

Riding Program at Finn Farm (one week)

Ride your horse in Donegal, the wildest, yet most peaceful place in Ireland. Let our sure-footed horse carry you along forest trail and golden blanket bog to picnic or swim at a dark blue mountain lake, to enjoy a memorable riding holiday at Finn Farm.

Horses and Tack

We provide you with an experienced horse who will carry you safely during your holiday. Our Irish bred horses are well mannered and safe to ride – though they love to behave like racehorses at the seaside.

The rider quickly bonds with his horse; your trail horse will be your ‘trusted friend’ by the end of your holiday. We supply top quality tack and there are changing area and relaxing room where riders and staff can enjoy a drink after a day in the saddle.

Food

A well-cooked Irish breakfast is included in this holiday offer. At lunchtime you may choose a secluded place to picnic on sandwich and tea from your saddlebag. In the evening you will be brought to one of the local restaurants where you may choose from a wide choice of food & drink.

Day (1) Arrival

On arrival in Ireland you will be met by Finn Farm driver and brought to the stables where you will be welcomed by the owners and staff. After settling in your apartment and a quick change of clothes, you will be introduced to your horse. You will then be able to ride in one of our arenas before being taken out for a one-hour trek along quiet countryside. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day (2)

After a hearty Irish breakfast you will be instructed on how to properly prepare your horse for the day ahead. You will have a ride in the indoor arena under the eye of an instructor, who will advise on riding techniques. Later you will ride through forest and valleys where houses and people are seldom seen. In the evening you may call to a local pub for a drink before returning home to a hot shower or sauna, before dinner at a local restaurant.

Day (3)

You shall travel through the beautiful Barnes gap to the world famous surfing beach where you can ride through the sand dunes and canter along white sandy beaches where the Atlantic ocean is spectacular. After the days ride you may visit an Irish music session.

Day (4) Relax

After breakfast you will be given instruction by our highly qualified instructor in the finer points of riding, before taking a relaxed one hour trek around country lanes. After lunch you will be taught the art of fly-casting at Finn Farm before heading down to the river Finn for a spot of salmon fishing. Here you may even meet some of the many internationally famous entertainment people who also fish the Finn. In the evening you may choose to relax in the sauna, or visit the fantastic spas at Villa Rose or Kees Hotel for a massage before dinner.

Day (5)

After a good night's sleep you set off after breakfast along forest trails that lead into a 7000 year old blanket bog. As you ride deeper into the Barnes Mountains, you may want to take a cool swim in a mountain lake, or try your luck at panning for gold. On your way home, you can stop at a country pub for a well-earned pint of beer or glass of wine before dinner at a local restaurant. Later you may visit the haunting Baltony stone circle, where three thousand years ago the Druids performed their rituals and made sacrifice to the god Baal.

Day (6)

Breakfast is followed by riding instruction in the arena, before heading across the river into the woods beside the river Finn. You will have to take your horse at a fast trot through the village of Stranorlar and Ballybofey to Jackson's Hotel where you may want to have a quick swim in the indoor pool or buy a drink to quench your thirst. Later you will ride back along the river to Finn Farm.

Day (7)

A morning tinged with sadness, as you say good-bye to your new found friends, but you will leave with fond memories that will perhaps draw you back to Finn Farm sooner than you may expect. A member of staff will drive you to your airport of departure.

For detailed information please visit our other pages, and contact us.

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Remember a riding holiday is more enjoyable if you are fit and able to control your horse with reins, trot, canter and gallop.

We only accept children who are over the age of 12, who are competent riders able to care for their horse and who are used to riding for 3 hours or more.
You may also book our self-catering apartment (2-4 people) and enjoy your own horse for a week or month of 'Go as you please' riding holiday.