

## FACILITIES

The focus of Grove River Ranch is twofold. Our first priority is to raise and train horses for sale or lease suitable for beginning riders. To prepare riders for horse ownership, we provide a variety of educational opportunities and first class boarding facilities for equestrian enthusiasts of all ages and levels of ability. Secondly, our goal is to provide several types of retreat and recreational opportunities including rental cabins for private getaways, a horse camping area, a primitive group camping area, and a scenic trail system with picnic areas. Equestrian visitors are welcome to bring their own horses, choosing from four levels of accommodations. All visitors will be invited to hike or ride our trails through hardwood stands and along the creeks, enjoy the serenity and privacy of pristine wildlife habitat, sign up for riding or horse training lessons, take in area attractions, enjoy the sounds of the river from the privacy of the cabin hot tub, or sit around a camp fire with friends and family.

Grove River Ranch features an indoor arena to accommodate weekly lessons and scheduled events without regard to weather. The Stables feature an indoor round pen, a great place for training both horse and rider. Adjoining the round pen is a viewing deck so spectators may observe and learn as well. The lighted outdoor arena has well-draining sandy footing, is large enough to conduct a variety of events, and will accommodate almost every discipline of riding. The ranch has props to teach jumping, trail class obstacles, and horsemanship patterns. The wooded trails around the perimeter of the 153 acre facility provides a number of natural challenges for training the new trail rider or the inexperienced trail horse.

## STAFF

The manager and head instructor has 40 years experience riding, training, breeding, and showing horses, the last 15 years in a professional capacity. Instructors at Grove River Ranch have been screened and selected for their experience with horses and personal qualifications to provide the highest level of professionalism and safety for our lesson programs. Instructors are trained to use resistance-free riding and training methods for riders of all levels of ability. Beginners are always welcome, as well as those who wish to escalate their existing skills to be successful horse show exhibitors and/or trail riders.

## INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM FORMATS

Grove River Ranch has lesson horses for various levels of ability. Horses for sale or lesson horses are available for lease. Leasing requires the rider to have intermediate skills. Those people who own their own horses are welcome to bring them to participate in any of the our lesson formats. Basic horse handling and balanced seat riding skills are taught prior to specializing in the disciplines of hunt seat, western, or trail riding. We welcome the opportunity to meet you and discuss our riding goals. Call to schedule your personal guided tour of the ranch.

**SHORT STIRRUP PROGRAM** for children 5-8 years old that are too small for the comprehensive riding lessons but are ready to start learning about horses on the ground. Excellent preparatory class for the horsemanship program.

**STANDARD LESSONS** are structured for people who want to come take a 45-minute lesson (\$45 for private lesson, \$35 for semi-private lessons with 2-4 riders) on a regular basis, usually weekly. Scheduling can be fixed or flexible. Two hour sessions are also available to accelerate skill levels.

**TRAINING WORKSHOPS** are held on an as-needed basis, last 3-5 hours on a Saturday or a weekday, usually has 3-6 riders, and focuses on certain areas of horsemanship or horse training. Cost of workshops depends on how many riders attend and number of hours agreed upon. Riders can bring their own horse or arrange in advance for a lesson horse.

**HORSE CAMPS** will be offered in three formats for ages 8-15: half-day camps, full day camps, and overnight camps (minimum age for overnight campers is 10 years old). Subject matter is structured to include horse care and horsemanship (three levels). Intermediate and advance riders are eligible to learn about trail riding and horse camping, or horse show basics. Camp brochures and registration forms are available upon request. Contact us for additional information on dates, format, rates and availability. Camp information is also posted on the ranch web site.

**BOOT CAMP**, the adult version of Day Camp, is a workshop format specifically focused on teaching new skills and knowledge that is needed by the first time horse owner, or riders who wish to lease/own a horse in the near future. Strong emphasis is placed on safety, horse care and handling, horse psychology, and basic horsemanship.

**Specialized Clinics** will be conducted here on a regular basis by top professionals on specific subjects, such as "resistance free" riding and training, problem solving, dressage, jumping, etc.

**Riding Vacations** can be booked in advance for people who wish to get a certain amount of concentrated instruction while they are visiting the area. The subject matter and number of hours in the saddle are decided by the vacationer, and priced accordingly. On-premise or off-premise lodging can be arranged.

**Trail Riding Vacation** packages are available to advanced guest riders, and/or those who wish to bring their own horses to base camp at the ranch and visit a different trail system every day. Trailering services are available.

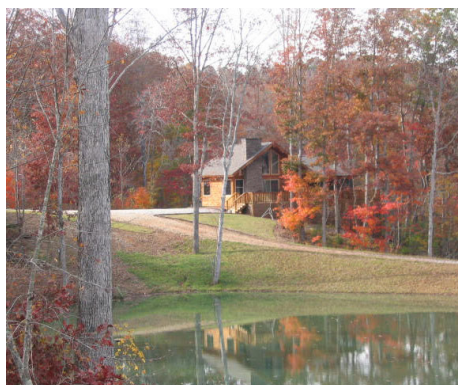
**Equestrian Retreat** facilities are available for those who wish to bring their own horse(s) to relax and enjoy some quality time with their equine companions, and receive specialized instruction if requested. On site lodging to choose from includes a primitive camping area on the river, a small campground with hookups, a cabin overlooking the river and pond, or the bunkhouse at the stables. For your horse, you can choose a stall, small sheltered paddock, portable corral panels, or high-lining in camp. In addition to ranch trails, there are numerous trail systems for day-riding less than an hour's drive away. Trail maps and directions to trail heads are available at check-in upon request.

**Day riders welcome.** By appointment. Call for check-in times and procedures. All riders must have a signed Waiver of Liability. Each horse must have proof of a negative twelve month coggins test. Protective helmets are strongly recommended.

Indoor Arena



Rental Cabin on the River & Pond



345 Hickory Flat Drive  
Gillsville, GA 30543  
(706) 677-0072

Visit our web site  
[www.GroveRiverRanch.com](http://www.GroveRiverRanch.com)

Campground with Hook-ups

