



LAVANT HOUSE STABLES

WHERE PEOPLE AND HORSES THRIVE

Frequently Asked Questions – FAQ's

Questions & Queries	Answers
I/my child want to learn to ride properly, how do we start?	Book an introductory ride - this is a 45 minute one to one riding session. Call 01243 530460 or email riding@lhstables.co.uk for further information. Also see" book an intro ride" on our website home page
How old must my child be to ride at Lavant House Stables?	It is an insurance requirement for all riding schools that children must be 4 years old to start riding
I haven't been riding for years, and I'm nervous	Don't be nervous, our calm, well-mannered horses and ponies and professional instructors will soon get you started. You will be in safe hands
Am I too old?	There is no upper age limit, as long as you are able to mount and dismount (with the aid of a mounting block) We have several very active senior members
I/we don't have any riding gear or riding hat	To begin with you can borrow a riding hat from us. Leggings or jogging bottoms and a boot/shoe with a small heel are adequate to begin with (no trainers please). We recommend you have your own hat after the first six lessons as no hat will fit as well as your own. Body protectors can also be borrowed initially
Is there an adult weight limit?	There is an upper weight limit of 13 stone, this is for the well-being of our horses
What are the benefits of being a member of Lavant House Stables?	Membership represents the best value for money (30% discount against non-member prices) and guarantees the most rapid progress. Membership provides a guaranteed regular riding slot enabling you to follow your own lesson plan under the same instructor. We are able to assign you the most suitable horses, and if a group lesson, ride with the same people. By their very nature ad hoc lessons cannot benefit from such structure, limiting progress and satisfaction. Also only members may loan horses from us

Do you take complete beginners?

Very much so – it is really important to us to provide people who have never ridden before the best possible introduction to riding

What are the opening hours?

We are open every day of the year except Christmas and Boxing Day. Lessons are held between 8am to 6pm on weekend days, 10am to 7.30pm on weekdays. The office is open 8.30am to 5.30pm every day. We are shut for lunch between 1 and 2pm

What happens if it is raining?

Horse riding is an outdoor activity so we ride in all weathers. Dress appropriately!

Where do I buy riding clothing from?

Local saddlery shops are Oldwick Saddlery www.oldwicksaddlery.co.uk and Stockley Trading www.stockleyonline.co.uk Both have professional h and body protector fitters and should be used when buying these items (not online please). Everything else can be purchased on-line at a surprisingly reasonable price

What happens if I need to cancel?

For lessons please provide at least 24 hours notice if you want to reschedule the lesson, otherwise it will be forfeit. For activities it is two week's notice and for membership it is one month's notice in writing

Can I ride with a friend/my son/daughter/etc.?

Yes, this is called a Semi-Private lesson which is for people who specifically want to ride together without others

Is it possible to ride with my friend/partner even though we are of different riding ability?

Yes, as a semi-private, our instructors are trained to teach different level abilities successfully together. We are aware that for many riding is as much a social exercise to enjoy together

Do you do hacks?

We are in an enviable position for hacking, however because it is high risk we need to know you first as a member and feel confident a sufficient level of competence has been achieved that the rider can maintain control when off-site and out in the public domain

Am I likely to fall off?

Horses can behave unpredictably which is why it is impossible to say "no you won't". However we do everything in our power to prevent rider falls from happening through constantly improving training methods applied to horses, staff and securing the environment. Consequently we really are second to none in this area and certainly do not believe the old saying of "falls are part of learning". It is the riding school that needs to be learning from this saying, not the client!

Are the staff qualified?

They most certainly are. All of our instructors are on the British Horse Society and UKCC pathway of professional qualifications, being encouraged to keep advancing their teaching qualifications. They are also trained in First Aid, Child Protection and all staff are DBS checked

How many riders are there in a group lesson?

We have a maximum of 6 riders in our group lessons, which will have been carefully assessed to be of similar age and ability. Adults and children have their separate group lessons and there are eight tiers of ability level

Have we answered your question or query here?

If not call 01243 530460 or email: riding@lhstables.co.uk



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