



C Lazy U
RANCH

COLORADO'S PREMIER GUEST RANCH
* since 1919 *

Adult Riding Schedule

— 2026 —



Please Note

Beginning this year, all riders are required to sign up for every equestrian experience, including trail rides. Space and availability are limited, and this policy helps protect our herd from overuse while ensuring each guest and member has the opportunity to ride.

Ride reservations are required and will be honored as scheduled. **If your plans change, please let us know at least 24 hours prior** to riding so we can accommodate other guests and avoid saddling a horse unnecessarily. This helps us care for our horses and provide the best experience for all guests.

Rider Readiness

All riders should report to the mounting block ready to ride in proper attire:

- Jeans
- Proper headwear: helmet, cowboy hat (secured with stampede strings), baseball hat (secured with a hat clip)
- Riding boots: Flat sneakers, fashion boots, and chunky hiking boots are not permitted for safety reasons

Rider Eligibility

The ranch maintains a 250-pound weight limit for horseback riding. Barn Management will make the final determination on whether a guest may ride based on weight, physical ability, the level of assistance required, and overall safety for both horse and rider. Rider fitness, experience, horse size, terrain, and ride type are all taken into consideration, and management may restrict or prohibit riding when necessary to ensure the wellbeing of both horse and rider.



Daily Activities

Sunday

2:00–5:00 PM Rider Assessment & Horse Assignments

Meet the Equestrian Team, review experience and riding expectations, and receive horse assignments based on experience and ride preferences. Guests should have their pre-arrival paperwork completed, as horses are primarily assigned using this information. Guests can expect to ride multiple horses during their stay as horses may be rotated throughout the week.

6:30 PM Ranch Orientation: Introduction to the Ranch

Overview of C Lazy U Ranch, facilities, pastures, staff introductions, weekly activities, and tips for enjoying ranch life.

Monday

9:30 AM Adult Rider Orientation

Introduction to horses and riding programs, proper attire, safety expectations, mounting/dismounting, correct position, rein handling, seat and leg aids, and demonstrations of halt, turn on the forehand, posting/sitting trot, and lope/canter.

Mandatory for all guests wishing to ride during the week.

10:00 AM Adult Mount Ups for Trail Rides & Clinic

- Introductory Walk Trail Rides
- Introductory Riding Clinic Part I held in the outdoor arena for more nervous or hesitant riders.

10:30 AM Round Pen & Groundwork Clinic (Indoor Arena)

2:00 PM Trail Rides & Lope Assessment

- Walk/Trot Trail Ride
- Lope Assessment in the outdoor arena for intermediate and advanced riders.

5:30 PM Horses & Happy Hour & Herd Tour (Adults Only)

Enjoy a cocktail in the West Meadow Pasture while learning herd dynamics and locating your favorite horses.

Tuesday–Saturday Mornings

9:15 AM Adult Mount Ups Begins

Rides split by level:

- Advanced / Intermediate Trail Ride
- Basic Refresher / Instructional Trail Ride
- Slow Scenic Trail Ride
- Guest Family Trail Ride (Friday AM & Saturday AM)
- Member Family Trail Ride (Available Thursday AM)
- Cattle Clinics (Not Available Friday Morning)
- Available Wednesday and Thursday for Avid Rider Teens that have passed the lope assessment.

10:00 & 10:30 AM Private Lessons (Outdoor Arena)

30-minute lessons; additional charge applies (Available Wednesday and Thursday)

10:30 AM Round Pen & Groundwork Clinic (Indoor Arena)

Available Monday, Wednesday, Saturday | Open to Avid Rider Teens on Wednesdays

11:30 AM Member Group & Private Lessons (Outdoor Arena)


Lesson options exclusively for Ranch members (Available Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday)

Tuesday–Friday Afternoons

2:00 PM Adult Mount Ups

- Advanced / Intermediate Trail Ride
- Basic Refresher / Instructional Trail Ride
- Slow Scenic Trail Ride
- Member Family Ride (available Tuesday PM, Wednesday PM, Thursday PM, Friday PM)
- Guest Family Rides (available Friday PM)

2:00 PM Riding Clinics (Outdoor Arena - Adult Only)

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- **Tuesday:** *Intro Clinic Part II (Walk/Trot)*
 - **Wednesday:** *Intro Clinic Part III (Walk/Trot- the lope may be introduced during this clinic)*
 - **Thursday:** *Intermediate Clinic Part IV (Walk/Trot/Lope)*
 - **Friday:** *Advanced Clinic Part V (Walk/Trot/Lope)*

2:30 PM Daily Grooming Clinics

Saturday Afternoon

2:30 PM Shodeo (Adult sign up required by noon)

The Shodeo is a fun and friendly competition designed to bring together everything you've learned throughout the week. Open to riders of any age, any speed, and any level, the Shodeo lets guests step into their inner cowboy or cowgirl and show off their horsemanship in a supportive, ranch-style arena environment. Events are timed, but the emphasis is always on control, proper riding, and clear communication with your horse. Riders who demonstrate poor horsemanship may receive time penalties, so accuracy, softness, balance, and partnership are the keys to success. If you can maintain excellent control and horsemanship at higher speeds—that's the ultimate goal! With patterns and activities suited for all ages, the Shodeo blends fun, skill, teamwork, and friendly competition—making it the perfect way to end your C Lazy U riding week and celebrate all the progress you've made.



