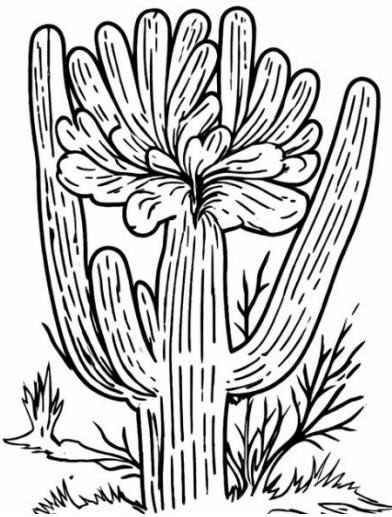


Land of the Sun ENDURANCE RIDE 2026



AERC Sanctioned 50 & 30-Mile (LD) Ride, and Intro Ride Saturday & Sunday

Entry Opens Jan 12, 2026

Feb 7th and 8th, Boyd Ranch, Wickenburg, AZ

Ride management & volunteers are committed, rain or shine!

Entry Form Link: <https://form.jotform.com/260107864518055>

Ride Manager: Andrea Maitland, 480-223-8576

Email: Landofthesunendurance@outlook.com

Assistant Manager: Kim Lipko, 623-221-7096

Email: Got2ryd@icloud.com

Control Judges: Peggy Brosnahan DVM (Head Vet), Linnea Warlick DVM, Lea Walker DVM

Thank you for your interest and support in the Land of the Sun Endurance ride. **Once again, all Junior Riders will ride FREE.**

We will have a 50-mile, 30-mile (LD), and 12-mile Intro rides on both Saturday and Sunday.

A shorter distance will also be available for Intro riders – we have a distance for every horse and rider! Land of the Sun at Boyd Ranch is the perfect venue to come learn about endurance, talk to endurance riders and vets, and see what the fun is all about! There is no time limit (other than daylight) for the Introductory distances, so go at your own pace, bring a friend, and have a blast on the trails with your favorite equine partner (donkeys, mules, and horses are all welcome!). You do not have to ride your equine to participate – if you have a favorite hiking mini-horse or mini-donk, come on out!

Proceeds from the event benefit the Arizona Endurance Riders Club (AZERC.org) & Boyd Ranch (<https://www.boydranch.org/>) - both are Non-Profit 501 (c)(3) organizations. If you would like to further assist us in donating to these great organizations by sponsoring a ride award, please contact Andrea Maitland. Available award sponsorships include: First Place, Best Condition, Junior, Top 10, & Turtle awards. Have an idea for another award? Let Andrea know! Note – Turtle and BC awards have already been sponsored!

The Raffle will be back! Do you have a cool item to raffle? Contact Andrea! Raffle tickets will be sold on site.

Base Camp Location and Directions:

Boyd Ranch in Wickenburg AZ. **DO NOT FOLLOW GPS**, as it may turn you down the wrong street which is impassable by all but the most robust 4x4 vehicles (i.e., horse trailers will not make it). The **only** road that gets you safely to Boyd Ranch is Scenic Loop off the 93. Turn at the U-Haul building and follow it 8.5 miles to the ranch. More detailed directions below:

The Boyd Ranch is located approximately 12 miles north of downtown Wickenburg, Arizona.

GPS Coordinates:

34.0510000, -112.6909333

From Wickenburg

1. Head northwest on Highway 93 toward Las Vegas.
2. Look for a Mobil gas station.
3. Drive one mile past the Mobil station, then turn right onto Scenic Loop Drive (look for the U-Haul)
4. Stay on Scenic Loop Drive for 8.5 miles.
5. You will cross five cattle guards.

6. Follow signs for The Boyd Ranch.
7. The ranch will be on your right.

⚠ Note: Scenic Loop Drive is a dirt road. Expect slower speeds and allow 30–35 minutes of driving time once you turn off Highway 93.

