



How to go about booking your day at U-Turn Ranch.

1. Contact the office by email to tentatively book the date you would like.
2. Fill out the school group info sheet and email it back to our office. If there is an activity that your board does not allow, we are happy to alter our program so that your group is able to attend U-Turn Ranch.
3. A deposit of \$100.00 is required to finalize the booking. If an invoice is needed, please let us know and we can email one to you. This deposit is non-refundable, but will be credited to your final invoice.
4. Please ask your students to dress for the weather, as there are no cancellations due to weather. We suggest students bring bug spray, sunscreen, hat, and water bottle. If your group is riding horses, they must wear running shoes. If there is rain in the forecast, please bring raincoats and boots.
5. When you arrive, please bring the following.
 - a. Payment - Please make checks payable to U-Turn Ranch. Cost is \$26/student, Including HST. (Minus \$100 deposit)
 - b. **Release Forms** if required– Most schools have a standard form that they get parents to sign, which inform parents of activities happening during the class trip. If not, please feel free to use our release form below.

We look forward to having you and your students here. Please let us know if there is anything we can do aid in your planning or the success of your stay.

Looking forward to working together with you,

Jodie Zehr
Office Manager

What the day will look like

SCHOOL PACKAGE AND PRICES

Cost is \$26/student. All teachers and parents are welcome at no extra charge.

This includes the following...

- One school day at U-Turn Ranch. We suggest 3-4 ½ hours. This includes lunch time. If your time here will be outside of the recommended time, please contact the ranch to discuss options.
- Your choice of 4 Ranch activities
- Picnic area to eat snacks and lunch

**Longer days and Overnight packages are available – Please contact office to discuss options.

GROUP SIZE & HELPERS REQUIRED

Students will travel to different activities with their classes. We can accommodate up to 4 classes/day. We suggest that each class has 3-4 adult helpers that stay with the group at all times. U-Turn Ranch staff will be running the program and we ask that adult helpers are available to overseeing or assist students at all times.

SCHEDULE

Arrive and Welcoming by U-Turn Ranch Staff

Activity #1 - Archery

Activity #2 – Barn time – Horse rides lead by our staff in a controlled indoor riding arena

Lunch

Activity #3 – Nature – Scavenger Hunt for Grade JK-Grade 2/Orienteering for Grade 3 and up

Activity #4 – Team Building

Wide Game – as time allows

ACTIVITY SELECTION

All safety equipment is provided as required by Ontario Camps Association. Our standard program includes the activity options listed below. You will need to select 1 option.

Option 1 – Horse Rides, Archery, Team Building, Nature

Option 2 – Horse Rides, Frisbee Golf, Team Building, Nature

Option 3 – Barn Time, Archery, Team Building, Nature

Option 4 – Barn Time, Frisbee Golf, Team Building, Nature

Option 5 – Archery, Team Building, Nature, Frisbee Golf

Option 6 – Team Building, Nature, Frisbee Golf, Wide Games

PROGRAMMING/ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of the different activities and what you expect at each area. Activities are taught according to the age that is participating. Therefore, our program can be great for younger and older students.

Horse/Animals – Horses are a very exciting part of our program at U-Turn Ranch. Depending on what your board will allow, we can do one of the following.

- 1) Horse Rides - Each horse activity starts with a brief instruction. Each student will have the opportunity to get up on a horse for a ride. This activity is led by our experienced horse staff at U-Turn Ranch. While the students take turns riding, the rest of the group will be able to groom and interact with some of the other horses, supervised by parents/teachers if comfortable.
- 2) Barn Time – During this time, we will introduce the class to one of our horses. Students will be taught what you should and should not do with a horse, how horses interact with us as humans, and show them

the different parts of the horse. This is all done with the horse on the other side of the fence than the students if requested. Then they have time to do an activity sheet based on what they have learned and interact with horses as allowed.

3) **Archery** – During archery the students will learn about safety in the archery range, how to string a bow, how to aim and shoot an arrow. The students will have lots of time to test out their skills and shooting ability. Archery takes place in an area all on its own and there will be strict rules that go with the activity.

4) **Nature** – Students grade JK-Grade 3 will participate in the scavenger hunt and students grade 4 and up will have the opportunity to do our orienteering course.

Scavenger Hunt – We have three different hunts that students can work away at. This is something that will help them with their numbers, and discover nature at U-Turn Ranch. This is suggested for Grade 3 and under.

Orienteering – During orienteering the students will learn the basics of how to use a compass, parts of a compass and how to follow a bearing. Then the students will navigate and travel around U-Turn Ranch to find clues to solve a problem. This is suggested for Grade 3 and up.

5) **Team Building** – Team building is a set of exercises that require the entire group's participation to solve. Team building gives the students the opportunity to develop their problem-solving skills, listening and cooperation skills, communication, and creative thinking. Students will plan, discuss, set a goal and then participate as a group to accomplish the task at hand.

6) **Frisbee Golf** – This is a game much like mini golf; however, it is played with a Frisbee and pylons. This will teach the students accuracy, while allowing them to enjoy the outdoors and explore the ranch. This is an activity that is run by the parents of the group with prior explanation by U-Turn Ranch Staff.

7) **Shelter Building/Pond** – This will include wilderness shelter building, discovery within our pond area, or a nature game. This program is not part of our regular program, but if requested we can substitute it for another activity.

U-TURN SCHOOL GROUP POLICIES

Please ensure that everyone attending is aware of U-Turn Ranch School Group Policies below.

Reservations – Tentative dates may be set ahead of time; however, no reservation is confirmed until deposit and school group booking info sheet is returned to U-Turn Ranch.

Cancellations – Deposits are non-refundable. We will run program rain or shine, so please prepare students to come dressed for rain or shine.

