



Solihull School

24 June 2010

Dear Parents

COLORADO RANCH ADVENTURE, 11-17 JULY 2011

I am pleased to be able to offer your child the opportunity to take part in a new and exciting trip for 2011. If your child has an interest in the great outdoors and would like to live the life of a cowboy or cowgirl for a week in stunning scenery, then this could be the adventure of a lifetime. The trip is open to students in the current Years 7 -10 (Thirds to Lower Fifth).

At The Drowsy Water Ranch in Colorado your child will be assigned a horse for the week, which he/she will learn to groom, handle and ride, at first in the pen and eventually out in the wide open scenery of Colorado, with stunning views of the Rocky Mountains. All standards of rider can be catered for, from complete novice to experienced horse-owners and, depending on their ability, they may start with the basics or skip the instruction and progress straight to rodeo games and western style trail rides under the guidance of experienced wranglers, all of whom are Dude Ranch Association Horse Safety Certified. After enjoying full day trail-rides and practising new skills with a little horseback calf-penning, riders will have the chance to show off what they have learned in a competitive mini-rodeo on the last day (but don't worry; no bucking broncos here!)

As well as western horsemanship, a range of other activities will fill the days, such as white-water rafting on the Colorado River, hiking, 4x4 treks, archery, lassoing a steer head, fly-fishing and an overnight camp out under the stars after an evening of cowboy stories and songs around the camp-fire, as well as the ever-present possibility of a dip in the pool or the hot tub, or practising roping skills in the barn areas. Evening entertainment will include hay wagon rides, camp fire cook-outs and authentic barn dance and karaoke activities. As an extra treat, on the last evening we will visit a real local rodeo show to see how the professionals do it, and that's where the bucking broncos come in!

Drowsy Water Ranch is a member of both the Colorado Dude and Guest Ranch Association and the Dude Rancher's Association, meaning it is regularly inspected for safety and quality standards. Accommodation will be in authentic, rustic cabins, with between 3 and 6 students to a room. Meals are served three times a day and special dietary needs can be catered for. For further details on the ranch and its facilities you can visit its website at www.drowsywater.com and read comprehensive independent reviews at www.tripadvisor.com (search for "Drowsy Water").

We will travel by air from Birmingham to Denver International airport, where we will take a coach to the ranch. The cost for this trip is estimated to be between £1500 and £1700 per student, to include all flights, accommodation, food and activities. We have secured very favourable group rates from the ranch, but at present we do not know the 2011 flight schedules and as such it is hard to give an exact price, but hope that it will remain within these boundaries. Any price changes will be communicated to you in writing as soon as they are known and every effort will be made to keep the price as low as possible. The only additional costs will be optional boot hire at £14 per person and the purchase of a riding hat for your child if he/she does not already have one. (Riding hats are not compulsory in the western riding style but for safety we have decided to make them compulsory. You may choose to purchase one yourselves, but we can source these for you at approximately £25 each if required.)

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Warwick Road, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3DJ
Tel: 0121 705 0958 Fax: 0121 711 4439 Email: admin@solsch.org.uk



Solihull School

To help with the cost of a major excursion such as this, as has been the case with similar trips in past years, you may like to encourage your child to raise some funds themselves, perhaps by doing jobs for relatives or by saving up birthday presents. If you would like to secure a place for your child, please return the reply slip attached to me by **Friday 2 July** along with a non-returnable deposit cheque for **£400**, made payable to Solihull School. Payment can be made in instalments and a schedule for further payments will be issued once numbers and prices have been confirmed.

Yours sincerely

Miss E Campbell

Outline Itinerary (Subject to Change)

SUNDAY	Departure from Birmingham Airport. Arrival at Denver Airport and shuttle to ranch Dinner and orientation
MONDAY	Riding Instruction and Clinic (am) Slow Trail Ride (Beginners) Trail Ride (Advanced) Evening Entertainment (COUNTRY DANCE NIGHT)
TUESDAY	Loping practice (am) Half-day rides (beginners) All day rides (advanced) Evening Entertainment (CARNIVAL)
WEDNESDAY	White Water Rafting Trip (all day) Evening Entertainment (CAMPFIRE and CAMP OUT)
THURSDAY	Breakfast Ride (am) Ranch Penning/ Rodeo practice and obstacle course (pm) Evening Entertainment (HAYRIDE)
FRIDAY	Half-day/All day rides 4-Wheel Drive Trip (pm) Fly Fishing Clinics (pm) Rodeo practice and obstacle course (pm) Evening Entertainment (DROWSY WATER STAFF SHOW AND AWARDS NIGHT)
SATURDAY	Rodeo and Horse show in the Arena Pool/hike Evening Entertainment (Visit to local Rodeo)
SUNDAY	Departure for Denver Airport/Arrival at Birmingham Airport Monday am

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COLORADO RANCH ADVENTURE 2011

Pupil Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Age on 10 July 2011: _____

Form: _____

Address: _____

Contact Telephone Numbers: _____

Riding Ability:

(Please tick/circle one)

Complete beginner (never sat on a horse)

Beginner + some lessons

Regular lessons (walk and trot)

Regular lessons (walk, trot and canter)

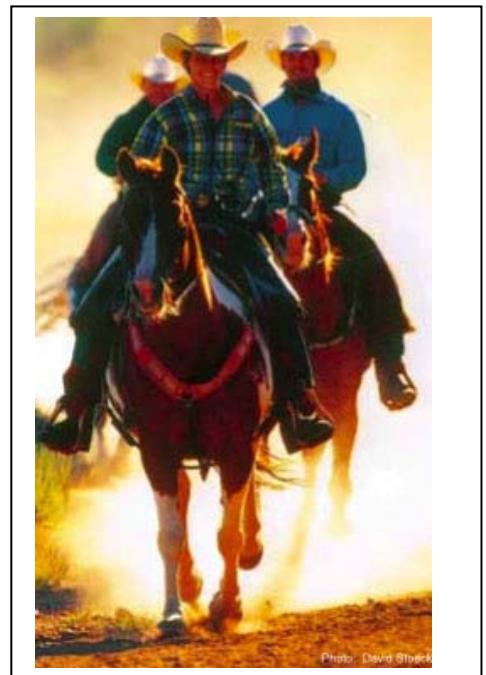
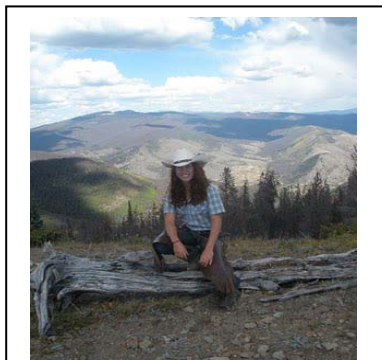
Experienced rider (with own pony/horse)

I wish my son/daughter to participate in the Colorado Ranch Adventure 2011 and enclose a non-returnable deposit of £400 (cheques made payable to Solihull School).

Signed:

Dated:

Drowsy Water Ranch
Granby, Colorado



Drowsy Water Ranch
Granby, Colorado