From Prescott or Kingman

1. Travel south on Highway 93.
2. Turn left onto Scenic Loop Drive at mile marker 195. This is after the roundabout at Wickenburg Ranch.
3. Follow the directions listed above from Scenic Loop Drive.

Directions to The Boyd Ranch

From Wickenburg

* Head NW on Highway 93 towards Las Vegas

* Look for a Mobile gas station. Drive exactly one mile past the Mobile and turn right on Scenic Loop Dr.

* If you get to a roundabout with 2 giant spurs in the middle, you have gone too far. Circle back in the round-a-bout and go back the other direction.

* Stay on this road for 8.5 miles

* You will go over 5 cattle guards

* Follow signs to The Boyd Ranch

* Ranch will be on your right

* This is a dirt road - expect a slower speed and about 30 to 35 minutes of driving time once you turn off of HWY 93.



Base camp will open at 8 am Friday, Feb 6th, 2026. However, if long-distance travel requires Thursday arrival, please contact Andrea for special arrangements. Boyd Ranch is large and easily accessible. The ranch contains bunkhouses, showers/flush toilets, stalls, an arena, permanent water, good WiFi, and lots of other amenities! There are no RV Hookups. Though water is available in camp, it may be more convenient to bring your own. To ensure future use of this site it is imperative that the Ranch Rules are followed. Dogs must be on leash or contained at all times. All manure, hay, shavings and trash must be deposited for ease of pick up by ranch staff. If stalls are being rented, they must be cleaned thoroughly before departure. More information on the Ranch will be provided at the Ride Meetings.

Camping fees are located on the entry form. Each horse truck/trailer combo will need to pay the overnight camping fee (\$30 for the entire event) unless that trailer is only coming for the day. Day-use fees are included in the rider entry. Additional vehicles (crew, friends/family) will need to pay either a day-use fee (\$10) or an overnight camping fee (\$15/extra vehicle). All people traveling in the truck/trailer are covered under the camping fees for that truck/trailer.

Bunk Houses

We have two bunk houses available. Each bunk bed is \$25 for the stay. Bunk beds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

There will be a women's bunk house (6 bunks) and a men's bunk house (4 bunks). Guests must bring a mattress pad and sleeping bag, as the bunk houses are not heated. Buddy heaters are allowed, but please ensure they are turned off when you are not there. Showers and toilets are located just steps away. Please contact Andrea directly at Landofthesunendurance@outlook.com to check on availability. The cost to rent an entire bunk house is \$100 - \$150 for the weekend (up to three nights).

Corrals / Horse Setup

Stalls/panel corrals are available on a first-come, first-served basis, but advance reservation is required. These are nice panel corrals, and you may park your rig close to the pens. Please RSVP on your registration form. The cost is \$30 per corral for your entire stay. Upon arrival at the ranch, please select any corral that is not already in use. Water is available at the pens via hose and bucket. Riders must bring their own feeders and water buckets and are responsible for cleaning their corral before departure.

Parking

There is ample parking at Boyd Ranch, though you are encouraged to get there early if you want to park closer to the vet and pavilion areas. **DO NOT PARK DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF ANY STALLS/CORRALS UNLESS YOU HAVE RENTED THEM FOR THE WEEKEND.** You will be asked to move your rig if you block access to stalls that do not contain your horse. We will have volunteers at the Ranch entry to help assist you with parking.

About the Trails

The trails will consist of 5 to 19-mile loops and include a mixture of two-track dirt roads, single-track trails, and sandy washes. Some limited sections are hard-packed and rocky. There are elevation changes, as Wickenburg is located in the Sonoran Desert, surrounded by beautiful mountains. Depending on the route and the amount of rain received prior to the ride, there may be significant water crossings along the trail. This is cattle country, so expect cows to pop up anywhere once you arrive at basecamp. You can also expect to share trail, especially along some of the washes, with off-road vehicles. There are also lots of spiny things so be prepared to extract cactus spines out on the trail if necessary. **Some kind of Hoof protection is mandatory – this is a rugged Arizona ride!**

The LD and 50-mile distances will have one veterinary check with a one-hour hold. The 50-mile distance may also have a Pulse/Trot/Go check in addition to the one-hour hold. All checks and holds will be held at base camp (Boyd Ranch). However, depending on weather and trail conditions, additional checkpoints or trail changes may be implemented at the discretion of the Head Control Judge and ride management.

