ABTA ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDELINES









SPECIFIC GUIDANCE MANUAL

Working Animals

Welcome to the online version of this Best Practice Handbook. Use the interactive navigation to guide your way through the manual.

Introduction

Animal attractions and experiences are now a common part of holiday destinations and are generally very popular with holiday makers. Customer surveys have shown many of the travelling public aspire to see or interact with animals. Yet research and experience also demonstrate that customers want to be assured of good animal welfare standards (YouGov 2012).

This guidance manual outlines the minimum requirements that travel providers working with these manuals expect to see in place from working animal attractions. Additionally, it provides best practice recommendations that working animal attractions should strive to achieve.

As the number of enterprises has grown, so too has our understanding of the animals featured and the potential impacts of human/animal interaction. Strong relationships exist between travel providers and suppliers; it is important that all stakeholders work collectively to enable enterprises to offer meaningful, rewarding experiences to customers whilst at the same time, safeguarding the welfare of the animals and public health and safety. This approach can achieve longer-term business success, raise welfare standards across the industry and strengthen the partnerships that exist between travel providers and animal related attractions.

This document is one of a series and should be read in conjunction with the *Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism*.

Authorship

This manual and the supporting six guidance manuals have been developed by ABTA working in partnership with our consultative partner, the Born Free Foundation and have been further developed through a multi-stakeholder consultation process involving industry experts, scientists, zoologist organisations, associations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) from around the world. A list of stakeholders is included in Appendix 4. It is important to point out that the content of these manuals does not necessarily reflect the exact views of the listed individuals or organisations. All stakeholders have, however, seen merit in these guidance manuals and provided invaluable input during the consultation. ABTA extends its appreciation to all the stakeholders for their contributions.

Licensing and certification

Animal attractions should be operating legally and in accordance with their country's own legal requirements. If appropriate to the country of operation, the animal attraction should have a valid operating licence issued by a recognised certification agency or relevant local authority.

Intended use of this guidance

This guidance manual is one of a series of seven manuals intended to be a practical guide for the suppliers of animal experiences and attractions offered within the tourism industry. All seven guidance manuals aim to encourage good practice in animal protection and welfare by providing businesses with knowledge and guidance.

The manuals include a benchmark for best practice in animal welfare for the tourism and animal attractions industries globally. They consolidate an abundance of existing guidance and they establish minimum requirements that are supported by tour operators. As such, they are intended for tour operators to issue to their suppliers, for tourist boards in destinations, for destination governments and ultimately and most importantly, for animal attraction and experience suppliers.

All seven manuals are by no means intended to be the definitive source of information about managing animal welfare considerations in animal attractions. We recognise that there is a great deal of variation in available standards around the world and that for many businesses the manuals will contain commonly known information, but for others they will likely serve as a useful reference regarding best practice for animal welfare. In all instances of uncertainty, we encourage suppliers to seek further advice from a suitably qualified individual or organisation.

Guidance manual overview

There are seven manuals within the series:

Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism

The Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism provides an introduction to animal welfare and an overview of best practice that is applicable to all businesses and attractions within the tourism industry involving animals. It covers:

- An insight into the different ways in which animals and tourism are linked
- Minimum welfare requirements for animal attractions
- Reference to specific welfare needs of commonly managed species.

It sets out guidance around animal husbandry and care designed to improve animal welfare and to phase out inappropriate practices known to have negative impacts on animals.



Specific guidance manuals

In addition, five specific guidance manuals cover a variety of activities commonly encountered through tourism. These manuals are intended to guide suppliers to achieve the minimum requirements for each of the specific activity types, besides encouraging progress towards the best practice outlined.

Specific guidance is available for:

- Animals in Captive Environments
- Dolphins in Captive Environments
- Elephants in Captive Environments
- Wildlife Viewing
- · Working Animals.

This specific guide is for *Working Animals* in tourism and covers minimum requirements expected by tour operators working with this manual. It also provides best practice guidance that suppliers of working animal attractions are encouraged to achieve.

