

The Horse Shoe Farm

Irene Moore | *September 1st, 2019*

The Horse Shoe Farm, 155 Horse Shoe Farm Dr., Hendersonville, NC

The luxurious 85-acre Horse Shoe Farm is situated in the highlands of the Blue Ridge Mountains on the tail end of the French Broad River. The upscale riverfront estate is 10 miles from Asheville Regional Airport, and is located only minutes from downtown Hendersonville, Asheville, and Tryon, NC.

The Horse Shoe Farm has a Miami connection: John Turchin, a Miami property developer, purchased the property, originally a working farm, and transformed it into a luxury farm retreat. John is a third-generation member of Miami's Turchin family, noted for many Miami and North Carolina construction and development projects. John's son, Jordan, a fourth-generation developer, is the Principal Manager of the farm, and his role is the primary steward of the property overseeing day-to-day operations.

This private estate features a selection of eight individual homes, with nightly accommodations of up to 50 guests in the various homes. The farm is the canvas and Jordan works with groups and families to design the perfect experience for their needs, whether for a relaxing vacation, a family gathering, or a destination wedding. It's the perfect place for wellness retreats, featuring farm-to-table dining prepared with locally grown produce. It's also an ideal location for yoga retreats and spa weekends.

The farm has free-range chickens, friendly goats, and stunning vistas with a barn, ponds, a covered bridge, grazing horses and white-rail fences. The Stable Spa offers a unique spa experience – it's located in an authentic, renovated horse barn, where the now pristine stables are spa treatment rooms named after the horse that was once stabled there. There's nothing like a relaxing massage with mountain breezes wafting through the room to nourish and heal the mind, body and spirit. A catered lunch is

offered after the spa experience, and there are nearby grounds for walking, meditation and exploration.

The Asheville Airport has direct flights from many major U.S. cities. South Floridians may book direct flights for as little as \$50 one-way on weekdays on Allegiant Airlines from the Fort Lauderdale airport. For a \$100 round-trip ticket and an hour-and-twenty minute flight, we were relaxing in the serene hillside Meadow Cottage, a three-bedroom, two-bath cottage featuring rustic décor and original artwork. The cottage had everything needed for a quiet farm-stay retreat – from a large front porch with rocking chairs, to a back deck for whiling away a sunny afternoon with picturesque views of horses grazing in the adjacent pasture.

We meandered down around sunset to the Cook House where everyone staying at the farm meets for dinner. The nightly sunsets at the Cook House are a major event, accompanied by bonfires. As the sun sank slowly behind the Blue Ridge Mountains, we sat contentedly in Appalachian chairs by a crackling fire, with the only sounds the baa-ing of goats and the contented clucking of chickens. One was named “Soup,” Hmm. A portent of things to come, perhaps?

Amenities included a juice bar in the morning, and delicious home-cooked evening meals enjoyed together at a long, communal table on the Cook House porch with a view overlooking the mountains. Nightly buffet offerings varied from smoked brisket and ribs from the kitchen’s smoker, burgers from the outdoor grill, seafood stews, corn on the cob, and huge salads made with local produce that would make a vegan happy. Dinners are paired with delicious wines from local wineries, such as St. Paul Mountain Vineyards and Burntshirt Vineyards, where wines are crafted with 100% local estate-grown fruit.

I never had a better night’s sleep than I did in the king-sized bed outfitted with fine linens and plush hotel-size pillows, accompanied by the comforting nightly symphony of cicadas. There’s nothing quite like a country weekend to help you rest and restore your spirit.