

Flowing Waterfalls & Babbling Streams

As I sit Monday morning at my desk and wonder where the weekend went, I daydream about the most relaxing vacation my husband and I just took. No voice mails to answer. No deadlines to meet. Picture the view of woods on both sides of you for as far as you can see. Listen to flowing waterfalls and babbling streams. Feel the warm sunshine peak out between the trees. I want to go back! This place is a place I want to stay at forever . . .

We traveled through Benton, Pennsylvania, to what I thought was the middle of nowhere, but what he called “nestled away between three different mountain ranges.” My husband told me we were going to travel through State Game Lands and see waterfalls. Great! Then he said, “not in our car or by foot.” I was confused . . .

Horseback riding was not something I had ever done before, but my husband thought it would be a good experience for me.

He booked us a guided ride with Brace's Stables. I was a little leery, but the staff assured me that they carefully picked these horses over the years to have a selection of the most responsive, friendly and safe horses we could have. They gave us instructions before we started to ride and make sure everyone was comfortable with their horse before we left.

Here we go . . .

We start out riding through the small historical town of Jamison City. Soon we are passing the brick stack of the old Tannery. By now, I am feeling more comfortable on my horse and a little excited to see where we are going.

The guide told us to keep a look out. There is always a possibility of seeing a deer or two run past, perhaps a few turkey, occasionally a bobcat and many other types of wildlife.

We cross over Fishing Creek and continue up the mountain to Sullivan Falls. Here we tie the horses and let them take a break while we follow a foot path to the falls . . . AMAZING! The pure beauty. The trees surround the falls like they were hand placed and the sound of the water flowing over the rocks is so calming. I wanted to stay there forever!

I was sad to have to leave the falls, but I also wanted to get back on my horse and see what else we could see on our trip.

When all was said and done, it was one of the most relaxing and enjoyable afternoons I have ever had. Our guide told us about two other rides they offer as well and I have already booked us on a trip for this coming fall. I can't wait to see the forest and fall in their full autumn colors. Let the countdown begin!

Rides available at Brace's Stables

The basic ride offered is the Creek Ride; a beautiful 4 mile ride along Fishing Creek. Travel on back country roads and across the creek. It takes about an hour and is great for first time riders.

The Mountain Ride, the most popular ride, is a scenic ride along the mountain. Riders travel on an old logging trail in the woods and see the most beautiful views. This ride takes about an hour and a half.

The final ride, the Falls Ride, continues up the mountain past the creek to Sullivan Falls. Here riders tie the horses, then travel along a foot path to the falls. This is a 6 mile ride and takes a little over 2 hours.

Photo and Article by Katie Brace.



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