Each day's LD ride is sanctioned at 30 miles. Weather or trail conditions may require course adjustments, which could shorten or lengthen the distance. Riders should be prepared for LD rides between 25 and 35 miles.

All trails will be marked with ribbons, but riders are strongly encouraged to use **Ride With GPS**. All routes will be available in the Ride with GPS event link that will be sent out before the ride.

These trails can be challenging – please bring a fit horse! All the trails have sections of deep sand, which can be very tiring. Pay special attention when moving through the washes. As in prior years, we will have our awesome Radio Control volunteers at various checkpoints out on the trail to help keep everyone safe.

Trail Navigation

The trail will be marked with traditional ribbons on clothespins, but because cows sometimes like to eat ribbons we strongly encourage the use of **Ride With GPS** for navigation. The free version of the app and the event link is all you need to navigate the

routes with Ride With GPS. Using this tool is your best choice for navigation. Ride With GPS can provide you with navigational confidence for a more enjoyable ride. Please familiarize yourself with Ride With GPS before coming to the ride. The Ride With GPS Event link and instructions will be sent in the electronic rider packet after registration.

Entry Form Link Here: <https://form.jotform.com/260107864518055>

Refund/Cancellation Policy: Ride entry cancellations received on or before 5 pm Monday, February 2, 2026 and horses pulled at the pre-ride check-in will receive a refund less a \$25 administration fee. No refunds for cancellations after 5 pm February 2, 2026. We will not take onsite entries so please have your entry in by **5 PM Feb 2, 2026**. Checks will be deposited the week of the ride.

Ride T-Shirts

We will have Ride T-shirts available to purchase via the entry form – to receive the shirt of your choice please have your entry in by **Noon on Jan 25**. We may have additional shirts for purchase at the ride. Shirts can also be pre-ordered here:

<https://form.jotform.com/260107673297057>

Vet In & Rider Check-in

All distances: Pick up of the vet card will serve as rider check-in. Vetting is from 2:00 to 5:00 on Friday for the Saturday rides. Vetting in on Saturday for the Sunday rides can be at any time that the vets are not busy with Saturday's riders. Please be patient. Saturday & Sunday morning vetting is available to Intro riders who are hauling in for the day, and to other distances on a limited basis. Please contact Andrea for a morning vet-in arrangement if you are an LD or 50-mile rider. If you are riding both days, your vet-out on Saturday will count as your vet-in on Sunday. The vets will want to see your horse trot out on Sunday morning prior to the ride start.

Ride Packet

The ride packet will be sent via email. It will include PDF maps and cue sheets for you to print. It will also include information about using the Ride With GPS App to navigate the course. If you are unable to receive email or print ride maps, please contact Andrea by Noon Tuesday Feb 3rd so a printed packet can be prepared for you to pick up. There may not be printed versions available onsite so please come prepared or make arrangements with Andrea!

Ride Meeting

Friday at 5:15 for Saturday riders and Saturday at 7 PM for Sunday riders. The ride veterinarians will discuss ride parameters and other important ride updates will be shared. A New Rider Meeting will be held immediately following the main ride meeting. This is a great opportunity to talk to an experienced rider about endurance! We will also have a new rider briefing for Intro riders that haul in the morning of the ride (both Sat and Sun).