Unacceptable and Discouraged Practices

The final manual in the series relates to practices involving animals which have been classified as either unacceptable or discouraged by the tour operators working with these guidance manuals.

Unacceptable practices

Certain activities are widely recognised as having a detrimental impact on animal welfare, and in some cases, may present a high risk to visitor and staff safety. These activities have therefore been classified as 'unacceptable'. Travel providers working with these guidance manuals have agreed that these activities should not be offered for sale to customers.

Discouraged practices

Some activities involving animals and people may pose health and safety risks. Suppliers of activities involving animals and people should consider and effectively manage both the welfare of the animals and the health and safety of visitors and staff. Travel providers working with these guidance manuals will only consider promoting animal based activities which are classified as discouraged practices where they are satisfied that the risks to animal welfare and the health and safety of customers are managed appropriately.

Certain activities involving animals and customers have been publicly criticised as detrimental to animal welfare. Though there is currently a lack of conclusive evidence, there is a risk that such activities are detrimental to welfare. We have therefore classified these activities as 'discouraged'.

All discouraged practices are explained fully in the specific manual, *Unacceptable and Discouraged Practices*.

Minimum requirements and best practice guidelines

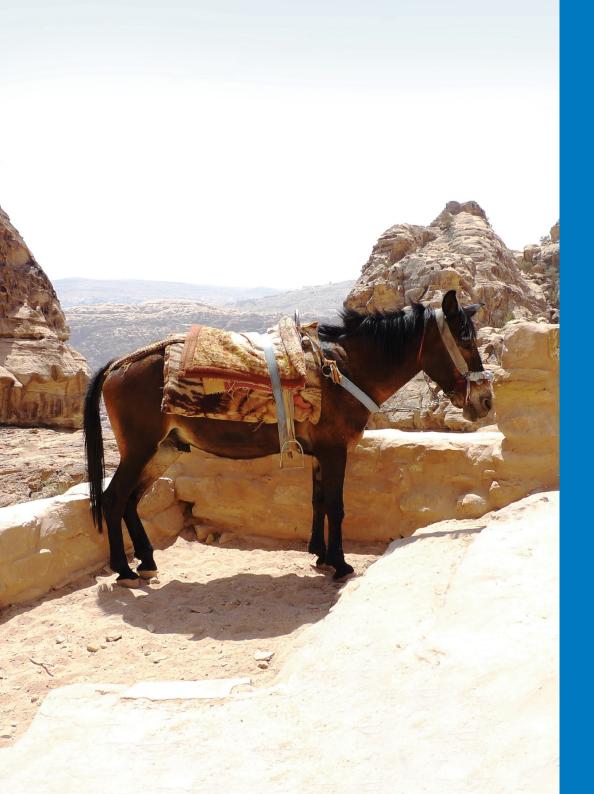
This and the other six guidance manuals contain a set of minimum requirements intended to be the benchmark for the minimum acceptable level of animal welfare in tourism activities. As a supplier reading these manuals, you are strongly advised to ensure that you can easily demonstrate that your business complies with the minimum requirements. Tour operators working with these manuals have committed to these minimum requirements and will be developing procedures to check that suppliers comply and are continually striving for performance improvements. These manuals contain examples of realistic and achievable best practice guidelines for animal welfare in tourism-related attractions and activities.

KEY POINTS

- Unacceptable practices are known to have a detrimental effect on animal welfare.
- Discouraged practices may pose a risk to tourist health and safety and/or a possible risk to animal welfare.
- Animal attractions should comply with the minimum requirements for animal welfare.
- We encourage animal attractions to aim for best practice in animal welfare.
- All seven manuals are compatible with audited industry standards.

Audits and inspections

We recognise that many animal attraction suppliers are members of trade bodies and associations that already have membership requirements relating to animal welfare best practice and that many inspect their members to ensure these requirements are met. The Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism upholds internationally-accepted standards in animal welfare and legislation and is therefore compatible with existing industry standards. Audited suppliers should be able to demonstrate compliance with these minimum requirements.



