



The Sanctuary at Touchstone

Invites You To

Renew Your Senses With A Country Retreat

Touchstone Farm is a family-run Warmblood horse breeding and English style training operation in the quiet countryside cradled by rolling hills and circled by the gentle waters of the Paddle River.

We offer families, individuals or small groups a unique facility for a country vacation or retreat. Touchstone is a place for people to get closer to nature, make new friends and have a special experience with horses.



Located 90 minutes Northwest of Edmonton, we're within easy reach of West Edmonton Mall and only three hours from Jasper and the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains.



Chris Gould has spent 30 years building his dream of developing Canadian bred Warmblood horses for the Olympic disciplines.

Wendy Gould joined her brother in 1976 to create a retreat centre, a place of healing, learning and friendship.

Their mother Mavis retired to the farm in 1986, to create a place for family. All of these dreams are coming true.

The Goulds invite you to enjoy Touchstone year round.

Hear the quiet of winter, appreciate its soft colours, enjoy the feel of snow crunching underfoot and re-energize with winter fun-skating, cross country skiing or tobogganing. In the spring, watch the landscape turn to green, the new foals frolicking and the return of the summer birds. Summer brings hot days, flowers and campfires. Enjoy our golden fall colours as the land prepares to rest and the birds point south. Take time to sit beside the river with a book, listen to the birds and watch for moose or deer. Consider joining in some of the farming activities and enjoy a riding lesson or go for a nature walk and see the beavers' handiwork and find our special rock.



Touchstone's pace and beauty will help you relax, re-connect with the earth, get in touch with higher purposes. Here, individuals or small groups experience a complete change—from urban bustle to the simple tranquility of meanders along the river, stimulating discussions after a sumptuous home cooked meal and cozying up to a fire on a cold winters night.





COUNTRY RETREATS for small groups: Groups have full use of our living room complete with a fireplace and windows on three sides overlooking the gardens and river. The dining area serves 12 people comfortably. Accommodation is on the main floor of our converted hip roof barn attached to the house. Up to eight guests can enjoy our four specially decorated rooms. Twin or Double beds. Large shared bathroom.



EQUESTRIAN TRAINING

Touchstone offers equestrian training to both Canadian and foreign students 14 years and over who have previous riding or farm experience. Our goal is to teach participants all aspects of the equine industry. A large scale breeding and training farm with over 150 Warmblood horses, Touchstone Farm gives participants hands-on practical experience in breeding, foaling, training, grooming and riding as well as farm maintenance and management. This training is ideal for practical experience fulfilling university and college entrance requirements. Foreign students have the added bonus of improving their English language skills.



ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY AT THE FARM

Cross country skiing, nature walks, watching wildlife, northern lights, star gazing, singing lessons, reiki treatments, English riding lessons, farm activities (breeding, training, grooming, fencing etc.), bird watching, pizza and bread making in an outdoor adobe oven.



ATTRACTIONS IN THE AREA

Agricultural: Farm tours to see Elk, Buffalo, Wild Boar and Katahdin Sheep, Rodeos, Country Fairs,

Land & Forest: Pulp Mill and Lumber plant tours, Forestry Interpretive centre, Demonstration Forest, Provincial Parks, Hunting & Fishing, Botanical Gardens, Wild Boar Bow Hunting, Golden Triangle Snowmobiling, Jet Boat Racing, Sandhills cross country ski trails, Golfing at several courses within a 1-hour drive.

Cultural: Pioneer Museums, Wildlife Museum, Fort Edmonton Park, Ste Anne Pilgrimage, First Nations Pow Wows, Country Dances, Antique and Second hand stores, auctions, local artists and crafts.

VACATION PACKAGES AT TOUCHSTONE FARM

Our packages are all-inclusive, affordable and customizable. We are pleased to handle special requests. We invite you to join us for a weekend getaway, or to immerse yourself in Touchstone for a week or a month....or longer.

The Sanctuary at Touchstone

offers rest, restoration and recreation for body and soul.

Claim Sanctuary. Come to Touchstone.

We look forward to hearing from you.



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