

RIDE OF A LIFETIME

WHILE THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC has changed or canceled many people's travel plans, it also has encouraged people to stay closer to home, get outside, avoid large groups and connect with family. Dude ranches offer safe and inviting ways to experience the great outdoors in small groups and with strict safety guidelines, possibly within a day or two of driving.

The Dude Ranchers' Association, established in 1926, has more than 90 dude ranches under its umbrella throughout the United States and in British Columbia, Canada. The organization also offers services and advice through its website (duderranch.org) to anyone wanting to book a dude ranch vacation. Here are three things the DRA recommends considering when choosing a dude ranch.

1. TIME OF YEAR: Depending on where you want to go on your dude ranch vacation, consider the optimal time of year to visit certain geographical areas. For example, in the heat of the summer consider a ranch in the north or northwest with warm days and cool nights. Conversely, wintertime is a prime time to escape the cold weather and head south.

2. ATMOSPHERE: The DRA categorizes its member ranches into luxury, traditional and working ranches. Luxury, resort-type ranches offer posh accommodations, chef-prepared cuisine, and an array of guided recreation and spa services. Traditional ranches are usually family friendly with comfortable lodging, homestyle comfort food and a range of activities for all ages. Working ranches are for those travelers who want to experience the realities of ranch life, from moving cattle to feeding animals and fixing fence. Accommodations are rustic yet comfortable, and hearty meals will keep you going.

3. ACTIVITIES: Compile a list of horseback and other activities your group wants to do—from birding, hunting and fishing to golfing, hiking and photography. It will help narrow your options and ensure everyone enjoys their dude ranch vacation.



ANCHOR D OUTFITTING



Located in the Kananaskis area of the Alberta Rockies—1,200 square miles of mountainous terrain—**Anchor D Outfitting** is an hour southwest of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. With seven different mountain ranges, selecting some seven-day trips means you can go from start to finish without meeting another person. The incredible mountain scenery and home-raised

mountain horses keep guests returning. Enjoy the guest cabins or lodge, or camp with your gear hauled in a covered wagon. Trout fishing in the mountain lakes is a popular bonus. Contact: 403-933-2867; anchord.com

BUTTE CREEK OUTFITTERS



Known for its deep wilderness destination pack trips, **Butte Creek Outfitters** is 24 miles east of Yellowstone National Park, and

all of the company's outfitting is done adjacent to the Park. Guests can take trips to both Shoshone and Bridger Teton National Forests. Often drawing from historic maps and diaries, the company covers most of northwest Wyoming with trips ranging from 84 miles of wilderness from Cody to Jackson Hole to shorter, three- to five-day trips. Family-owned for more than 40 years, Butte Creek breeds, raises and trains its own horses for any level of rider. Contact: 307-587-6016; buttecreekoutfitters.net

DUDE RANCHERS' ASSOCIATION

Formed in 1926, the **Dude Ranchers' Association** preserves the special Western way of life and the wonderful environment in which dude ranching takes place. When you vacation at a DRA member ranch, you can be sure of a quality vacation. Membership requires a rigorous inspection and

SPECIAL PROMOTION



approval process that ensures guests are treated to genuine Western hospitality combined with the lodging industry's highest standards. Dude ranches offer all-inclusive vacations perfect for any traveler. Horseback riding, fishing, zip lining, white water rafting, going to rodeos, relaxing around campfires, working cattle and enjoying fine dining and more await your discovery on your next dude ranch vacation. Contact: 307-587-2339; duderanch.org

GERONIMO TRAIL GUEST RANCH

Geronimo Trail Guest Ranch is a welcoming, relaxing escape in the beautiful Gila National Forest of New Mexico. Enjoy horseback riding through deep canyons with crystal-clear, spring-fed streams, as well as ponderosa forests, open meadows and mountain overlooks. Visit 1,000-year-



old Mimbres cliff dwellings and pictographs while exploring the nearly untouched wilderness. Reconnect with family, friends and nature while enjoying warm hospitality, delicious meals, well-trained and responsive horses, and comfortable tack. Contact: 575-772-5157; geronimoranch.com

HONDOO RIVERS & TRAILS



Since 1975, owner-operated **Hondoo River & Trails** has offered trail riding holidays in the backcountry and canyon lands of southern Utah where other riders are seldom encountered. They honor the generations before them, who lived simply and used what the land had to offer. "Let's see where this goes" and "Leave only footprints" are the company's mantras. You can't beat the dark skies for viewing the Milky Way, or the hunt for the elusive wild Mustang bands. Hotel lodging or camping are available, and there is an array of riding options in varied terrain. All equipment is provided. Contact: 435-425-3519; hondoo.com

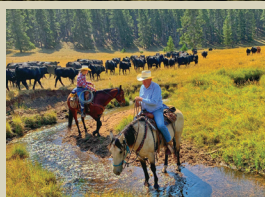
KLONDIKE RANCH



Located 14 miles south of Buffalo, Wyoming, the historic **Klondike Ranch** is



Get Outside Next Summer!



