



November 3, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Lynn Strauss
Phone: (505) 412-0319
Email: lynn.strauss@browndogs.org
Website: www.bishopslodge.com

Travel Adventure on horseback offered in Santa Fe, NM

Santa Fe, NM -- The forests, mountains and high desert of the Southwest United States invite wilderness adventures. Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa in Santa Fe, New Mexico offers miles of trails for horseback riding and hiking by day, and gourmet dining and luxury accommodations by night.

Bishop's Lodge Head Wrangler Alicia Brasser says, "You can have a big adventure, or you can have a small adventure."

Rides can be as long as 30 miles and can take up to eight hours, according to Brasser. "For long trips we pack the horses with food and emergency gear. We might take a day trip to the ski basin through the aspen meadows along the Big Tesuque Trail. The area is just amazing," she says.

"On the usually clear days we can see the San Juan Mountains on the Southern border of Colorado, the Jemez mountains and the beautiful Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range," says Brasser. "Because we ride through foothills, the terrain is not very well suited for quick trips, although we trot and canter when it's safe."

Every ride begins with a short orientation covering cues, horse behaviors and basic safety, as much for the rider as for the horse. Private rides are \$65 per hour per person.

For families and less experienced riders, Bishop's Lodge offers group rides that are strictly a scenic walking group ride. There's the "Smores & Campfire Rides" at \$60 per person that averages 1 1/2 hours.

There's also the "Breakfast Rides," with eggs, bacon, tortillas, cowboy coffee at the trail's end on a scenic plateau. The "Barbeque Ride" takes the same trail and offers barbeque ribs, chicken, potatoes, bread, and salad. The Barbeque Ride is \$115 person

and the Breakfast Ride is \$90 per person. Both are group rides but there is no minimum number of riders.

Families with children over 8 can book rides that include 1-2 hours of horseback riding, which enables young riders to get some experience and spend some quality time with family.

“It’s a family bonding experience that encompasses the majestic feel of horses the awesome scenery New Mexico is known for,” Brassler says.

Group rides are offered mornings, at about 9 a.m., and take two hours. At \$55 per person, this is a popular ride every day and is limit to two groups of 12 people. One group is a walking group and the other a walk/jog for more experienced riders.

Although the summer months are the most popular for horseback riding, the Lodge still offers rides during the winter months, depending on weather conditions.

“All rides are tailored to the rider,” says Brassler. “We have an arena also and schedule lessons if we can, and we always do instruction on the trail, to be sure the riders and the horses are taken care of.”

Brassler, who has been a wrangler at Bishop’s Lodge for five years, has been riding for 10 years and has taken lessons in Western and English riding, although only Western riding is offered at Bishop’s Lodge. In summer, there are 8 wranglers and 45 horses and in winter there are 2 wranglers and 9 horses.

The Bishop’s Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa is a classic, historic destination ranch resort, minutes from the downtown Santa Fe Plaza. The Bishop's Lodge offers 111 rooms of luxurious lodging and four-season recreation.

Ranked by **Travel & Leisure magazine** as one of America's premier retreats, the Bishop’s Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa offers the resort-style family vacations, weddings, and conference facilities. It was also featured in the publication “100 Best Family Resorts in North America.”

Other on-site activities include tennis, skeet and trap, swimming in a heated outdoor pool, a modern workout facility, and team-building workshops. For children, Camp Appaloosa Kids Camp is offered summer and winter for kids 5-11.

###

Bishop’s Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa is managed by Prism Hotels, one of the nation's fastest growing full service hotel management companies in the industry. Across the U.S. and the Caribbean clients include Marriott, Hilton, Radisson, Embassy Suites and Holiday Inn. To make resort or spa reservations call 800-732-2240 or visit www.bishopslodge.com.