

Luxury global travel experiences for those who love horses

Whether for beginner riders or experienced equestrians, destinations range from castles to dude ranches

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Whether you want to feel a bond with nature by riding through it, or a bond with the animal you are riding on, an equine holiday experience may be just the thing you are looking for.

From British Columbia to Uruguay, for champion riders and beginners alike, there is a vacation destination for horse lovers old and new.

Estancia Vik, José Ignacio, Uruguay

Described as where “Marlboro Country meets a laid-back St. Tropez,” Estancia Vik is a popular destination for rumoured celebs such as Leonardo DiCaprio and Mark Zuckerberg.

A traditional Uruguayan ranch located on 4,000 acres in the rolling countryside of José Ignacio close to the ocean, the fishing village of José Ignacio has everything guests could want for a truly bespoke vacation. Visitors are welcome to ride across the open pampas (grasslands) with gauchos (cowboys) or take part in Estancia Vik’s professional private polo field. Professional polo trainers are on hand for private lessons, and attendance at South America’s premier polo matches can be arranged.

“Our exceptional concierge team can curate highly specialized experiences, inviting guests to experience José Ignacio through the eyes of a local,” said marketing manager Jorgelina Masso. “Guests can spend the day like a traditional gaucho, beginning with a polo lesson and ending with an authentic Uruguayan asado (barbeque) under the South American stars. With just 12 suites, guests can also buy out Estancia Vik with a group of friends or family, and truly make it their home away from home.”