



## O'Connor Equestrian Camp 2009

### Frequently Asked Questions

- **When is the session being held?:** This session will be held from June 7 through June 12, 2009.
  - **Where is the camp held?:** This session will be held in Lexington, Virginia at Virginia Horse Center. Check out their website at [www.horsecenter.org](http://www.horsecenter.org).
  - **How may campers do you accept?:** We generally take anywhere from 20-25 campers per session.
  - **Do I need to bring my own horse for the camp?:** Yes, you must supply your own horse for the week. If you don't have your own horse or one to borrow, we still invite you to audit the camp. Auditors can still learn a tremendous amount, and will participate in all non-riding activities during the camp.
  - **What level do you have to be at to participate?:** The camp is targeted towards riders Beginner Novice equivalent on up to Advanced. You do not have to have competition experience to attend. The camp's focus is on improving your horsemanship skills as well as riding. We welcome all riders, not just eventers.
  - **Is there an age restriction?:** We ask that all campers be at least 12 years and up, and all campers that are under 18 must have a responsible adult present with them for the full week. In the past, the camps end up being 50% older teens and 50% adults.
  - **How are the groundwork and riding sessions conducted?:** The riding is done in small groups of 4-5, so that student's may receive individualized attention. Campers rotate among instructors during the week, and will receive lessons from David O'Connor, Karen O'Connor and their recognized journeymen, all of whom are international CCI\*\*\*\* level riders. We also have several top-level grooms to assist with horsemanship and answer any questions about stable management and horse care.
  - **When do we arrive and depart?:**  
Please arrive between 1pm and 4pm on Sunday, June 7. Campers should plan to leave by 4 pm on Friday, June 12. Please contact us if you need to arrive or depart at another time.
  - **Where do we stay while we're there?**  
All camp participants and auditors are responsible for arranging their own lodging. There are several options nearby including hotels, cabin rentals, bed and breakfasts, as well as local camping grounds. Below are a few hotels near the Virginia Horse Center:
    - Comfort Inn- ½ mi (540) 463-7311
    - Best Western- ½ mi (540) 464-1500
    - Super 8- ½ mi (540) 463-7858
    - Holiday Inn Express- 1mi (540) 463-7351
    - Travelodge- 4 mi (540) 463-9131
    - Ramada Inn- 4 mi (800) 228-282
- The Virginia Horse Center** offers exhibitors camping facilities complete with water and electric hook-ups in campgrounds located at the northeastern and southwestern corners of the Horse Center property. For additional campground information, please contact Penny Ross by calling 540-348-1152 or viewing the website at [www.horsecenter.org](http://www.horsecenter.org).
- Reliable Reservations** specializes in booking reservations for Virginia Horse Center Events. Contact 1-800-919-9675 for more information or email [rfisher@horsecenter.org](mailto:rfisher@horsecenter.org).
- **Where do the horse's stable?:** The stabling for the horses is included in the entry fee, and will be together with the instructors horses on grounds at the VA horse center. You must supply your own hay, feed, buckets, and stall cleaning supplies. Bedding will be available for purchase.

- **Can I bring an extra horse?:** Unfortunately, due to space restrictions and insurance, we can only allow one horse per camper to be stabled on site. That includes bringing your second horse along just to ride.
  
- **What do I need to bring with me?:**
  - Approved helmet with chin strap (must be worn at all times while mounted)
  - Riding breeches with tall boots or paddocks and half chaps
  - Body Protector and Medical Armband (if you have them, don't worry if you don't)
  - Hay and feed for your horse (shavings will be for sale, or you may bring your own)
  - Stall cleaning equipment, feed/water buckets, stall guards, and snaps
  - Your tack, boots, rugs, wraps, and tack cleaning/grooming supplies
  - Warm, cool, and wet weather clothing for yourself and your horse
  - Bathing suit and warm weather attire (We have a cook-out on Wed night!)Equipment, feed, hay etc. may be stored in tack stalls. There are areas provided to wash horses and/or equipment.
  
- **Can I bring my dog with me?:** We all love taking our dogs to equestrian events, but please do not bring them to camp. Participants will not have time to care for them or have a place to keep them while riding and lectures are taking place.
  
- **What about food for us campers?:** The fee for both campers and for auditors includes catered breakfast and lunch daily, as well as two dinners during the week. Parents and guardians who accompany campers/auditors will be expected to purchase their own meals at a price of \$10/meal.
  
- **What if you didn't answer my question here?:** No problem, just email us at [occonnorequestrian@gmail.com](mailto:occonnorequestrian@gmail.com). ☺