

# WHAT TO BRING



Your adventure begins! What to pack?? Yes, you must wear boots to ride! Just as you wouldn't ski in flip flops, proper boots are essential. *We do not allow riding in tennis shoes or hiking boots with a thick, clunky sole that stick in the stirrup.* There are many varieties of good boots available (we can send suggestions). Start with a good pair of cowboy boots that are well worn with a heel (so as not to slip in the stirrup). Bring several pairs of jeans & make sure they do not have a thick seam on the inside leg that might chafe your legs. Wranglers or other Western brands tend to work best, but some prefer riding breeches. If you think chaffing may be a problem, wear panty hose or biking shorts under jeans, or use baby powder. Padded biking shorts also help those who need a little extra cushion.

Montana's weather is as varied as its landscape. Temperatures in the mountains can vary to quite a degree, beginning with *cool* mornings and ending with *cool* evenings, but it warms considerably during the day to 70-80's (*remember we can get cooler days*), so it is advisable to wear clothing in layers. Pack several shirts, from tank tops to sweatshirts, and a warm jacket. Remember your swimsuit and shorts for lounging by the hot tub or dipping your toes in the trout-ponds. A cowboy hat or hat with a brim is nice on rides to shield your face from the sun. If you can't find the right one, we have cowboy hats and caps in our gift shop. We do not require helmets, but you are welcome to bring your own OR borrow one of ours.

While we always hope for good weather, it does rain sometimes! You will need to bring raingear, either a two-piece suit, or a riding slicker. Poncho's are less preferable because they often tear and blow in the wind, which can scare your horse. Leather gloves keep your hands warm in chilly weather (water-proof ahead). A bandanna is a nice touch and keeps your neck warm.

Finally, remember to bring the little essentials like sunglasses, lip balm, sunscreen and insect repellent. Cabins have hair dryers, herbal shampoo, conditioner & soap – but feel free to bring your favorite. Binoculars are great to spot birds or wildlife, and don't forget your camera & charge cord or extra batteries. Cell phones do not work in the mountains, but we have high speed Wi-Fi in the lodge.

For the serious fisherman, bring your fly rod or spinning tackle. We have basic fishing equipment for the beginner with flies for sale in the gift shop.

The ranch does not sell alcohol, so those interested may chose to bring something with them or stop in Augusta before coming to the ranch. Each cabin has its' own fridge for your use or you can store in the lodge cooler. We have a soda pop machine, and *please* don't bring bottled water, as our water is the kind they bottle! You are welcome in the lodge at any time, whether you need a cookie or conversation.☺

Anything you need with you on the trail can be packed in your saddlebags. Bring a water bottle for sipping on the trail, or on breaks (or ask us for one). If we are out over the lunch hour, the ranch packs sack lunches. You can tie your slicker and jacket directly on your saddle.

We look forward to showing you some real Western hospitality, so don't forget to pack a lot of enthusiasm for a great time!

TEMPERATURES	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT
AVERAGE MAXIMUM	66	75	83	82	72	62
AVERAGE MINIMUM	38	48	52	48	39	32
AVERAGE RAINFALL	2.3	3.0	1.4	1.3	1.3	0.9