

# Trail Lesson Guidelines/Rules

## WHAT IS A TRAIL LESSON?:

A trail lesson starts in the arena before heading out into nature to ensure all riders are comfortable and in control of their horses. The arena time is included in the total riding time and the amount of time spent in the arena is dependant on the level/skill of the riders. All rides are catered to the level of the weakest rider. If the guide feels that any of the riders do not have proper control, they may advise stay in arena for safety reasons.

**\*\*All riders must have a boot with a heel, long pants, and are required to wear a helmet.\*\***  
**\*\*You will not be permitted to ride without proper footwear or helmet.\*\***

## MINIMUM AGE:

Children must be 10 years of age to participate on our trail lessons.

## DOUBLE RIDING:

Under no circumstance is double riding with a child permitted. Each rider must be on their own horse, no exceptions. If the child does not meet the minimum age requirements we recommend booking an arena riding lesson instead.

## WEIGHT & HEIGHT LIMITS:

We allow riders up to 250 lbs. or 115 kgs. Anyone over this weight limit must disclose weight and height at the time of booking in order to determine if we have horses of the correct size available. This will be determined at the discretion of our guide.

## EXPERIENCE:

We have a variety of horses for riders of all experience levels, from beginners to experienced. Each rider is matched to a horse of their comfort level and abilities.

## PAYMENT OPTIONS:

We accept cash or etransfer. GST must be added to all prices. Tipping the guide is acceptable and very much appreciated.

## HELMETS:

The wearing of a riding helmet is mandatory for all riders, no exceptions. Each rider will be fitted for a helmet at check-in and must wear the helmet properly throughout the ride. All helmets are sanitized after each use.

## GALLOPING/CANTERING:

Galloping/Cantering is not permitted on the trails. If you wish to do more than a walk we recommend you book an arena lesson.

## WHAT TO BRING ON YOUR RIDE:

You are welcome to bring your camera/phone, but be aware you do need to keep one hand on the reins at all times!

SMR will not be held responsible for the loss or damage of personal items on trail rides.

Proper clothing: All riders must have a boot with a heel. Sandals and running shoes are not permitted on the rides. We also advise wearing long pants for your safety and comfort. We provide riding helmets; however, if you have your own you are welcome to bring that along.

## WHO CAN RIDE?:

While we strive to offer a safe experience for the whole family, horseback riding may not be appropriate for everyone. We ask that anyone with environmental allergies or medical concerns that may affect your ride to tell the staff in the office as well as your guide. Riding is a physical activity that is not recommended for those who: have issues with knees, back or hips, balance concerns, had recent surgeries or are pregnant.

## LIABILITY WAIVER:

Horseback riding is a historic and enjoyable pastime; however, it is not without risk. SMR does our best to provide safe and well-trained horses, trained guides trained and maintained trails, nevertheless horses and nature are not entirely predictable. All riders must sign a **liability waiver** before riding to indemnify SMR and employees from legal actions.