



Riding out with Hodgemoor

Rides are available to members of the Hodgemoor Riding Association, both local and outside the area (your box or trailer). These fund-raising and fun rides are suitable for riders with experience and self-confidence and whose horse goes well with other horses. The level of ride will be given in each case...

Level 1) **Acclimatisation** or easy hack. In Hodgemoor Woods, no road work, 1-1½ hours. Walk and trot available on request.

Level 2) **Medium hack** locally with some sections on country lanes (e.g. Seer Green Loop with quiet lanes or Jordans/Seer Green Loop with busier country lanes), 1-1½ hours.

Level 3) **Serious hack locally**, e.g. crossing the A355 Beaconsfield to Amersham road at the island next to the Harte and Magpies and on to Coles Hill or Penn and Common Wood. Some roadwork, some poor surfaces underfoot especially when wet, 2-3 hours. Various rides available, an example at https://hodgemoor.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/map_hodgemoor_penn_ride_2_pages.pdf

Level 4) Take your horse in your own trailer or box for a **1-1½ hour hack outside the Hodgemoor area** but within 30-45 minutes' drive each way. Examples are British College of Agriculture (Burchett's Green, Maidenhead SL6 6QR), Cholsey Farm (Ibstone, High Wycombe HP14 3XT)

Level 5) Take your horse in your own trailer or box for a **1½-3 hour hack outside the Hodgemoor area** but within 30-75 minutes' drive each way. Example could be Ashridge, Guildford Downs, Woburn, Wendover Woods (subject to extremely onerous requirements of Forestry England including a mass of paperwork) and Windsor Great Park (permits required). Rider and horse must have recent hacking out experience and be fit in the athletic sense.

If you know a level 4 or 5 ride and would be willing to lead a group, please do let us know because we are all keen to experience new places. Each rider participates at their own risk. Neither your group leader nor the Hodgemoor Riding Association can take any responsibility or liability for incidents including but not limited to accidents to horse or rider. Riders should bring equipment suitable for the level of ride undertaken; for all levels you should have proper equipment including helmet, footwear, gloves, hi-viz jacket or tabard, full-charged mobile phone (body protection and flashing lights optional). For Level 3 upwards ensure you have put the team leader's phone number in memory and that you carry, in case needed, water and snacks for the rider and hoof pick, equiboot (in case of losing a shoe) and other emergency equipment to your choice for the horse. At most rides we will ask for a modest contribution to our Association's work in maintaining trails and access, typically £10 per rider (by PayPal in advance at <https://hodgemoor.org.uk/riders/> at the end of the page, or cash on the day).

Register your interest with Susie and Marcus Bicknell via info@hodgemoor.org.uk or by Marcus's mobile 07748 111444. Please provide your mobile number to be added to our WhatsApp group.

Marcus 4th October 2021