Trail Ride & Clinic Overview



General Program Overview

At C Lazy U, every trail ride and clinic is designed with safety, respect for the horse, and rider development in mind. Each ride will always be paced and structured to the rider or horse with the least experience or ability to ensure a positive, enjoyable experience for everyone. We prioritize strong partnerships between riders and horses, and we aim for our horses to enjoy their riders as much as our riders enjoy them. There is **no running or racing** on any trail ride. If at any time a rider becomes off balance, begins using their hands for balance on the horse's mouth, or struggles to control their seat, the ride will slow down to protect both rider and horse. Our progressive ride structure is designed to build skills gradually, allowing riders to advance safely and confidently, while protecting our horses.

Trail Ride Descriptions/Rider Levels

(Listed in progressive order of skill development)

INSTRUCTIONAL RIDE

This ride is designed for beginner, novice, or non-riders. It is a progressive learning ride created for those interested in developing foundational riding and horsemanship skills while increasing their confidence with horses. Riders will learn general horsemanship principles, horse communication, developing feel, and building a respectful partnership with their horse. Instruction includes proper position, balance, leg and rein aids, developing a correct seat, and learning how to post and sit the trot. Depending on each rider's progression, the ride may include a short lope by the end of the week.





BASIC REFRESHER RIDE

The Basic Refresher Ride is designed for advanced beginner riders. Riders at this level have ridden regularly within the past year or have previous experience at C Lazy U. They can steer a horse using a leading rein and leg pressure and can either post or comfortably sit the trot. Advanced beginners typically have good balance, a secure seat, and are comfortable leading a horse, mounting, dismounting, and walking or trotting on level or rolling terrain. They have a genuine interest in expanding their skills. This ride is intended for riders who have trotted or loped in the past but prefer coaching to further develop their riding and horsemanship while building confidence. Each outing will show progressive improvement and cover a lot of the same terrain as the intermediate and Advanced Trail Ride.

INTERMEDIATE TRAIL RIDE

(Lope assessment required prior to joining this ride)

The intermediate ride is designed for riders who ride consistently. Riders at this level have a secure, balanced seat, can post and sit the trot, and understand how to ride with or without contact on the bit. They know the difference between a leading rein, direct rein, and indirect rein, and use their riding aids in a coordinated manner. Intermediate riders are capable of trotting for extended periods and loping on flat, even terrain. They are comfortable riding for four to six hours a day. This ride will include lopes that are shorter in duration than those on the advanced trail ride.

ADVANCED TRAIL RIDE

(Lope assessment required prior to joining this ride)

A ride suited for more experienced riders; this outing covers a lot of ground and may include extended trots and lopes when trail conditions allow. Participants typically own a horse or ride regularly and are comfortable handling a green or inexperienced mount. They are confident riding a forward horse in both open and wooded terrain and know how to apply aids with independent use of hands, seat, and legs. They are also competent in managing a buck, bolt, or spook.



SLOW SCENIC RIDE

The Slow Scenic Ride is suitable for riders of all levels who wish to enjoy a relaxed, slow-paced walk through the mountains while taking in the ranch's history, landscape, and wildlife. Riders may learn about local flora and fauna, observe native wildlife, and enjoy the peaceful surroundings. This ride offers opportunities for photos, quiet reflection, and leisurely enjoyment.

FAMILY TRAIL RIDE

The Family Ride allows family members ages six and up to ride together. This ride is always paced and structured to accommodate the rider with the least experience, ensuring a safe and enjoyable outing. Families can enjoy time together on the trail, take photos, and build horsemanship skills in a relaxed atmosphere. While Friday Morning serves as the main opportunity to ride as a family, additional openings are provided on Friday Afternoon and Saturday Morning.



Clinic Descriptions

Limited space. Advanced sign-up required.



LOPE ASSESSMENT CLINIC

Open to Intermediate and Advanced adult riders. (Lope Assessment for teen riders age 16-17 takes place Tuesday morning.) This clinic ensures that riders have the skills, balance, and control necessary for safe and enjoyable loping on the trail. Riders will demonstrate proper riding position, soft hands, an independent seat, and correct use of rein and leg aids. The assessment includes maintaining the horse on the rail, understanding and identifying correct leads, and showing the ability to both post and sit the trot. Riders must also demonstrate effective rein control and confidence riding independently. This clinic helps determine appropriate trail-ride placement and ensures the safety of both rider and horse during faster gaits. If Barn Management feels a rider would be more successful at a different level, they may be placed on Basic Refresher Trail Rides. This is done with the goal of ensuring safety, building confidence, and creating the best possible riding experience for both horse and rider.



