

# WILDERNESS TRAILS Ranch

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[www.wildernesstrails.com](http://www.wildernesstrails.com)

Thank you for your interest in working at Wilderness Trails Ranch. We are seeking enthusiastic, flexible, outgoing, and tenacious folks to make up our outstanding staff. A summer at WTR is guaranteed to be fun, challenging, and create a memory you will carry with you for a lifetime!

First, we require our staff to start work on or before **May 20th and work through August 25<sup>th</sup>**. We will hire a handful of employees to begin June 10 and work through August 18. We also keep several employees through September. **If you cannot work these dates or must attend a function during the summer, we ask that you not apply.** All of our guests are important to us and deserve our 100% service. **Therefore, we require our entire staff for our entire core season.** The atmosphere at Wilderness Trails is not like any ordinary job. We work together as a TEAM: a team which has a goal of providing the best possible vacation for our guests. Life at WTR can be very challenging due to the hard work and lack of personal space, but it is also exceptionally rewarding. You will meet an incredible variety of people, both your fellow staff members and our weekly guests—connections which may open other opportunities for you.

## **Housing**

Not only do we work together, we live together in a dorm situation with bunkmates and shared bathrooms. The women live in the second story of our main lodge, and the men live in a “bunkhouse” near the guests’ cabins. Some private rooms are available for key and longer term employees. It takes a unique person to thrive in this situation.

## **Fun**

We offer a great deal of benefits: outstanding meals, an opportunity to take advantage of the same facilities and activities as our guests, and time spent in an absolutely breathtaking mountain setting. All staff have opportunities to ride, water-ski, raft, hike and more! We will arrange staff outings on a regular basis to local attractions such as the hot springs, waterfalls, or lake. However, it is very important to remember that this is a job, not a summer vacation!

## **All Staff**

**We don't allow drugs, tobacco products, or drinking.** We expect our staff members to help with the dance, sing-a-longs, and other evening activities, as well as giving up some personal time when asked. The entire staff is required to be present at the final campfire on Friday evening. It's not an eight hour a day job! In order to do a good job, you will not be able to party at night, and work all day. You are hired for a position and we expect you to give your fullest to the ranch. You must be 18 years of age by the time you begin work (exceptions for certain positions).

We do not allow pets. Wranglers may bring a personal horse.

## **Pay and Schedule**

You will receive a monthly salary, meals, and housing. First-year monthly salaries range from \$1000-\$1300/month depending upon the position and responsibilities. All of our full-time employees work 5 ½ days each week, up to 9 hours/day. Days off may or may not be consecutive. Shifts may be straights or splits, and may start as early as 6 am and stretch as late as 10 pm.

**We are a seasonal employer, you are not eligible to apply for unemployment benefits during our offseason (October - April).**

## **Attire**

We are a western dude ranch and require **all** our staff to dress accordingly. Western boots, jeans, shirts, hats. No holes or patches in jeans. Everyone must be dressed neatly and portray the western image. Depending upon your position, you will be required to wear a uniform at certain times. We supply uniforms. Wranglers are required to wear a western hat, button down shirt, belt, riding length jeans, and western boots while on duty. Thongs, underwear, or other undergarments should not be visible.

## **Getting here**

Several airlines service Durango airport and bus service is also available. We will pick you up when you arrive. Staff may also drive and park vehicles at the ranch.

**We have a first class operation, and our staff is an integral part of our ranch. If you have any questions, please e-mail or give us a call!**

## Job Descriptions

Please note that some positions may already be filled. Call or check the web site for the latest information.

These descriptions cover the basic emphasis of each position. There will be times you are asked to help in a different area.

**HEAD WRANGLER:** Must have extensive experience with horses, horsemanship, and teaching. Responsibilities include assigning horses and saddles with guests, scheduling wranglers, overseeing the barn crew, scheduling rides, staff training, and managing the upkeep of the corral. Experience with cattle preferred. Experience doctoring horses and driving trailers preferred.