Friday Potluck

We will have our AZERC-sponsored traditional potluck on Friday night immediately following the ride meeting. Ride management will provide paper goods, utensils, & water. To help avoid duplicate dishes, we will start a potluck post on the Zonie Facebook Page. Electrical outlets are available for crockpots. Please bring serving utensils for your dish.

Saturday Dinner

We will have the awards dinner at 630 PM, with the awards presentation at 7:00. **The Potato Bar is back!** Vegetarian options will be available. Dinner tickets can be purchased on your ride entry form. The cost is \$12.00 per person. Official ride volunteers will receive a meal ticket as a token of gratitude for making rides possible!

Ride Photographer

Alicia Toedter will photograph both days. Each rider will receive a free photograph as their participation/completion award. More details will be provided at the ride on how to claim your award. Additional photos will be available for purchase on her website. We are grateful for Alicia's talent and willingness to photograph our riders! Please support her by purchasing additional photos. In the event that a rider is missed, an alternate completion award will be provided.

Awards

LD & 50 Mile Ride Awards: Participation, 1st Place, Best Condition, Top 10, Turtle, and Junior. We will do our best to have additional awards as well! Intro riders will receive recognition and also the participation award...and there may be a special award just for them!

About the Introductory (Intro) Ride: The Intro ride is a great way to learn how an Endurance ride works. Intro riders are required to have a pre-ride and post-ride exam by the control judge (Vet). Two loop distances will be available, 5 miles and 12 miles. Additional loops may also be available based on trail conditions. In addition, Intro riders can combine loops to simulate an endurance event, with a vet check and hold period in between their loops. Intro riders must keep Ride Management informed as to what loop they are riding so we

know where to send Search and Rescue (Kidding! But please keep us informed as we do need to keep track of where everyone is on course).

All riders must check in with ride management 15 minutes before the start of the ride and be on the trail within 30 minutes of the start time. If you are planning a late start please let Ride Management know. All riders will check in with the In-Timer and Vet when they have completed the ride.

AZERC 50 & LD Team Challenge

A Team Captain (over 1000 AERC Miles) & up to 2 Partners (under 1000 AERC miles) ride together. To learn more go to AZERC.org & sign up before the ride. AZERC Teams will be recognized and one outstanding team will be chosen by the vet based on the condition and presentation of the horses. Please let Ride Management know if you are riding as part of the Team Challenge!

Tentative Schedule of Events

Friday Feb 6th, 2026

- 8:00 am Base Camp Opens
- 2:00 to 5:00 Rider Check-in/Horse Vet-In
- 5:15 pm Ride Meeting (All 50 and LD riders are expected to attend)
- 5:30 (ish) pm New Rider Meeting
- 5:45 (ish) pm Potluck

Saturday Feb 7th, 2026

- 7:00 am 50-Mile Ride Start (Must be on trail by 7:30), cutoff 7 PM
- 7:30 am 30-mile start (must be on the trail by 8 am), cutoff 245 PM
- 9:00 am Intro Ride Start (Must be on trail by 9:30), cutoff is be in before dark 😊
- 9:00 am to 5:00 Rider Check-in/Horse Vet-In for Sunday
- 6:30 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Awards Presentation and Ride Meeting for Sunday

Sunday January 18th, 2026

- 7:00 am 50-Mile Ride Start (Must be on trail by 7:30) – cutoff 7 PM
- 7:30 am 30-mile start (must be on the trail by 8 am) – cutoff 245 PM
- 9:00 am Intro Ride Start (Must be on trail by 9:30), cutoff is be in before dark 😊
- There will be an Awards meeting around 6 PM. There is no dinner on Sunday. BYOD.

Monday January 20th, 2025

- Clean up and return to civilization by 12 Noon. Ensure all stalls are cleaned thoroughly, and all manure deposited in accordance to Boyd Ranch policies.

Rules and Regulations: The ride will be conducted in accordance with AERC rules. Go to www.aerc.org for the details. It is your responsibility to know the rules.

Entry Form Link: <https://form.jotform.com/260107864518055>