

## **The Colorado Trail 2017 – Ride of a Lifetime!**

Come join us on a beautiful catered ride through the Colorado Rockies along the scenic Colorado Trail. This year our ride will begin at San Luis Pass just North West of Creede and continuing to Molas Pass which is approximately 70 miles, and a total average elevation gain of 12,120 feet. We will be camping for 5 to 6 nights, riding for 4 days. We will gather, organize, park our rigs and camp on Sunday July 23rd at the Equity Mine above Creede. We will ride Monday through Thursday, and end at Little Molas Lake where you can choose to stay or drive home. This year's ride will take us along segments 21 through 24 as described in "The Colorado Trail" guide books. Segment 23 will be out of the 6th Addition as the new re-route listed in the 7th addition for segment 23 does not allow for our support crew or anywhere for us to camp with our horses, so we will be taking the old CT route down Pole Creek into the Rio Grande River and up to the Continental Divide from there as described in the 6<sup>th</sup> addition.

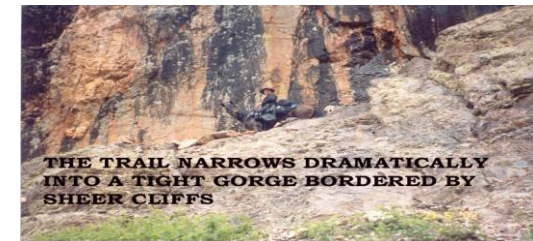
**NOTE: WE COULD BE RIDING THIS BACKWARDS. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW**

**Please be aware, this is not a training ride!** The terrain covered will be serious, strenuous mountain riding. As an example, this year we ride 16 to 18 miles a day, we will climb to an elevation of 13,240 ft. and stay well above tree line almost every day. All participants must be able to get their own horse over various mountain obstacles; including all types of water crossings (large and small streams, little ditches with water, eroded stream beds with rock and/or mud, etc.). **YOUR HORSE MUST BE COMFORTABLE STEPPING UP ON A 4 FOOT ROCK LEDGE.** You and your horse must be in condition to handle the challenge of climbing majestic mountains and steep descents into high country valleys. This year you must also be prepared for altitude sickness not only for yourself but your horse as well. Due to the high altitude every day you will need to be prepared to get an early start every morning--up at **5:00** to feed and ready to ride by 7:00. The views will be spectacular and the memories will last forever!

Catering is courtesy of unpaid volunteers from The Front Range Back Country Horsemen. We will also provide the cooking equipment, outhouses (**only where we can get them in**) and equipment to move your personal gear to campsites. All food and beverages (including wine and beer) and horse feed (certified grass hay & basic grain) is provided. All participants must provide their own personal items including tent, sleeping bag, horse, tack, etc. Everyone must also set up their own tent and help with camp chores. More information will be provided to registered riders as it becomes available. Ride detail questions should be directed to Pam Doverspike at [pjdovers@aol.com](mailto:pjdovers@aol.com), 303-726-2823 cell.

The cost will be \$800 for each rider. All proceeds above the actual cost of the food, gas, feed, equipment, etc., will be donated to The Colorado Trail and Front Range Back Country Horsemen. A deposit of \$100.00 per rider is required with your registration. Payment in full is due by **June 15th** and actual costs plus the deposit are non-refundable after this date.

**The ride will be limited to 10 riders. Sign up soon to reserve your spot!**



**THE TRAIL NARROWS DRAMATICALLY INTO A TIGHT GORGE BORDERED BY SHEER CLIFFS**

**INDY AND I NEXT TO THE ROCK LEDGE, SHE WENT UP IT WITH OUT A PROBLEM**



**THE PLAN WE MAKE HAD TO BE USED WHEN LADDY REFUSED TO GO UP ON THE 3 FOOT LEDGE**



2017 Colorado Trail Ride Reservation

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Platinum Member: 5 day ride -  
\$800.00**

**WARNING** - Under Colorado Law, an equine professional is not liable for an injury or the death of a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to section 13-21-119, Colorado Revised Statutes. I (We) release the Front Range Back Country Horsemen, its' officers, directors, members and agents of any and all liability which may arise as a result of injury to my (our) person or property that may be sustained in connection with the club's activities.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this Registration and Benefactor  
Level Membership Application to:**

Front Range Back Country Horsemen  
c/o Kitty Bladt  
P.O. Box 150521  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
Email: mailingkitty@gmail.com

2017 Tentative Ride Agenda

**Sunday 7/23** – Arrive at starting point

**Monday, 7/24 – Segment 21**

**16 to 18 miles & approx 2,940 ft elev gain**  
Creede (Equity Mine) to Spring Creek Pass, This segment is a challenging but an exceedingly rewarding portion of the CT and will keep us well above 12,000 ft most of the day and only drops 10,898 ft at Spring Creek Pass. Much elevation is gained and lost as the CT mounts high ridges and then dives into the headwaters of East and Middle Mineral Creeks. We will cross Snow Mesa on this day as stated in the book -- an alpine experience unlikely to be forgotten!

**Tuesday, 7/25– Segment 22**

**18 miles & approx 3,680 ft. of elev gain**  
Spring Creek Pass to the town of Carson, Average elev. is in excess of 12,000 ft. and we will cross the highest elev. of the entire CT just below Coney Summit at 13,240 ft. **Altitude sickness is a problem on this day not only for people but horses too.**

**Wednesday, 7/26 – Segment 23**

**16 miles & approx 1,040 ft. of elev gain**  
Carson to the Rio Grande River (Bear Town), The challenging high-altitude route continues into this segment although we will be more protected in the water drainages which make the going a little easier.

**Thursday, 7/27 – Segment 24**

**18 miles & approx 4,460 ft. of elev. gain**  
Rio Grand River to Molas Pass - After climbing to 12,680 ft. the CT begins a long descent into Elk Creek. The trail immediately loses 500 ft. as it maneuvers thru 30 consecutive switchbacks on an extremely steep mountain side. At 8.6 miles the creek plunges down the gorge while leaving the trail perched ledge like, a dizzying distance above. After crossing the Animas River we begin a 1,300 ft. ascent on more than 30 switchbacks to Molas Pass

# Thirteenth Annual Colorado Trail Ride



**To Support  
Front Range Back Country Horsemen  
& The Colorado Trail**

**July 23 – July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

A volunteer catered and guided ride for experienced riders and proven trail horses. Four days in the saddle starting at beautiful San Luis Pass an impressive view at 12,600 feet elevation, just North West of Creede and continuing to Molas Pass which is approximately 70 miles along the Colorado Trail with a total average elevation gain of 12,120 feet. This ride will take us over the Continental Divide a number of times and keeps us above 12,000 feet elevation for most of the trail.

**Cost: \$800.00**

**Limited to 10 riders**

**Register Now!**

***A week of riding –  
A lifetime of memories!***