



Biltmore Fall Endurance Ride To Benefit Hope for Horses

**Saturday October 24, 2026: 25 mile LD, 50 mile Endurance, and
Introductory Ride**

AERC

SEDRA

SERA

The Biltmore Equestrian Center, located on the grounds of George Vanderbilt's historic Estate in Asheville, NC, will host its annual Fall Endurance Ride to Benefit Hope for Horses on October 24, 2026. 25 mile Limited Distance, 50 mile Endurance and 13 mile Introductory Ride offered. In addition, we will have team competition in all distances. Part of your entry fees will be donated to Hope for Horses, our local equestrian rescue, and all of the proceeds from dinner tickets Friday night will be donated.

Built in 1895, the Estate trails promise a challenging ride along the French Broad River and over rolling hills and low mountains. We recommend that all horses have hoof protection, and potentially pad at the 50 mile distance. Breast collars/cruppers may be helpful. Each loop will circle back to a central judging area adjacent to the main camping area. Weather is somewhat unpredictable in late October, but it is usually mild with temperatures in the upper 60s or low 70s.

Length of Stay Passes. As part of the need for security on the Estate, and to provide a more official mode of access for attendees to the Estate grounds, entry will require a name pre-supplied to the gate guards. Entry fees for the ride automatically include the rider and one named crew member for the 'gate list'. Entry must be via the main gate. On the Estate, including at the ride site, colored wristbands will be required to be worn as visible proof of permission, and can be used for re-entry. Additional permits may be purchased for \$55 each. *Note: Children 16 years old and under are free, but still must be on the gate list and wear the wristbands.*

ENTRY FORMS/PAYMENT: **ONLINE ENTRY ONLY!!!** Entries are due by **October 18, 2026** (closing date). That is, any entry not fully paid by October 18 is accepted only at management discretion (not guaranteed, and \$50 late fee will apply). Fees are *fully* refundable if cancelled prior to October 18 close of business. \$50 cancellation fee if cancelled October 19-22. 50% refund for cancellations after October 22 and pre-arrival. After that, at management discretion. You **MUST** supply Coggins test papers valid through October 25, 2026. Non-AERC members must pay a fee of \$20. AERC membership is not required for the Introductory Ride.

Online Entry link:

<https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/91311169/biltmore-fall-endurance-ride-asheville-equestrian-events>

Questions

Elizabeth McLean 828-777-9198 emclean@biltmore.com

BEC Office 828-225-1454 equestrian@biltmore.com

Rachel Kelly 828-778-2088 rkelly@biltmore.com

TEAM COMPETITION: Open to all riders in all competitions.. So, form your own team of three or four riders, with time for the top three finishers on each team counting towards awards. This is a good opportunity to practice team riding.... Check out how strategy and opportunities change in this environment! Entry at ride, no additional fees. At least two teams must be formed at a distance to qualify for a team competition.

CAMP: Camping is primitive in large open pastures. Corrals are limited to 15' by 15'. No camper hook-ups; city water at hydrants; Portajons. Open fires are prohibited; charcoal grills OK. Dogs MUST be ON LEASH at all times and confined (not tied) when you are riding. Multiple motels / restaurants within 2 miles. On first-call-to-reserve basis, 6 large paddocks @ \$30/day/horse (about ½ mile from camp) and limited paddocks @ \$50 day/horse close to the action, 6 pipe pens @ \$20/ day (about ½ mile from camp), 8 dry stalls at the Event Barn @ \$50/day (no shavings, no muck-out). The Biltmore Equestrian Center phone is: 828–225-1454.

Camp opens on Friday, October 23. If you plan to arrive earlier, please indicate it on entry form and be prepared to pay extra camping and trail fees. All entry to the grounds will be through the MAIN GATE of Biltmore Estate (open 24 hrs). Everyone will also exit through the main gate. If you have extra vehicle(s) driving with you, please note driver name on entry form. *All entering the Estate must have individual names on the Gate List ahead of time.*

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP: If approaching Asheville from the EAST on I-40, take Exit 50B, US 25 NORTH. Follow signs to entrance to Biltmore Estate, turning right off exit ramp and moving into the LEFT lane to prepare for the turn into Estate Entrance.

If approaching Asheville from the WEST on I-40, take Exit 50, turn LEFT off the exit ramp at the light, following signs to Biltmore Estate Main Entrance. Stay in the left lane after your merge into traffic. If approaching Asheville from the SOUTH on I-26, continue to the junction with I-40 EAST. After you get on I-40, take Exit 50 and follow directions as above.

