

Aldergrove Backcountry Horsemen day-trip to Bowen Island

September 19, 2009

Ride Location

The majority of the ride will be on doubletrack coastal forest trails in the Cape Roger Curtis lands. There will be some singletrack sections and a small portion of roadside riding. We will be riding a one-way loop, returning to the original trailer location.

- Trail ride **meeting point** is in the cul-de-sac at the end of:
Thompson Road, Bowen Island, BC VoN 1G0 - N49° 21.818, W123° 20.100
- There is room to park several trailers on Thompson Road, with adequate space as a staging area.
- After the ride, we will trailer the horses to 'The Meadows' where we will have an afternoon BBQ, hosted by BIHORA (BYOB).
- 'The Meadows' consists of an equestrian ring and warm-up ring where horses can either be highlined or turned out, as is suitable.

Google Maps - Thompson Road

http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=thompson+road,+bowen+island,+bc+VON+1G0&sll=49.35124,-123.397794&sspn=0.015879,0.034332&ie=UTF8&t=h&z=16&iwloc=A

Google Maps - The Meadows

<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=49.383309,-123.349493&sll=49.352244,-123.399433&sspn=0.006295,0.006295&hl=en&ie=UTF8&ll=49.383239,-123.351874&spn=0.015869,0.034332&t=h&z=15>

Day/Date

September 19, 2009, ready-to-ride at 10:30am

- please see ferry schedule and arrive 30 minutes prior to sailing time at Horseshoe Bay to assure loading
- Ferry schedule is located on the BC Ferries website here, note new schedule in effect as of September 8, 2009:
<http://www.bcferrries.com/schedules/mainland/biva-current.html>
- note that hay is considered dangerous cargo by BC Ferries and must be declared and contained in a tarp
- allow 20 minutes minimum, crossing the island to Thompson Road. Bowen Island is VERY hilly, with curvy and narrow roads. Though the roads are paved, potholes are not uncommon and maximum trailer speed will likely be 35kph.

Terrain

- rocky, uneven, constant up/down, but easily ridden by an intermediate horse/rider
- horse shoes or boots recommended
- elevation changes constantly, with no prolonged steeps in any one direction
- around 15 km round trip

Hazards

- small creek water crossings
- large mud puddle crossings
- some washed-out trails with loose rock
- some river-rock type trails, but these sections are no longer than 20 metres, and are not at steep grades
- one horse-safe footbridge, approximately 1.5 metres wide and 10 metres long, with railings
- see attached photos for more details
- note that once we enter the forest we will be in a somewhat remote area which is not accessible by trailer – there are no short-cuts or alternate routes outside of the route we're taking

Ride Time

- approximately 3.5 hours total on-trail time, going at a walk, including 1 hour of break time

Bring-alongs

- water for self for full day
- water for horses is available on the ride at 2 creeks, and at the final BBQ location (not suitable for human consumption), anything else for horses must be brought by rider
- packed lunch for self during ride
- hosted BBQ to follow the ride, BYOB and folding chairs if convenient (bleachers on-site)

RSVP

Email Vivian Pearce at: pearcehorses@shaw.ca by September 11, 2009

Contact Phone/Email

If you have questions or concerns about the ride, please contact:

- **Brenda Addison-Jones** email: jonesb@douglas.bc.ca tel: 604.947.2525
- **Katherine Beaulieu** email: president@bihora.org tel: 604.947.2199

Trail Boss

- Andrea Pearce will be the Trail Boss and will update everyone on the game plan prior to ride start.

Other Resources

- Our website: www.bihora.org
- BIHORA on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/photo_search.php?oid=25351283566&view=all