

Riding in Europe

The Charta oft Reken

A trip across Europe on horse in the 21st Century seems unusual. 150 years ago it was the only means of traveling and until 70 years ago, the horse was a part of every day's life. In this short time the horse has been removed from our streets. In some countries in Europe you still can find the horse drawn lorry but here also they get replaced by gas burning machines. In this way a part of our Culture and Heritage is getting lost and we see horses only at equine sporting events or as tourist attraction in the City's.

But there is another aspect that is growing all over the industrialist world. Soft and ecological Tourism is on the rise.... More and more riders are on the trail for a weekend or longer and are enjoying nature and the quite slow traveling provided by their horse. This team of horse and men enjoys, explores and visits the sites of the region. Speed or long Distances are not the goal, the enjoyment of the landscape and the local culture has priority.

In the same spirit a group of Riders is following up on the tradition with a ride from Athens to Kassel. With the ride they are proclaiming the Charta of Reken. With this charter, they support efforts to abrogate the partly considerable restrictions on outdoor - riding and driving and are committed to ensure that horses do not fall into oblivion by increasing motorization and industrialization.

Especially in the rural Areas of the Balkan and Greece is it possible to provide an exemplary surrounding for this kind of eco-Tourism.

The unspoiled nature, the hospitality of the people and the history of The individual countries are attractive sources for trail riding.

Traveling without Border restrictions and Controls has become a reality in Europe for many years. Yet the horse is not included in this freedom. Trail Riding is becoming more international but crossing a border with a horse can still mount to some difficulties.

The rules and regulations for transport of horses require a good portion of patience and ability to improvise. Yet there are good examples of solutions to crossing borders on horse in Europe, so there is hope for a Europe without borders for horses.

The Athens Kassel ride offers the chance to discuss these issues in the regions and to present it to a wider public. For this purpose some of the local Trail Riding businesses are involved in the project to further the Cooperation across borders.

With these local Trail Riders, we offer other Riders from all across Europe to participate in the ride and get to know the different Regions first hand.

Dates and figures Athen-Kassel Ride:

04/09/17 – 04/28/17 Greece - 690km

04/30/17 – 05/08/17 Macedonia - 323km

05/09/17 – 05/15/17 Serbia - 620km

05/26/17 – 06/05/17 Croatia - 380km

06/06/17 – 06/09/17 Slovenia - 119km

06/10/17 – 06/24/17 Austria - 493km

06/25/17 – 07/09/17 Germany - 552km

2.586 chars incl. spaces - Images and texts available at: <http://bit.ly/2j4eakF>

Information: www.theathenskasselride.eu

Press: David Wewetzer, Peter van der Gugten, press@theathenskasselride.eu