



## HWANGE HORSEBACK SAFARIS AND IMVELO SAFARI LODGES HORSE RIDING FACT SHEET

### *Frequently Asked Questions about our Horse riding activity*

#### *What is the breed and height of the horses you use? Are they used to the wildlife?*

Hwange Horseback Safaris offer a herd of 7 well schooled, bush wise horses, The breeds are varied and include Thoroughbreds, Boereperds, Percheron and Quarter-horses with heights between 15,3 -16,3 hands (160 - 170cm).

#### *What type of saddles and tack are used?*

We have a range of saddles including English, Australian stock, McClellan and Western. Our tack comprises of leather and nylon bridles with snaffle bits.

#### *Have you got weight and age restrictions and what quality of rider do you need to be?*

We have a weight restriction of 90kgs and do not allow children under 16 years of age (children 7 years and above are permitted on the beginner bush experience). Multi day safaris and certain daily activities are for experienced riders only. Riders should be fit and confident at all paces. Riders are expected to either own their own horse or have ridden regularly (weekly) within the last five years. Where activities state intermediate riding level, riders should be comfortable to post at a trot. We do have a beginner ride so everyone has the opportunity to enjoy a horse safari experience.

The manager has the discretion to ask any rider to dismount if they are not of a suitable competency level for the ride. The manager's decision is final and no discussions will be entertained.

#### *Are rides accompanied and what is the pace like?*

All rides are lead by our experienced, Zimbabwean qualified guides and trackers. The pace of our rides is determined by safety and terrain and is mostly fast walking and trotting. Where possible in open areas we will canter and gallop. We look at the rider's experience and tailor the pace accordingly.

#### *How many riders can you take at any one time and how long do you typically spend in the saddle?*

This differs according to the type of ride and varies between 2 and 4. On the multi day safaris you will typically spend no more than 5 hours in the saddle each day.

#### *Are there helmets available?*

We do have clean, used helmets but guests are encouraged to bring their own if possible.

#### *What is the terrain like and can you ride year round?*

The riding terrain near Camelthorn and Bomani is through the beautiful savanna grasslands of the Ngamo Plains and the landscape changes dramatically between the cooler dry winters and warm humid summers. Hwange offers big game riding all year around. We do have a Horse safari package which can be bought for those who are looking for riding to be their main focus on safari. This package combines riding in the south and north of Hwange National Park. The north varies from Teak forest to open grassy drainage lines. For more information on our package please email our reservations team.

## *Where are the stables?*

The stables are near Camelthorn Lodge and all rides depart from Camelthorn. Guests staying at Bomani who wish to do a horse riding activity will be transferred by road to Camelthorn (15 minutes). There is no charge for this transfer.

## *Below are the rack rates for our different horse rides*

### *Daily rides to choose from*

We offer 1 ride for beginners and 4 rides for intermediate to advanced riders as per below:

#### ***Beginner bush experience***

1 hour excursion for beginners and novice riders  
\$70 pp (Includes refreshments)  
(Children 7 years and above allowed)

#### ***Hippo sunrise***

3 hour excursion for experienced riders  
\$105 pp (Includes refreshments and snacks)  
(Age restriction - 16 years and above only)

#### ***Cultural immersion ride***

5 ½ hour excursion for intermediate riders  
\$135 pp (Includes refreshments and brunch)  
(Age restriction - 16 years and above only)

#### ***Sundowner ride***

2 hour excursion for intermediate riders  
\$95 pp (Includes refreshments and snacks)  
(Age restriction - 16 years and above only)

#### ***Full day safari ride***

8 hour excursion for experienced riders  
\$160 pp (Includes refreshments and lunch)  
(Age restriction - 16 years and above only)

## *How to book and pay*

Daily riding activities can be booked and paid for in advance before arrival through your agent or with our reservations team.

Alternatively, you can book the activity when you are in camp. Simply discuss the different riding activities with your guide or manager and they will make the necessary booking arrangements for you (subject to availability). Please note for bookings made in camp, payment must be made prior to doing the activity in cash, by credit/debit card (processed on site) or by bank transfer (bank details provided on request). Guests will only be permitted to ride once we have received proof of payment.

#### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

30 days + before = 75% refund  
16 - 29 days before = 50% refund  
8 - 15 days before = 25% refund  
0 - 7 days before or non arrivals = no refund

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

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*We look forward to sharing many memorable rides in this beautiful terrain with our valued guests!*