Deposit & Payment - We require a \$100 non-refundable deposit. This will be credited to your final invoice, if there are no damages during your time at U-Turn. Once your school group booking info sheet and deposit are received in our office, your trip will be confirmed. Five school days prior to your arrival we ask that you contact us and let us know if your numbers are different than what is stated on the info sheet submitted. If we do not hear from you, we will assume numbers are still the same. At that point we will send you a final invoice which is due upon arrival at the ranch. We accept cash or check. Checks can be made out to U-Turn Ranch.

Release Forms – If your school board has its own permission forms that is signed off by parents, you can skip this step. If using your own permission forms, we ask that full disclosure of activities is listed for parents and guardians to sign off on. If your board doesn't have its own permission, please use our form below.

Meals – Our kitchen is not open for school groups. Everyone should bring their own lunch/snacks/drinks. We require that everyone wash their hands before eating, especially after handling animals.

Arrival /Departure – Our program generally runs 3 1/2 - 4 1/2 hours. We can adjust if necessary.

Alcohol, illegal drugs and restricted movies are not prohibited on the premises.

Smoking or Vaping is prohibited in all areas of U-Turn Ranch. Should this be an issue, please contact our office ahead of time and we will arrange a spot that is good for everyone.

Facility Care – School groups using U-Turn Ranch facilities are responsible for all damages beyond normal wear and tear to equipment, buildings, facilities, and grounds, and will be charged accordingly.

Supervision – Groups are required to provide adequate supervision for participants. We suggest 3-4 adults/class. U-Turn Ranch staff will be present while running activities, but we require adults to assist student supervision at all times, including meal times.

Nature & Wildlife – We ask that you let the nature of U-Turn Ranch not be disturbed. No cutting or removing twigs, leaves and bark from trees or picking flowers. We also ask that you respect all wildlife and don't hang on or climb the trees.

Garbage and Recycling – Garbage cans and blue boxes are available throughout the camp grounds. Please use them and do not litter.

Vehicles – All vehicles should be parked in the U-Turn Ranch parking lot. This is the driveway directly across from the John Deere Dealership's driveway, not the house driveway. Please drive slow coming in and out.

First Aid – School groups are responsible for their own first aid. Should there be an emergency, we have a first responder on property.

Fires – are permitted only in existing fire areas and if arranged ahead of time.

Lost and Found – U-Turn Ranch is not responsible for any lost or forgotten articles. Lost and found articles not claimed within two weeks will be donated to the local second-hand store.

Out of Bounds – We ask that no one from the group goes into any buildings except washrooms, unless lead by our staff. The pool and pastures are also off limits for safety.

Accidents – We ask that any accidents or damage is reported to the directors of U-turn Ranch.

SCHOOL GROUP BOOKING INFO – Please fill out and return!

Name of School: _____ # of Classes _____ Grade (s) Attending: _____

Date(s) Requested: _____ Arrival Time: _____ Departure Time: _____
(We can program up to 4.5 hours)

Contact person: _____
(Please provide one person who will be making decisions for the day and will be present during your time at U-Turn)

Email: _____ Telephone #: _____

Group Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Number of Students: _____ Number of Teachers/Chaperons: _____

We ask that numbers are confirmed 5 school days prior to attending. An invoice will be sent to the above address to ensure you can have payment in place when you arrive.

Which option would you like your class to participate in? Please circle 1 2 3 4 5 6

Option 1 – Horse Rides, Archery, Team Building, Nature

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Option 3 – Barn Time, Archery, Team Building, Nature

Option 4 – Barn Time, Frisbee Golf, Team Building, Nature

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Option 6 – Team Building, Nature, Frisbee Golf, Wide Games

Please let us know if you have any special requests regarding students' needs that we can help accommodate.

CONTRACT

I have read all the information in this package, including “What a day will look like” and “U-Turn Ranch School Group Policies” and agree to abide by them. I will inform all members of the group of these policies and we will conduct our activities in a safe and careful manner. I and our group, understand that there are inherent and unforeseen risks involved while participating in activities at U-Turn Ranch. We also understand that U-Turn Ranch has done what it can to minimize the risks associated with visiting the camp and we assume the risks involved. I assume full responsibility for the conduct of our group and for their safety. I agree, on behalf of the group, that we will not hold U-Turn Ranch, staff, or volunteers liable in any way for any accidents which may happen while we are using the camp. I freely and willingly sign this agreement and waiver on behalf of my group.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

RELEASE FORM

This must only be filled out, if the school does not already have their own permission form allowing parents to sign off on activities offered for the day at U-Turn Ranch. Please fill in activities that you will be participating in and make copies for every individual to complete.

Anyone under the age of 18 must have a Parent or Guardian sign and complete this form.
Please photocopy as many forms as is necessary (one form per person).

Activities that students will be participating in on _____ include the following:
(Date)

(List of Activities)

Name of Student: _____ Student's Date of Birth: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian giving permission to participate at U-Turn Ranch: _____

Address of Parent/Guardian: _____

Phone of Parent/Guardian: _____

Allergic to bee stings? Yes No

Medical/Allergies that U-Turn should be aware of: _____

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

While every precaution shall be taken to ensure the good welfare and protection of the participant, U-Turn Ranch, its Director, staff members, employees and facilities within the Ranch grounds are hereby released from all liability in the event of any accident or misfortune that may occur to the participant.

I understand that First Aid and basic medical care is the primary responsibility of the group and its leaders and not U-Turn Ranch. I understand that the group, organization, school or agency that is bringing the participant, is responsible to provide adequate insurance coverage for their duration of stay.

I hereby certify that I have read and accept all the above conditions.

Date

Signature of Participant, or Parent/Guardian if under the age of 18