

LA FERME AUX ÂNES

INTERNAL RULES FOR SELF-GUIDED DONKEY HIKES

45-minute, Half-Day and Full-Day Hikes Departing from Bonascre

La Ferme aux Ânes – 1 bis rue Darré Nalzieu – 09250 Unac, France

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Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of these rules is to define the conditions governing the use of the donkeys made available by La Ferme aux Ânes for self-guided hikes lasting 45 minutes, half a day or a full day. Any payment of the rental fee implies unconditional acceptance of these rules.

Article 2 – Reservation and Registration

Hikers may reserve a donkey hike with La Ferme aux Ânes by telephone or email. La Ferme aux Ânes will provide all necessary information and send a confirmation message by email or SMS. Payment may be made in advance by bank transfer or Connect Holiday Voucher, or on site by cheque, holiday voucher, cash or bank card. Hikers may also arrive directly at a scheduled departure time without a reservation, but the hike will only be possible if a donkey is available.

Article 3 – Meeting Times and Donkey Return Times

To receive all the information necessary before the hike (approximately twenty minutes of explanations), participants must strictly respect the scheduled meeting times. In the event of lateness, a new departure slot may be offered depending on participant and donkey availability.

45-minute hikes: €20

Route: Botanical Trail and Campels Path.

Departure 1: Meeting 9:40 a.m. – Departure 10:00 a.m. – Latest return time: 11:00 a.m.

Departure 2: Meeting 11:10 a.m. – Departure 11:30 a.m. – Latest return time: 12:30 p.m.

Departure 3: Meeting 2:00 p.m. – Departure 2:20 p.m. – Latest return time: 3:20 p.m.

Departure 4: Meeting 3:30 p.m. – Departure 3:50 p.m. – Latest return time: 4:50 p.m.

Half-day hikes (2 hours 30 minutes): €42

Route: Botanical Trail and Campels Path.

Departure 1: Meeting 9:40 a.m. – Departure 10:00 a.m. – Latest return time: 12:30 p.m.

Departure 2: Meeting 2:00 p.m. – Departure 2:20 p.m. – Latest return time: 4:50 p.m.

Full-day hike (6 hours 30 minutes): €65

Route: Botanical Trail and Campels Path up to the chairlift.

Departure 1: Meeting 9:40 a.m. – Departure 10:00 a.m. – Latest return time: 4:30 p.m.

The donkey must be returned at the agreed time. Any delay must be reported to La Ferme aux Ânes. Any significant delay will be charged.

Article 4 – Taking Charge of the Donkey

Before departure, a member of La Ferme aux Ânes will provide time to become familiar with the donkey and explain the instructions required for the donkey's welfare and for the smooth running of the hike. This briefing covers:

- Safety instructions;
- The donkey's behaviour and welfare requirements;
- Use of the equipment provided;
- The hiking route.

The renter undertakes to follow these instructions throughout the rental period.

Article 5 – Conditions of Participation

- Minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- All participants must wear closed-toe shoes (the donkey may step on your foot).
- Participants must be physically capable of walking and able to control the animal.
- The owner reserves the right to refuse a rental in the event of inappropriate behaviour or a safety risk.
- Payment is made at the start of the hike by cheque, cash, holiday voucher, bank card or instant bank transfer.

Article 6 – Animal Welfare

The renter undertakes to:

- Treat the donkey with respect and kindness;
- Not frighten it with sudden movements, shouting or by running after it (even if it gets loose);
- Never make the donkey run;
- Not expose it to dangerous situations;
- Regularly check the donkey's load (position of the pack saddle and straps, and balance of loads on both sides);
- Not feed the donkey anything other than grass without prior permission;
- During breaks, tie the donkey with a short lead rope (30–40 cm) to a secure fixed object (hitching rail, tree, sturdy fence), preferably on level ground, never near a downward slope or cliff, and preferably in the shade;
- Immediately report any incident or injury by telephone.

Article 7 – Carrying Bags and Children

- The maximum load carried on the pack saddle must not exceed 35 kg (excluding the weight of the saddlebags). The load must be evenly distributed between the two saddlebags provided (or in two bags belonging to the hiker).
- La Ferme aux Ânes offers a hiking activity, not a riding activity.

Under their sole responsibility, accompanying adults may place a child on the donkey's back. The child must wear a protective helmet, be at least 2.5 years old and weigh no more than 27 kg.

- When the donkey is carrying a child, it must always be led by an adult using the lead rope. A child sitting on the donkey may not lead the animal. Likewise, a child must never be placed on or left on a tied donkey.
- It is forbidden to secure a child to the donkey using any type of restraint and to allow a child to sleep on the donkey.
- In difficult, obstructed or steep sections, as well as when crossing bridges or gates, the child must dismount. The same applies when walking alongside or crossing an enclosure containing other animals (horses, cows, etc.).

Article 8 – Use of Equipment

The equipment provided includes:

- Halter and lead rope;
- Pack saddle and pad;
- Saddlebags where applicable;
- Cushion and helmet where applicable;
- Weighing scale where applicable.

The renter is responsible for the equipment throughout the rental period. All equipment must be returned at the end of the hike. Any loss or damage will be charged.

Article 9 – Respect for the Environment

Participants undertake to:

- Remain on the designated trails;
- Leave no litter behind;
- Respect wildlife, flora and private property.

Article 10 – Cancellation and Interruption

Any hike that has started is payable in full. Any interruption of the hike before its scheduled end does not entitle the participant to a refund. The donkey must be returned to the departure point.

Article 11 – Insurance

During your hike, you benefit from our Public Liability Insurance cover for any bodily injury or property damage for which we may be found responsible.

However, the donkey remains under your responsibility. You must ensure that you are covered by your own insurance for damage or accidents caused by the donkey or by your own actions. You must also be insured for bodily injury and for damage to your personal belongings.

La Ferme aux Ânes cannot be held responsible for any accident resulting from failure to follow the instructions provided.

Article 12 – Risks

Any outdoor physical activity involves a degree of risk, however small. Each participant is aware of and accepts these risks with full knowledge of the facts. Participants undertake not to hold either the donkey owner or any other service providers responsible for any accident.

Each participant must comply with the safety and caution rules provided by the owner, who cannot be held responsible for accidents caused by the negligence of members of the group.

The organisers cannot be held responsible for any misunderstanding of the route description or any map-reading error made by the user.

Participation in the hike implies acceptance of unforeseen risks resulting, for example, from changes in natural conditions along the route.

The organisers reserve the right, where particular circumstances affecting the safety of the group require it, to modify the itinerary or certain services.