If approaching Asheville from the NORTH on I-26, get onto I-240 EAST to I-40 WEST. Take Exit 50B, and follow the directions above.

Pass through the first archway (Lodge Gate), and go “straight” past the Ticket Booth. Follow signs to “Horse Event” or BEC making several turns. Watch for oncoming traffic and stay well to the right side of road. Cross the large stone bridge and go straight onto gravel road, which will bear right, allowing turn for large trailers. Signs will direct you to camp area near the outdoor arena. Do NOT try to drive through fields before you get to camp area.

All entry and exit must be through the main entrance to the Estate.

RULES: All AERC/SERA rules apply to Open riders. Equines must be at least 60 mos. old for 50; 48 mos. old for LD. No Juniors on stallions. Rules regarding discourtesy to officials and protest procedures are per AERC Rules and failure to observe them may result in disqualification. No ties except for AERC placings. A dead heat will be decided by coin toss or rider agreement. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR IS REQUIRED whenever mounted. No exceptions. SMOKING: Smoking is prohibited on trails; OK in camp or at judging check.

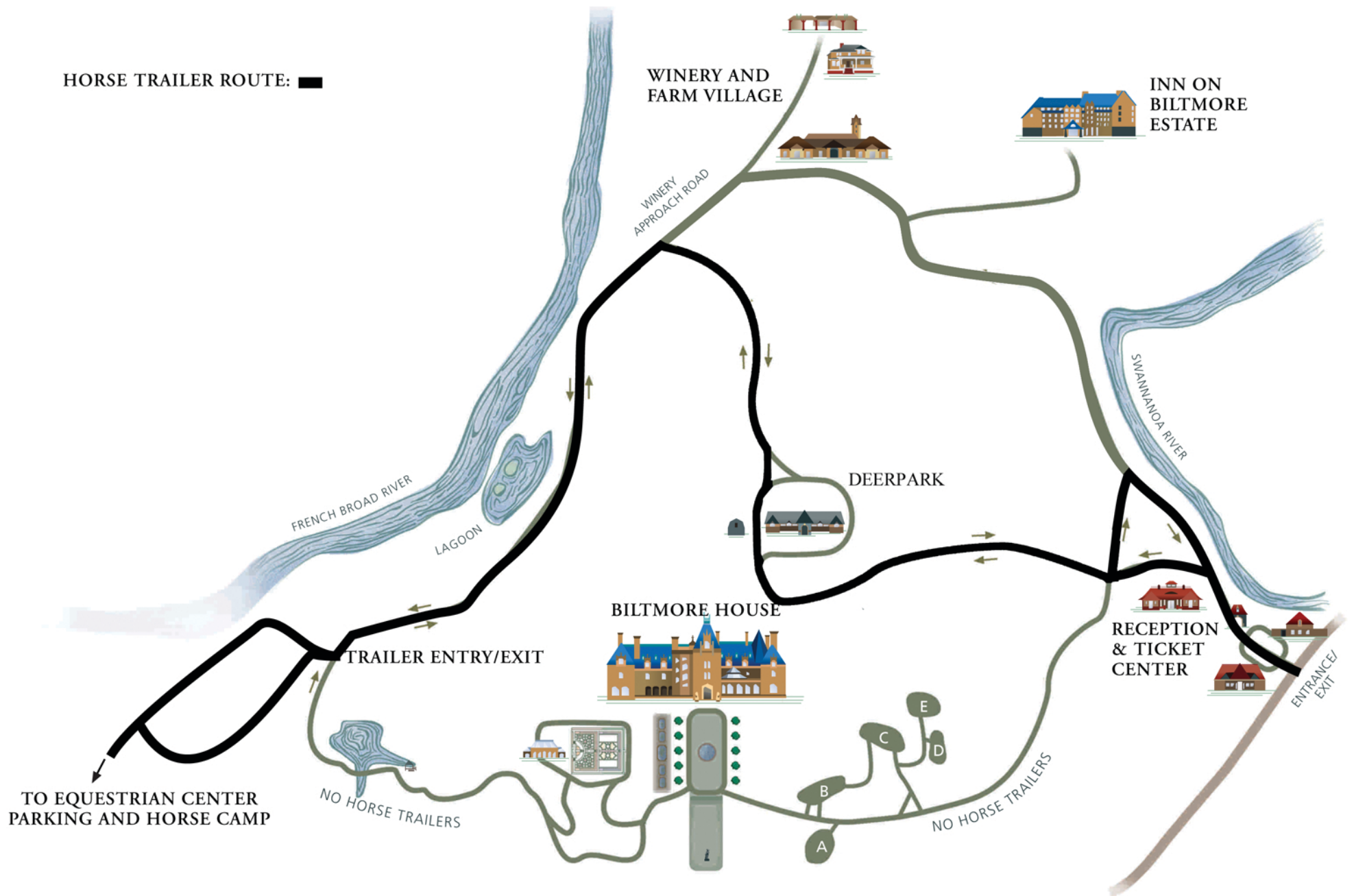
WHO's WHO ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Elizabeth McLean - Ride Manager, Melissa Whitehead - Ride Secretary
Rachel Kelly - Biltmore Equestrian Center Event Coordinator
Stephanie Laplante and Annie Markley – Trails
Chery and Stagg Newman - Advisory Committee