SECTION ONE: What is animal welfare?

SECTION TWO: Working animals in tourism

SECTION THREE: Animal welfare, public health and safety and livelihoods

SECTION FOUR: Minimum requirements for working animals

SECTION FIVE: Managing the impacts on focal species

APPENDICES

What is animal welfare?

Animal welfare refers to the state of an animal. An animal is in a reasonable state of welfare if it is healthy, comfortable, well-nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and distress. Other terms such as animal care, husbandry or humane treatment refer to how an animal is looked after. Reasonable animal welfare requires disease prevention and veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter, management, nutrition, humane handling and humane slaughter/euthanasia. Animals in a captive environment rely on the care and ability of humans to provide them with what they need to maintain their welfare.

Appropriate animal care

In order to encourage best practice in animal welfare in the tourism supply chain, the *Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism* and the six supporting guidance manuals build upon the principles of the Five Freedoms (developed by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC 1979)) and the Welfare Quality® criteria. See Appendix 1: sources of further information.

The Welfare Quality® criteria were originally developed for farmed domestic animals. An additional three criteria have been included to address animals in tourism. These additional criteria appear in bold in Table 1.

KEY POINTS

- You are responsible for an animal if you supply, own or are in charge of it.
- Five Freedoms form the basis of good animal welfare.
- Welfare Quality® criteria define the details of good animal welfare.

Table 1: The Five Freedoms and how they relate to the Welfare Quality® criteria (including the additional criteria)

Five Freedoms	Welfare quality® criteria
Good feeding	 Absence of prolonged hunger. Absence of prolonged thirst.
Good housing	 Comfort while resting. Thermal comfort. Ease of movement.
Good health	6. Absence of injuries.7. Absence of disease.8. Absence of pain induced by inappropriate management procedures.
Appropriate behaviour	 Expression of social behaviours. Expression of natural behaviours. Good human-animal relationship. Positive emotional state.
Protection from fear and distress	 13. Absence of general fear/distress/apathy. 14. Ability to seek privacy/refuge. 15. Absence of surgical or physical modification of the skin, tissues, teeth or bone structure other than for the purposes of genuine medical treatment/manipulation/sedation.

Suppliers, animal owners and keepers have a responsibility to the animals for which they are responsible on a permanent or temporary basis. This includes the provision of their health and welfare needs (described in Table 1). A person could, therefore, be responsible for an animal if they supply, own, or are in charge of it.

Application of and adherence to the Welfare Quality® criteria will go some way to safeguarding the welfare of the animal and to providing a state of wellbeing and dignity. Application of the Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism and the six supporting manuals will seek to uphold these criteria, protect animals in tourism attractions or affected by tourism experiences, and help to prevent animal suffering.

Working animals in tourism

Working animals form the backbone of many societies. The life of a family or a community in many countries depends on the work performed by donkeys, horses, buffalos, elephants, camels, sled dogs etc. The health and welfare of these working animals is directly linked to the life and health of humans who depend on them for their livelihoods. Maintaining healthy working animals will therefore assist animal welfare and enable people's livelihoods.

The range of tourism activities involving working animals

In tourism, working animals are not only used in the transportation of goods. Increasingly, working animals have become part of the tourism experience. Many adventure-style holidays involve horse riding, while excursions in a variety of destinations can include riding camels, elephants and donkeys. Various animals are used to pull carts, carriages and sleighs, and animals are used in traditional contexts (e.g. rodeos), which have been modified for the tourist experience.

Discouraged and unacceptable practices involving working animals

Certain activities are widely recognised as having a detrimental impact on animal welfare, and in some cases, they present a high risk to visitor safety and animal welfare. These activities have therefore been classified as unacceptable by travel providers working with these documents.

This policy is based upon available scientific evidence and where applicable, legislation. These activities are listed below:

- Use of animals as photographic props involving bad practice
- Surgery or physical modification of the skin, tissues, teeth or bone structure of an animal or its sedation to make it safe for handling, other than for the purpose of genuine medical treatment
- · Animals used for begging
- Dancing bears
- Bullfighting and bull running
- Elephant polo

See the specific manual, *Unacceptable and Discouraged Practices* for further guidance.



