



Equestrian Tourism Examinations Minimum Requirements

Entry to Level 1 by apprenticeship or exam. Examinations under the auspices of National Federation and/or Government				
Level	Personal Riding	Stable Management	Teaching) / Trail Leading	Notes (Tourism Proficiency)
1	Ride all paces over different terrains and basic obstacles, showing an internationally accepted seat and the use of aids. Demonstrate transitions and circles with transitions. Select gait and speed according to terrain. Assess physical condition of horses according to duration of trail ride. Maintain work level of a trail horse.	Manage a horse in hand and saddling procedures. Knowledge of equine anatomy, physiology and behaviour. Routine horse care. Feeding. Various types of feed. Safety aspects when handling horses. Equine first aid and foot care. Recognise a healthy and an unhealthy horse. Lunge a horse for exercise. Fit and care for tack in general use. Demonstrate loading and unloading horses for transport.	Assess and advise clients on comfort and safety matters. Communication skills. Riding etiquette and safety. Safely lead a group of riders on a known route. Assess rider's competence according to trail, terrain and speed of gaits to ensure clients' safety and enjoyment. Organise logistics required for refreshment breaks. Assist supervisor with logistics for overnight trips.	Appropriate behavior and attitude towards the welfare of horses. Overall general knowledge of trail area, including map reading, GPS proficiency, terrain and tourism markers. Understand promotion of tourism. Ability to assess a trail and apply relevant gaits for that trail. Environmental awareness and respect for land owners and other trail users, including road safety. Relevant tourism guide certification and recommendations (where applicable) site and country specific. Human first aid certificate. Knowledge of risk analysis and management.
2	Ride trail horses to maintain development and achieve performance. Demonstrate ability to train and school a horse suitable for trail riding.	Knowledge of further anatomy and physiology. Recognise lameness and take suitable action. Knowledge of parasitic and infective sickness; horse hygiene and shelter management. Understand dietary needs of different horses; Plan the daily work schedule of staff and riders. Develop and maintain fitness of horses for trail work. Lunge a horse in order to develop the basic paces and balance	Pedagogic skills, psychology of learning; communication skills. Teaching assistant trail leaders. Assessing competence of tourism trail clients. Selecting appropriate horses for rider ability. Teaching trail riding techniques	As for Level 1, including: Understand remedial schooling techniques for a horse. Prepare, organise logistics and lead multi-day trail rides. In-depth knowledge of the natural and cultural aspects of the trail area. Relevant tourism guide certification and recommendations where applicable, site and country specific. Further knowledge of trail area including map reading; GPS proficiency; terrain and tourism markers.
3	Select and train horses for trail work and specifics of the tourism destination/location.	Manage an equestrian tourism business with all the required skills. Manage people to enable progression and efficiency. Manage horses to maintain health and fitness. Manage a business to maintain economic growth. Ability to plan training and feeding schedules.	Teaching of trail leaders and equestrian tourism riding teachers	As for Levels 1 and 2 including: Recognise the psychophysical needs of the trail horse. Recognise and solve problems which could arise with a horse during training. Knowledge of marketing a tourism product. Relevant tourism guide qualifications, site and country specific. Advanced knowledge of trail area including map reading, GPS proficiency, terrain and tourism markers.

EQUESTRIAN TOURISM QUALIFICATIONS MATRIX GUIDELINES

Level	Activity	May include work with	Status	Workplace	Recommended training time
1	Support for and accompany trail ride leader	Groups of novice riders and recreational riders of all ages	Assistant trail leader for recreational riders, Equestrian Tourism	Equestrian tourism establishment may be recommended or approved by the National Federation and/or Government.	Minimum age – 18 years. 2 years training following full-time education, as appropriate.
2	Planning & executing trail rides	All	Training assistant trail leaders in riding proficiency and horse care and management	Equestrian tourism establishment may be recommended or approved by the National Federation and/or Government	Minimum age – 20 years. 2 years further training from Level 2.
3	Plan and manage multi day; complex and over border horse trail rides. Develop and market Equestrian Tourism products	All	Management of the horse and riders before, during and after multi day trail ride. Training Trail leaders. Training equestrian tourism instructors. Manage equestrian tourism centre. Plan programmes for all levels.	Equestrian tourism establishment may be recommended or approved by the National Federation and/or Government.	Minimum age – 22 years. 2 years further training from Level 2.