

# “Real West” Horseback Vacations

## 4 Day Itinerary

### West Range Cabin - Backcountry Trail Ride Horseback Vacation

(please note: there may be changes to the itinerary, this is to be used as an example only.)

**Day 1:** All West Range Cabin vacations depart from the ranch here in Brule. Meet at the ranch at 9:30 am the morning of the ride departure. We will pack up all the gear on the pack horses. You will then meet your saddle horse and we will adjust stirrups etc. to suit you. We are on our way, riding up the trail, crossing Solomon Creek and climbing high to come out on a bench overlooking Solomon Creek with a beautiful view of Solomon Valley, the first range of the Canadian Rockies. You will ride approximately 2 hours to this point. After a relaxing lunch we will continue riding up the valley through Aspen Forests and along the mountain trail, finally descending down to the valley floor and

arriving at West Range Cabins approximately 4 1/2 hours total riding. Once here your gear is unpacked from the horses and you can settle into your cabin before dinner at 6pm.

**Day 2:** Wake up to the beautiful smell of fresh mountain air. Breakfast at 8:30 am. After breakfast you will mount your trusty horse for another beautiful day of riding. Today we will ride up to the top of Paradise Ridge a fantastic high mountain ride where the trail is steep and has several switchbacks. Once on top you will see views you only dream about. Here we will have lunch and enjoy the magnificent views just relaxing in the noon day sun. Make sure to bring plenty of film. After a relaxing lunch we begin our descent back down to the valley floor. You will have to walk down in certain spots, too steep to ride down. You will ride approximately 5 hours today. You will arrive back in camp

with time to relax before dinner at 6pm. After dinner you may want to enjoy a short hike before relaxing around the campfire to end the day.

**Day 3:** Breakfast at 8:30am. After breakfast we saddle up and are on the trail at approximately 10am. We will ride into the headwaters of Solomon Creek on an ancient trail that has been used for many years, but by very few. The trail is very rustic with several creek crossings through pine and spruce forests past beaver dams and up a small feeder stream that puts us at timberline adjacent to Peterson Ridge. You will again have fantastic views after a short climb to an open top approximately 6000ft above sea level. This is a great spot to enjoy your lunch, take some pictures and if you have

binoculars a perfect time to look for wildlife. We have to walk the horses a short distance back down the steep spots and return to West Range approximately 5pm. Dinner at 6pm with a gathering around the campfire again tonight.

**Day 4:** After breakfast of bacon, eggs and pancakes we pack all our gear on the pack horses and head back for the ranch. We follow Solomon Creek down the valley and will lunch at Prine Creek. The remainder of the ride we are back tracking from the first day and will bring us back to the ranch in Brule. Approximately 3pm. Here you will say goodbye to your faithful mountain horse, until you return another year. This the end of your trail ride, but your memories and photos will last forever.

**Day 5-6: (Optional):** If you choose to stay an extra day or two, you will not be disappointed. You can help saddle up today if you wish. We hit the trail approximately 10am and head down the Solomon Valley to the confluence of the south fork of Solomon Creek. We ride through the valley past Sheba Creek and into an ever narrowing valley between two mountains until we arrive at the lunch spot a short hike from West Fork Falls. This is an interesting place to walk around and explore, but the trail is steep so take your time. After a relaxing lunch we return to West Range to enjoy another delicious dinner and our last evening in this beautiful spot in the Rocky Mountains