

ANIMAL WELFARE

There are occasions on our challenges where participants will come into contact with animals. This is most likely to be working animal on the challenge. We work closely with our ground handlers to ensure that the welfare of the animals in all circumstances is in keeping with international standards.

Equine

On challenges where we use animals (e.g. horse, mules, donkeys, yaks) to carry loads we ensure that maximum weights for that animal are adhered to by our ground handlers. We ask participants to play their part by only bringing essential kit and leaving behind unnecessary extras. These working animals will not be ridden unless in the case of an emergency.

Our Mongolian Horse Ride we follow best practice by matching the rider's size to that of the animal, and there should only ever be one person per animal.

Dogs

All the dog kennels in Sweden have to adhere to the requirements as stipulated by Lanstyrelsen, the government agency responsible for agriculture and animal welfare. In accordance with this Swedish Law, all matters pertaining to the dogs welfare are regulated including, amongst other things, the size and dimensions of their living quarters (which have to be insulated), the area for them to run around when in kennels and the size of their transport boxes.

Our ground handlers are strongly committed to having a healthy, safe and happy environment for each and every one of their dogs. Their training routines ensure that the dogs are never overworked.

For further information on policies that we adhere please go to:

<https://abta.com/working-with-the-industry/animal-welfare>