CONTROL JUDGES 2026

Ann Stuart, Head Control Judge, President Vet Committee
Bob Marshall, Amy Spies, Vicky Bochynek
Megan Graves, Treatment Vet
Farrier: Tyler Barnett

BILTMORE EQUESTRIAN CENTER HORSE TRAILER ENTRY/EXIT MAP



!!There will be fireworks associated with a wedding at 9:30pm on Saturday evening!!

We will have 50-mile awards promptly at 7:15 pm so that you have time to exit the property should you choose to do so. Otherwise, hold your horses. The shows are professionally run and last approximately 10 minutes.

Endurance Schedule		
Friday		
	8am	Camp Opens
	11am	Registration Opens
	1-5pm	Vet-In
	6pm	Dinner
	6:30pm	Rider Briefing
Saturday		
	7am	50-mile check-in
	7:15am	50-mile start
	7:45am	25-mile check-in
	8am	25-mile start
	9:45am	Intro check-in
	10am	Intro start
	2pm	25-mile finish
	3pm	25-mile awards
	7:15pm	50-mile finish
	7:15pm	50-mile awards

JUDGING CRITERIA: Control checks will all be 'gate into hold', with 64 pulse requirement, unless control judge staff determines otherwise. For non-finish checks, the equine must meet this criteria within 30 min of arrival at check or be disqualified. Horses must be judged 'fit to continue'. Other criteria, including exit exam, may be included and would be announced either in rider packet or at rider meeting if weather is a factor.

Finishing criteria will be Fit to Continue including recovery. For AERC open completion, recovery is to pulse rate of 64 within time limit described below. As soon as pulse is down, the equine may be brought for the final exam, but MUST be presented within the allotted time to avoid disqualification. ALLOWANCE FOR RACING FINISH TIMER TO RIDE COMPLETION (at ARRIVAL TIMER): For endurance rides, the Racing Finish Line will provide base time, to which 7 minutes will be added to allow for the time to get to the Arrival . AERC 30 minutes to pulse starts from Ride Completion time (Racing Finish Line time +7 minutes). Note: Racing Finish Line timer is roughly .8 miles from Ride Completion. The distance from the Racing Finish Line to the Ride Completion (Arrival Timer) is included in the ride distance that riders receive credit for.

Cardiac Recovery Index (CRI) may be used, including final vetting and Best Condition.

JUDGE DECISIONS ARE FINAL!

FIT TO CONTINUE: The equine must be metabolically stable. There must be no gait aberration that is consistently observable under all circumstances that results in pain or threatens immediate athletic performance, exam to be conducted at trot (or equivalent), straight out and back, without prior flexion or palpation. Any soreness or wounds that affect equine's ability to go on may be cause for non-completion.

An equine may not have received prohibited (AERC Rule 13) medical treatment by a vet or layman prior to final exam. An equine must not be in need of medical treatment for a soundness or metabolic problem. An equine that a ride control judge advises should be treated, but treatment is refused by rider or owner, shall be considered in the same light as an equine that has been treated and disallowed completion.

FARRIER: Tyler Barnett 828-273-3576; Please call ahead for Friday appointments

MASSAGE:

Equine: Lauren Lukert with Equine Therapeutic Bodywork; for appointments
828-779-3276

Human: Nancy MacDonald will be the human massage therapist on the grounds. To
make an appointment with Nancy, call her at 828 225 5022.

AWARDS: Completion awards for all riders. Top 10, Best Condition (BC) and 1st-to-
Finish Awards; First Junior, plus other awards as sponsored.

FOOD: Friday dinner. Catered, \$25.

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