

## General Information for OTR 2010

### Condition yourself and your horse:

Please consult with your Physician before taking on a rigorous adventure especially if you have any heart conditions, emphysema, or other health problems. We are miles away from the nearest hospital and can only provide limited first aid.

The OTR is for intermediate to advanced riders on broke horses. If you are a beginner or your horse is young, please call to determine if this would be a successful ride for you and your horse. Riders and horses not up to this pace may break down or be very sore and very uncomfortable. The ride goes from 4200 feet to 9000 feet and covers 15 to 20 miles per day. Most days riders spend from 8am to 4pm in the saddle, this includes ½ hour breaks and a lunch stop. It is important that riders and horses be in good physical condition.

You may consider coming to Thermopolis a couple days early to acclimate yourself and your horse to our higher elevation. A picket line will be available at the Hot Springs County Fairgrounds starting July 31<sup>st</sup>. You will need our own feed and water bucket if you arrive early or stay longer after the ride. Water, hay, and grain will be available on Saturday before the ride and on Saturday when we arrive back in Thermopolis.

If your horse is not trained to stand on a picket line at night, you will need to train him to do so. After 20 mile days, the horses are ready for hay and later grain. On the picket line, at night is when they re-fuel for the next day. The lines are low enough that many horses will lay down and sleep after eating their fill. Nighthawks will watch the horses at night.

### Transporting your horse:

Horses entering Wyoming must be accompanied with a Health Certificate (good for 30 days), negative Coggins test (within the 12 months), and Brand Inspection Certificate or Proof of Ownership.

### Vaccinations:

We suggest vaccination at least one (1) month prior to your arrival. Since your horse will be exposed to horses from all over the United States, it would be wise to vaccinate as thoroughly as possible. *Example: West Nile, Rhinopneumonitis, Influenza, Tetanus, Eastern and Western Sleeping Sickness, and Rabies.*

Horses exhibiting symptoms of contagious disease will be isolated from the rest of the horses; and they will be excused from the ride. Our Veterinary Staff's decision is final.

### Shoeing:

You should have your horses shod within one week to 10 days prior to the ride. We will be riding in rocky, sandy, and hilly country and experience has shown horses do

better that have been shod within the recommended time frame. We intend to have a farrier available on the ride, but **you** will be responsible for reimbursement for his/her services.

Tack/Gear:

As before any ride, checking your gear and tack is highly recommended. Cleaning, oiling, and any repairs necessary need to be done before the ride. Use and break in new gear before the ride to lessen the possibility of saddle sores, galls, or any other discomforts.

You **must** have a halter and lead rope with a snap fastener. The picket lines are set up with snap fasteners to attach to your horses halter.

Rented horses and tack/gear:

**The Outlaw Trail Ride, Inc. does not provide horses nor tack and gear.**

You are responsible for reserving your horse and tack/gear. Outlaw Trail Ride, Inc. is not responsible for the prices, arrangements, and transportation of the horses to the trailhead and care of them during or after the ride. Nor are we responsible for any problems that may occur.

Reservations:

August is a high tourism month in Thermopolis because of the wonderful Hot Springs. We strongly recommend that you make your reservations early for your hotel or RV facility.

For your information:

The rider's fee includes Sunday orientation dinner, Monday morning departure breakfast, trail meals, and End of the Trail Banquet. Guest and relatives can partake of these meals for a nominal fee at each event. The End of the Trail Banquet and dance has a silent auction as part of our fundraiser. The auction items consist of western memorabilia, artwork, tack, and various items donated by local merchants. There will be souvenirs for sale at the orientation, on the ride, and also at the End of the Trail Banquet. Beverages (soda, Gatorade, bottled water, and beer) will be for sale during the ride.