**WRANGLER / TRAIL GUIDE:** More than recreational riding skills are required. You must know how to correctly saddle horses. You need to know how to mount, walk, jog, and lope on both leads. Wranglers teach riding, lead trailrides, care for horses, and help with cattle. Fencing, digging ditches, washing vehicles, and putting up hay are additional chores. Current 1<sup>st</sup> aid & CPR cards required. Pouring coffee at meals and helping setup and reset at evening activities are additional responsibilities.

**TEEN WRANGLER:** Same requirements as trail guide, with a desire to work with teenagers (11-17), both teaching riding, and spending time with them at meals, going on hay rides, and working out a program with them which will make their stay enjoyable. You will rotate with adults and youth.

**YOUTH WRANGLER:** Same requirements as trail guide, with special emphasis on teaching riding to children from ages 6 to 10, helping entertain them with crafts, games, hikes and other activities. You must have a genuine interest in CHILDREN more than HORSES! You will also help care for children ages 3 to 5 to cover breaks. Youth Wranglers will rotate with adults and teens.

**CHILD CARE:** Taking charge of children between the ages of 3 and 5 is fun, but challenging. You also will help with the older kids (6-10) at times. Crafts, games, and other activities to keep them busy are essential. You will need to be able to keep them active and entertained without TV! This is a very rewarding job that rotates with Ranch Crew. 1 week with kids, 1 week with Ranch Crew. Current 1<sup>st</sup> aid & CPR cards required.

**GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:** Watering lawns, plants, raking, general grounds keeping, pool maintenance, cutting fire wood, starting fires, painting, washing vehicles, and maintaining fences. Times when you will loading hay for a good portion of the day. Chainsaw experience preferred. Will assist Head Maintenance. Pouring coffee at meals and helping setup and reset at evening activities

**HEAD MAINTENANCE:** This job requires a working knowledge of plumbing, carpentry, and mechanical skills. Will work independently. You need to be a self starter who enjoys problem solving, variety of jobs, and can oversee ground maintenance. Pouring coffee at meals and helping setup and reset at evening activities FILLED for 2007

**CHEF'S ASSISTANT / BAKER:** Baking and cooking experience a must. Breakfast is to order, line experience beneficial. We serve three meals per day, every day. Skills needed in baking breads, pies, cakes, and helping with the general cooking for approx. 75 people each meal.

**RANCH CREW:** An alternating job between working in the **cabins:** cleaning bathrooms, making beds, etc., **meal service:** setting the dining room, serving meals (to order, buffets, and fine dining), and washing dishes, and **kitchen aid:** food prep, cleaning the kitchen, pots and pans, and lunch bar set up. Rotation provides welcomed variety of tasks and daily schedule. Many afternoons are off-time to enjoy the pool, horseback riding, etc. Very fun, team-oriented job, despite the sometimes non-glamorous work!

**RANCH CREW SUPERVISOR:** Works with Chef and to supervise kitchen, dining room, and cabin staff. Attention to detail, leadership, and enthusiasm are critical traits. You are the team leader for the Ranch Crew. Duties include: weekly scheduling, checking cabins, supervising dining room, cleaning, working in the laundry, organizing linens, and delivering supplies. Supervisory experience preferred! Great schedule, good variety of work!

**TRADING POST RETAIL/BARTENDER:** This position covers three major areas: Retail sales in our "trading post," bartending, and maintaining the cleanliness of the lodge. Duties include ordering, sales, cleaning and renting boots and chinks, stocking, cleaning of store and lodge, serving drinks, updating inventory, etc. Requires energetic, social, and organized individual, preferably with retail or bartending experience! Must be 21 or older.

**GUEST SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR:** Works closely with our office manager. Responsible for check-in and guest orientation, coordinating guest activities, weekly lists, guest check-out, morning coffee service, delivering gifts to cabins, and more. MS Word, Excel, Quickbooks, and Rezstream. Position requires self-motivated, organized, energetic, outgoing individual. FILLED FOR 2007

**MASSAGE THERAPIST:** Independent contracted massage therapy and spa services (therapists earn 70% of service cost). Therapist provides own sheets and oils. National certification, hot stone experience, and a minimum of 2 years work experience required. In-person interview required.

For more detailed information, visit our web site at  
[www.wildernesstrails.com/employment.htm](http://www.wildernesstrails.com/employment.htm)