# 3 Day Horse Ride

# \*Ride times tailored for each group & itinerary can change due to weather, logistics, & conditions.

## Day 1 Bella Vista

Arrive at approx 9:30AM at the Wool Shed. The ride departs from here at around 10.00am. It begins with riding through undulating, open pastures and there is the opportunity to view some Snowy Mountains brumby mobs, which often have mares with foals at foot.

The ride then continues through the wilderness, along scenic spurs and through gullies brimming with wildlife such as pretty faced wallabies, eastern grey kangaroos and the odd echidna or wombat.

Following our Sheep Station creek north, the country becomes gradually steeper until the ride drops down to an emerald green grassy clearing on the creek, where lunch is scheduled.

After lunch, the ride continues to the base of our western mountain range. From there, it is a relatively steep climb to the top of Snowy Wilderness. Once at the top, it is a short ride to "Lake Bella Vista Camp Site" which is the location of the first night's camp. From the woolshed to the campsite, the ride will have travelled over 400 vertical meters. The afternoon is very scenic, with mountain gullies filled with ferns and native flowers and plenty of wild life including



**Riders at Bella Vista** 

Arrival at the camp is usually 4:00PM and preparations for the evening meal including a large camp fire are well under way by the support group. Hot water is ready for the bush showers and tea/coffee, and of course your favourite drink.

Drinks and snacks at 5:00PM and Dinner at 7:00PM

# Day 2 The High Acres

Day 2 is set aside to explore the top acreage of the property and is an easier day's riding. Firstly, the ride visits a panoramic lookout point called Rocky Top Lookout, and at approximately 1350m, there is a brilliant view of the Snowy Wilderness backyard and a view of things to come! The view takes in Mt Carlisle, Sheep Station Creek, Reedy Creek and Gully Creek valleys, and 3 volcanic peaks named the Tubbits.

From the lookout, the ride explores the sub-alpine plateau and 4 mobs of brumbies including our Waler brumbies which were relocated to Snowy Wilderness 5 years ago. Waler brumbies are from the north of Australia and hold a unique position in Australia's history as they are descended from horses of the 1<sup>st</sup> fleet and bred for Australia's light horse cavalry. They are magnificent to see and you can get reasonably close to them

deer.

As the ride progresses, we visit the Snowy Wilderness truffle acreage, yes we are growing truffles just like France and Italy!!, as well as sweeping views across the top of Australia's main range, which quite often has snow on it. Landmarks that can be seen here include Mt Kosciusko (Australia's highest mountain at 2228m), Ramshead Range, and Mt Perisher.

After this, the ride moves on to "Powers Hut", typical of wilderness huts found in our national parks and constructed in the early 1900's. Power's hut is 103 years old and the heritage of the Snowy Mountains is reflected in this building.

A lunch site is chosen and there is opportunity to relax and take in the majestic surroundings.

After lunch, the ride sets off in search of the Silver Brumby Mob. Led by a silver grey Waler stallion, this mob has mares who are different shades of grey and can be quite elusive, weaving through the grey snow gum trees. The Silver Brumby is a majestic horse and there is a series of children's books in Australia called the Silver Brumby.



#### Our magnificent Silver Brumby

Following this, the ride moves through slightly thicker bush to a vantage point locally known as the "Devils Marbles", another wonderful lookout point over the eastern parts

of Snowy Wilderness. The ride follows the ridge south to another site called Glenview. From here, there is a short ride home to the Lake Bella Vista campsite.

Arrival back at Bella Vista Wilderness Campsite is usually 4:00PM and preparations for the evening meal including a large camp fire are well under way by the support group. Hot water is ready for the bush showers and tea/coffee.

Drinks and snacks at around 5:00PM and Dinner at 7:00PM

### Day 3 The Northern Loop Ride

Today the ride moves down past Hidden Lake which helps irrigate the oak/truffle trees, and begins a steep descent through a beautiful glade then onto a steep spur back down towards Sheep Station Creek. Once again, commanding views impress upon you as you ride down the trail. Sheep Station Creek is crossed, and a steady climb out of Sheep Station Creek valley onto a scenic track along a ridge which weaves down to the northern boundary of the wilderness. From here, it is trail riding at its best, across spurs and gullies with awesome "Man from Snowy River" views including a particularly steep cliff like view down onto a distant Reedy Creek. Then it is riding further down the spur to find a relatively easier descent into Reedy Creek where we find a very lush and green area to have lunch on the creek's scenic banks.

After lunch the ride continues crossing Reedy Creek and proceeding around a steep mountainside, then descending along spur into Tin Mine Creek gully. We then climb up a ridge then over the top and down the other side back into the banks of Reedy Creek.

This is the start of our Beach Ride which is just terrific fun and nice easy riding. We meander along the sandy sides of the creek, sometimes with steep banks on each side, perfect for an ambush!! And just when you thought you were having real fun, we come to the last part of the beach Ride just before Reddy Creek Campsite.

From here we climb up a beautiful valley then cross over our Roller Coaster track and then a steep ascent to the top of the ridgeline. It is then a gentle relaxing ride with a crossing over Sheep Station Creek and back to the Woolshed by about 4:00pm.

## **Snowy Wilderness Dinner Menu**

Aussie Camp Oven (slow cooked marinated roasts, usually lamb, duck, chicken, or pork) in cast iron pots over an open fire)

Louisiana Duck Gumbo

Slow Roasted Rack of Pork with sage and cloves

Cattlemen's BBQ the biggest & best steak in the mountains

Wild Mushroom and Truffle Risotto

**BBQ Moroccan Chicken** 

Osso Bucco slow cooked shin in Italian tomato based sauce

Pork Belly

Crispy Skin Chicken with red grapes

Lamb Shoulder slow cooked in camp oven with pear...... and many more delicious creations.

All dinner meals are served with seasonal vegetables, appetizers and desserts which include...

Apple Crumble

Italian Bread Pudding

Sticky Date Pudding

Fruit Platter

## **Snowy Wilderness Breakfast Menu**

Continental...cereal, toast, cheese, boiled eggs, jams

Chorizo Sausage Frittata

Thick cut bacon with Eggs

Scrambled Eggs infused with Truffles

# **Snowy Wilderness Lunch Menu**

Assorted Gourmet Sandwiches served with fruit of the day, juice, and health bars