Klondike Ranch
Buffalo, WY
(307) 684-2390
KlondikeRanch.com

We are a working guest ranch with accommodations for 6 to 10 guests. Besides horseback riding, we offer fishing, hiking, sightseeing historic tours, and an overnight camp trip or longer.



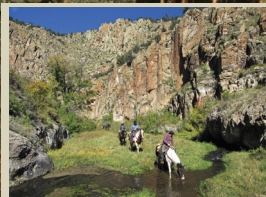
Blacktail Ranch
Wolf Creek, MT
406) 235-4330
BlacktailRanch.com

Blacktail Ranch specializes in horseback riding, fishing, cattle drives, river adventures, and beautiful mountain scenery. A home-away-from-home for everyone who crosses our gate. Flexible daily schedule.



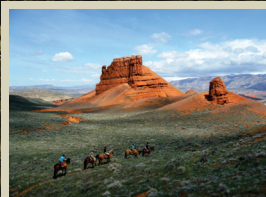
Bar W Guest Ranch
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Geronimo Trail Guest Ranch
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GeronimoRanch.com

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The Hideout Lodge & Guest Ranch
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DudeRanch.org • (307) 587-2339 • info@duderanch.org

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not only a guest ranch, but also a working cattle ranch. Guests become part of the crew, moving and working cattle. Besides horseback riding, the ranch also offers fishing, hiking, sightseeing on historic tours of the surrounding areas and a relaxing hot tub to unwind at the end of the day. For those who want to sleep outside under the stars, overnight or longer camping trips into the Bighorn National Forest are available. Due to the riding conditions, the ranch can accommodate guests 13 years and older, and everyone must be able to get on and off a horse unassisted. Contact: 800-362-2982; klondikeranch.com

OVER THE HILL OUTFITTERS



Based at Palmer Quarter Horse Ranch in Durango, Colorado, **Over the Hill Outfitters** takes horseback adventures deep into the Weminuche Wilderness,



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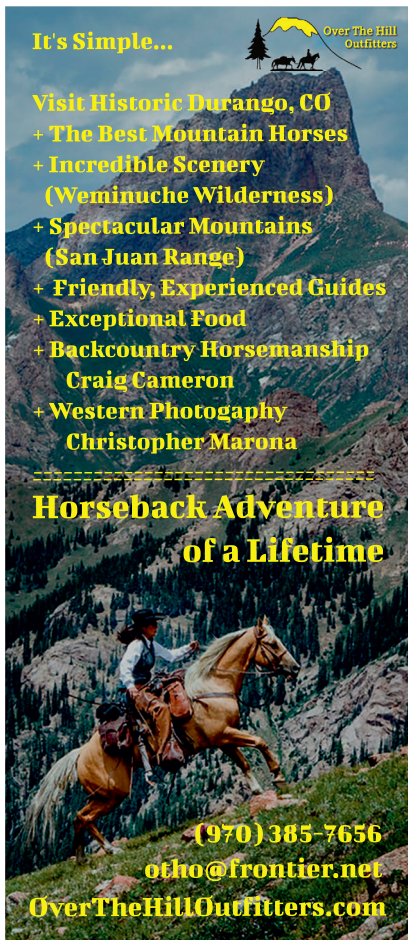
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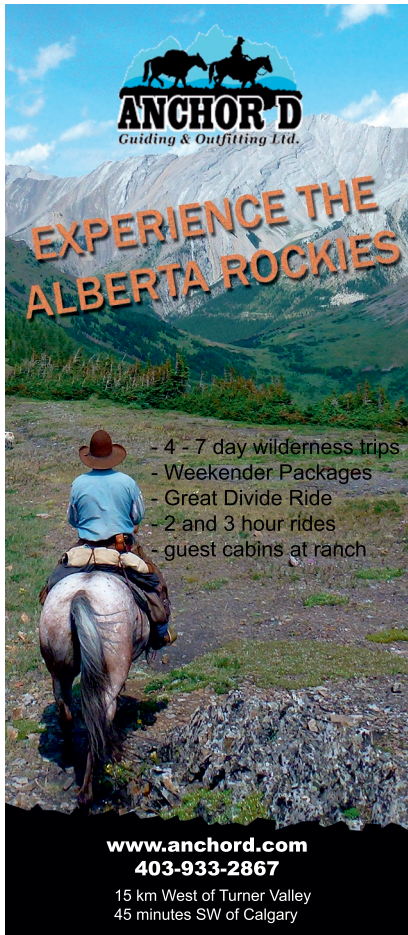