INTRODUCTION TO RIDING CLINIC - PART I

(Walk Only)

Held in an arena setting on Monday morning, this clinic is catered to hesitant or nervous riders to help them gain the confidence to hit the trails. Guests will focus on the proper communication of basic cues to their horse such as moving forward, stopping, and turning in a calm and educational environment. Guests will be introduced to use of the leading rein and correct application of leg pressure. Proper position and balance will be emphasized. This clinic is ideal for those requiring instruction and practice to build their confidence before heading out on the trail.

INTRODUCTION TO RIDING CLINIC - PART II

(Walk/Trot)

Held in an arena setting, this clinic helps riders develop foundational horsemanship and riding skills. Guests learn proper position, rein and leg aids, balance, steering- all in a calm, progressive environment designed to build confidence. This clinic is ideal for those wanting focused instruction.

INTRODUCTION TO RIDING CLINIC – PART III

(Walk/Trot/Lope)

Part II builds on the skills introduced in the Beginner Riding Clinic, offering riders a chance to continue developing confidence, balance, and communication with their horse in an arena setting. Riders will refine their steering, posting and sitting trot, rein and leg aids, and overall body position. This session also incorporates circle work, ground poles, and exercises that improve rhythm, control, and coordination. Depending on rider readiness, the clinic will introduce the basics of the lope in a supportive and encouraging environment. This clinic is ideal for riders who want to continue progressing and prepare for more advanced instruction or trail riding.

INTERMEDIATE RIDING CLINIC – PART IV

(Walk/Trot/Lope)

Designed for riders with a secure seat who want to further advance their skills. Loping may be introduced along with ground poles, exercises for balance and rhythm, transition work, correct leads, simple changes, rollbacks, turn on the haunches, and turn on the forehand. This clinic focuses on improving communication, confidence, and precision between horse and rider.

ADVANCED RIDING CLINIC – PART V

(Walk/Trot/Lope)

This clinic focuses on refining advanced maneuvers, improving timing, and enhancing feel and communication. Riders practice advanced control, loping work, more challenging transitions, rollbacks, stopping, and precision maneuvers—all with an emphasis on soft, correct horsemanship rather than speed. A great clinic for riders preparing for the Shodeo.

CATTLE SORTING CLINIC

Available for ALL Adults (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Saturday);

Available for Teens that have passed the Lope Assessment

(Wednesday & Thursday)

Designed for all riding levels, this clinic gives guests a taste of cowboy and cowgirl life. Riders gather cattle, move them to the arena, and work as a team to sort and cut individual cattle from the herd. Maneuvers such as rollbacks and turns on the haunches may be used. This slower-paced clinic emphasizes teamwork, communication, trust between horse and rider, and developing accurate, thoughtful horsemanship.

TRAIL OBSTACLE COURSE

Inquire at the barn. As part of your scheduled trail ride, riders will travel to Shorty's Arena to practice trail obstacles such as bridges, teeter-totter, balance beam, pivot box, and ground poles. All levels are welcome. This clinic focuses on communication, control, confidence, and correct use of riding aids while navigating obstacles in a supportive environment.



ROUND PEN & GROUNDWORK CLINIC

Available for All Adults (Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday)

This is not a riding clinic. Guests will learn the foundations of horsemanship from the ground—understanding horse communication, herd dynamics, and how to move a horse's feet through intention and body language. A round-pen demonstration is included, and some guests may even have an opportunity to work inside the pen with a horse. Guests will also practice halter and lead-rope work. This clinic emphasizes leadership, non-verbal communication, emotional awareness, and how horses mirror human energy—skills that apply both in and out of the saddle and in everyday life.

GROOMING CLINIC

A relaxing, hands-on opportunity to learn how to properly groom a horse while understanding basic anatomy and horse care. Guests can unwind, connect with their horse, and enjoy quiet time in the barn while learning essential skills.

PRIVATE / SEMI-PRIVATE LESSONS

30 minutes — \$90 per person

Private and semi-private lessons offer guests the opportunity to receive focused, individualized instruction tailored to their specific goals and skill level. These fully customized 30-minute sessions allow riders to work on whatever they wish—whether it's building confidence, improving balance, refining communication, or practicing specific maneuvers. Private lessons provide one-on-one attention for the most personalized experience, while semi-private sessions allow guests to ride with a friend or family member in a supportive, shared environment. Whether you want to advance your horsemanship, develop stronger control, or simply make the most of your time in the saddle, these lessons offer a fun, effective, and rewarding way to elevate your riding during your stay at the ranch.