfast, transfer to Barcelona or Girona or stay for another riding trail.