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the largest wilderness area in Colorado, with an average elevation of more than 10,000 feet. Basecamp five-day pack trips explore the Florida River's magnificent glacial valleys, dramatic peaks and spectacular waterfalls with few other visitors. Trips can include visiting historic cabins, fishing and relaxing around campfires. A 90-mile progressive trip along the spine of the Continental Divide takes place in August. Specialty trips such as backcountry horsemanship clinics, yoga trips and wilderness photography are also available. Contact: 970-385-7656; overthehilloutfitters.com

RED ROCK RIDE



As a participant of the **Red Rock Ride**, you'll start and end in Las Vegas, Nevada. During the seven-day ride, you'll visit Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Thunder Mountain Trail, Butch Cassidy Trail and the Paria River in the Grand Staircase National Monument, concluding with the Grand Canyon National Park. The Houston and Mangum families have more than 35 years of experience guiding guests through these national

parks. Transportation to and from trailheads and cabin lodging is included in this all-inclusive vacation. Contact: 435-679-8665; redrockride.com; Red Rock Ride on Facebook.

ROWSES' 1+1 RANCH



Jerry and Tammy Rowse are sixth-generation ranchers in Nebraska's rolling Sandhills. **Rowses' 1+1 Ranch** offers guests real riding freedom and a chance to join the family to work together, riding and participating in the everyday ranching lifestyle. Aboard well-trained Quarter horses, guests can expect to ride more than six hours a day, performing tasks such as driving and sorting cattle, checking pastures and doctoring. They can also take roping lessons. Each small group of guests enjoys delicious home-cooked meals with the ranchers in their home. Contact: 308-346-5530; 1plus1ranch.com

RUBY'S HORSEBACK ADVENTURES

Ruby's Horseback Adventures offers guided trail rides in areas surrounding Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah. The company features a four-day horseback ride with nightly campfire

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Rowse's 1+1 Ranch
 BURWELL, NEBRASKA



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cookouts and entertainment, and deluxe lodging at the Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel. Riders may bring their own horses and camp, or stay in the hotel. Horse boarding facilities are available, as well as rental horses. Guided rides range from 1½ hours to all day. Contact: 866-782-0002, 435-834-5358; horserides.net

7 LAZY P OUTFITTING



A horseback vacation with **7 Lazy P Outfitting** will have you exploring Montana's Rocky Mountain front and the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Start your vacation at the historic 7 Lazy P Guest Ranch, and then get horseback and let the 7 Lazy P crew and mule train professionally guide you through the remote Bob Marshall Wilderness to climb the Chinese Wall, fly fish in pristine waters, hike to high elevations, relax and unplug. This is a great all-around vacation for any level of rider. Contact: 406-466-2245; sevenlazyp.com ■

Ruby's Grand Adventure Ride

4 day trail ride adventure
2021 Ride Dates are Currently Sold Out

2022 Dates
 April 24 – 29, 2022
 May 8 – 13, 2022
 May 15 – 20, 2022
 August 28 – September 2, 2022
 October 9 – 14, 2022

Rides are in areas surrounding Bryce Canyon National Park
Day Trips and Wagon Rides Also Available



For ride details and information
1-866-782-0002
www.horserides.net
 Located at Ruby's Inn Lobby

Geronimo Trail Guest Ranch

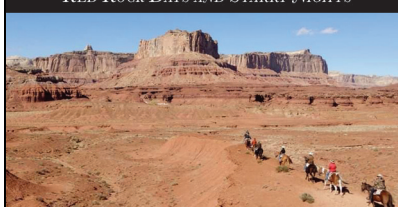




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