

Before you arrive at our farm

Which hike?

You must choose your hike based on your walking level, the composition of your group and the age of the hikers.

We have been renting donkeys for more than 20 years, so we can advise you if you have any doubts about choosing your hike!

We are at your disposal by phone or email to help you to build your trip according to your desires and your expectations.

How many donkeys to rent?

The maximum weight that a donkey can carry is 30 kg per donkey, so we generally advise to take a donkey for 3 to 4 people. This rule often varies according to the age of the children accompanying the hike and their ability to walk for a long time or not : in all cases we will propose a number of donkeys which, by experience, seems adapted to your group.

Prepare your luggage!

Do not to take too much luggages (donkeys can carry 30 kilos weight of luggage AND children included): your clothes, your toiletries and pic nic are all you need!

Avoid unnecessary heavy objects: children's games (there is what is needed at the evening steps), supplementary food (including for donkeys who prefer to travel light rather than having 5 kilos of apples on the back), a second pair of shoes (opt for the evening flip flops in addition to your walking shoes), and prefer light books than the biggest you ever read!

If you sleep in bed and breakfast, you do not need towels, sheets and sleeping bags BUT you must bring your shower gel and shampoo (not included in the rooms)

We give you two very large bags per donkey: your luggage will be distributed in a balanced way in these two bags (we give you a "peson" during the hike to be able to weigh the bags each day): each bag must be the same weight and the maximum total weight is 30 kilos include the weight of the children who ride on the donkey.

The best is to put your stuff in sports bags or backpacks, or even, what we prefer, garbage bags because they are solid, very light and also completely waterproof.

Suitcases are to be avoided absolutely.

Remember to bring one or more small backpacks (20 to 30 liters) that you will each fill the same weight and that adults can remove from the donkey and wear on the back when children ride on the donkey if the weight is more than 30 kilos

Remember to bring a bottle of water about one liter per person.

Do not forget caps and sunscreen for the summer.

A small emergency pharmacy (antiseptic, bandages, aspirin or doliprane child, mosquito repellent ...) is always practical, slip there in the toilet bag.

You order the pic nic from the first day of the hike : think that the weight of the picnic lunch is about 1kg / person (wihtout water, so 2 kg by person with water) : ALL the picnic equipment is provided, including the cooler bag.

If you do not take pic nic the first day of hike you must bring all your picnic material (hermetic box, cutlery AND cool box)

Do not skip light rain gear, proper hiking shoes that you have already walked with because new shoes can hurt your feet.

The mountain bike helmet for children riding on the donkey is necessary, you have to think about it!

Welcom at Bougres d'ânes :

We advise you to arrive the day before your hike and offer to welcome you between 16 and 17 hours.

We will introduce you to your donkeys and give you advises to take care of them.

We will then give you your documents "Hiking with a donkey", including:

- 1 / 25000th IGN maps with your highlighted routes.

-The detailed route sheets (descriptive writing) of each of your hikes.

-A small photos guide taking all the steps of installation of the equipment on the donkey.

You can then take your apartments and relax until the meal is served at 19:00 in the common dining room.

If you can not or do not wish to arrive the day before or if you do not stay on site, we will wait for you the morning of the departure at 9 o'clock at the latest.

First steps,

We walk with you at the beginning of the hike, and as soon as we feel good with your donkeys.

Our donkeys are kind and quiet because we educated them ourselves with respect and patience.

We have tested them all on the hikes you are hiking.

They are professionals hikers but our donkeys are all different with their own personality and their reactions that we can not always predict. Even if the donkeys can be driven by the children, the permanent vigilance of an adult is necessary.

We remind you that if children ride the donkey it's under the full responsibility of accompanying adults, our activity being transport and not riding. It is asked hikers to have insurance for persons, accidents and general liability.

Children under three can not ride on the back of the donkey (we can let you a baby hiking bag if you do not have one).

If you want to ride children on the back of donkeys, you must bring a helmet, like a helmet bike.

The hikes have all been prepared by us. You will walk a lot of the time on well maintained trails, our country is crossed by hundreds kilometers of paths.

The length of the hikes are between 10 and 16 km, which is 3 to 5 hours of quiet walking. For almost every day, shortcuts are provided.

If you want to bring your dog, this is quite possible only if he is very quiet; most of our donkeys are used to hike with dogs and if it is peaceful, it will get used to our donkeys quickly. But will your dog be able to stay quiet when he meets our hens, sheep and others dogs he will meet at the evening stages ??? Is your dog trained enough for the hike? Finally, you are not sure that taking your dog is a good solution, but you have no way to keep it : we have 5 km from home a very comfortable dog hostel (<http://www.elevage-de-sinforace.fr/>). Be careful, dogs are like their master, they can have pains with the paws: we strongly advise you to make a small preventive treatment two weeks before the hike with a product which hardens the pads (ask advice to your veterinary).

In case of problem with your donkey : health problem, hooves, lameness ... that we did not detect when you leave, we promise to replace it in the day.

If you decide to stop the hike on your own we can repatriate you on the basis of 1 € per km with a maximum of 50 €, under no circumstances it won't be able to ask a reimbursement for your hike.

How to come at Bougres d'ânes?

BY THE ROAD

We are located at 1:30 northwest of Lyon and 2 hours south west of Dijon.

We are at 9 hours from London, 7 hours from Brussels, 4h30 from Paris and 3 hours from Geneva.

FOR THOSE WHO USE A GPS: Enter IGUERANDE as arrival place and not Melay, then arrived in Iguerande, no longer listen to your GPS (better, turn off!), And follow our instructions:

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE VILLAGE OF IGUERANDE:

At Iguerande there is a traffic light (not two!) If you come from Roanne (south), left at lights towards Melay, if you come from Digoïn (North), right at the lights towards Melay.

Continue straight: you pass over the Loire. Then you arrive at a junction where you turn right towards Melay. You follow then the channel that is on your left about 1 km and you will take the first small blue bridge on your left where a sign hung « location d'ânes, bougres d'ânes ». Cross the canal passing over this small bridge (panel hire donkeys) and park immediately on the left after the bridge. The farm is on your right.

If you use googleMap as GPS enter bougres d'ânes in your search.

BY TRAIN

Book your train ticket to come to us with town of arriving MARCIGNY and book your train back with Marcigny as point of departure.

If you come from the North, you will pass by the TGV station Le Creusot Montchanin, and take a shuttle bus direction Roanne. You get off at Marcigny.

If you come from the South, you will arrive at Roanne Train Station and take a shuttle bus direction Le Creusot-Montchanin, then you get off at Marcigny.

Number of the bus company offering shuttles if you need more information: 04 77 68 30 00

We pick you up free stop Marcigny.

Bougres d'ânes

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