

Go to Jackaroo and Jillaroo School!



Highlights

Stay on a 4600 acre property in New South Wales, Australia and go to jackaroo and jillaroo school! Based on working livestock farm, these 11-day training courses teach the skills and know-how necessary to work as an Australian cowboy or cowgirl. This is the genuine article: your time at the farm will give you real hands-on experience, and if you like the work, they'll even give you a job reference at the end!

Set in the hills near Mulla Creek, New South Wales, the base for the jackaroo and jillaroo school is a real Australian working property that also trains people with little or no prior experience. You'll learn the basics of stock riding on one of thirty horses, with temperament carefully matched to your level of experience, whether you're an advanced rider or an absolute beginner. You'll also learn about grooming and saddling horses. You'll work with sheep and cattle both out in the open land, with the aid of working dogs, and close-to, learning to milk and get experience in the ever-important and ongoing task of putting up, maintaining and repairing decent fences.

You'll learn to Bridle, saddle, ride and groom, and, depending on the weather, even swim a horse. You'll learn how to milk a cow, muster cattle and sheep on horseback, and to catch, mark, tag and brand young calves; no easy task when the calf decides to disagree! You'll learn to catch and drench sheep, build fences, learn about working dogs and pasture improvement, and how to use a lasso and crack a whip. There will also be games on horseback that will help improve your skills while also guaranteeing plenty of fun.

Is it for me?

This isn't your typical holiday, that's for sure. Those who want to laze away the day -this definitely isn't what you're after. This is a full-on, hands-on, hands-dirty, get-involved learning experience that is guaranteed to have you sleeping like a baby at the end of the day with a smile of satisfaction on your face. If you're reasonably fit and healthy, you like animals (horses, especially, are a big part of this experience) and fancy finding out, firsthand and for real, what it's like to work on an outback farming property, this course has what you're looking for. Please note that children under 16 years of age are not accepted on this course.

Accommodation

Accommodation is in one of three houses on the property. There are shared rooms sleeping four, six or eight in bunk beds, with boys and girls staying in separate rooms. Bathrooms are also shared. There are three meals a day, breakfast at the farm itself, a light lunch either at the farm or in the paddock, depending on where you're working that day, and always a cooked dinner back at the farm in the evenings. Food is tasty, filling and nutritious: farm work demands decent fuel after all. Every few days there is a bonfire in the evenings- a great chance to hang out socially and celebrate a good day's work.


Itinerary

All training during the course will be done 'on the job'. You will be based on a working property and the skills and

Prices from

636 GBP (11 days) per person

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techniques used will be explained and demonstrated, then carried out by trainees under supervision. The tasks you will be taught are those actually carried out in the normal running of the property. As such, there is no set itinerary for each day, but by the end of the course trainees should be able to carry out routine/basic tasks and more skilled jobs with minimal supervision.

The jackaroo and jillaroo school runs over a period of 11 days with groups of up to 25 people per course. The aim of the course is to provide basic training for people with minimal or no experience, so that their employment prospects are increased. Jackaroo and Jillaroo jobs are eagerly sought after and those without experience or skills are at a great disadvantage.

Details

Getting there

You need to get to Tamworth, NSW. Pickup is between 9 and 10am on the first morning from YHA Hostel, Marius Street, Tamworth.

Price includes

AU\$150 deposit is required on booking.

Eleven days course working on the farm, including lessons in the many different skills required for the daily running of the place, all accommodation and meals, horses for riding, matched to the rider, and tuition in riding and horse care, transfer from and to Tamworth. If required, riding boots can be rented for \$10, with a \$5 refund at the end of the course.

Typical Duration

11 days

Comfort level

Down to earth (hostels, camping, huts)

Experience required

A reasonable level of fitness and interest is all that is needed