Animal welfare, public health and safety and livelihoods

Potential impacts on animal welfare

In captivity, an animal relies on the provision of living conditions that meet its needs. The Five Freedoms and the Welfare Quality® criteria go some way towards safeguarding animal welfare. But each animal also has species-specific needs, for example varying amounts of exercise, interaction in a social group, opportunities to express natural behaviour and seek protection from fear and distress. Failure to meet these provisions can compromise welfare, and even survival. Keeping animals for prolonged periods in impoverished, cramped, unnatural and unsuitable captive conditions can lead to physical and mental deterioration, which could result in abnormal behaviour, disease and early mortality.

Welfare problems that may affect working animals include: malnourishment; dehydration; poor living conditions; inability to seek refuge from adverse weather conditions; lack of veterinary/animal health care; problems caused by poorly designed or ill-fitting harnesses, saddles and yokes; overloading or pulling un-roadworthy vehicles; lameness or injury; being tethered or hobbled using inappropriate materials or methods; being denied social and behavioural needs; working long hours with little rest; cruel training methods; inhumane handling.

Potential impacts on public health and safety

Animals used to transport people whether individually or by cart/carriage may pose health and safety risks. Suppliers of activities involving animals and people should consider and effectively manage both the welfare of the animals and the health and safety of customers and staff. Customers should be informed of the rules of engagement, and the emergency procedures to follow in the event of an incident.

Protecting livelihoods

Many working animals used in tourism provide the sole income for their owner/user and their families; the health and welfare of the animal is integral to the life and survival of the people. Animal welfare organisations, working to prevent the suffering of working animals in communities across the world, provide medical treatment to animals, besides training and educational programmes to local communities that empower them to provide appropriate management and care of their animals. This is the preferred approach of the travel industry; we aim to secure sustainable livelihoods by ensuring knowledgeable suppliers and healthy working animals.



Minimum requirements for working animals

It is expected that all tourism businesses that keep, own or manage animals, or provide experiences involving animals (including visiting animal attractions such as hotel entertainment programmes), ensure that they meet the minimum requirements in the husbandry and care of animals. Travel providers working with these guidelines will be developing processes to assess suppliers against the minimum requirements listed below.

The minimum requirements are subdivided into three sets, the following two of which are applicable to working animal attractions:

- A. For all situations where animals are managed by and/or are dependent on human beings.
- B. Specifically for businesses with working animals.

A. Minimum requirements for animals managed and/or dependent upon human beings

- All animals have regular, daily access to adequate and clean drinking water in line with their species specific needs.
- All animals are fed appropriate food (which includes necessary supplements for animals in captivity), via an appropriate feeding routine, which mentally stimulates the animal(s) and encourages natural behaviour (e.g. foraging, browsing, grazing etc.).

- In captivity, enclosures (including pools)
 or methods used to contain the animals for
 temporary periods allow all the animals to
 move and exercise freely, and to maintain
 sufficient distance from other animals in
 case of conflict.
- 4. In captivity, enclosures are environmentally complex, including natural substrate, furniture, shelter and environmental enrichment, in order to encourage normal/natural behaviour. All animals should be able to seek shelter from extreme weather conditions and privacy from view.
- In captivity, enclosures are clean, hygienic and well maintained, (e.g. devoid of excessive faeces, urine or rotting food, potentially harmful litter, not waterlogged, not infested with vermin etc.).
- The facility employs a vet who is knowledgeable and experienced in the health and welfare of the relevant animals (either employed on site or externally contracted).

- 7. There is a policy not to surgically modify the skin, tissues, teeth or bone structure of animals, and not to sedate animals to make them safe to handle, unless it is for the purpose of genuine medical treatment under the guidance of an appropriately trained yet.
- 8. Where customers are permitted to be photographed with animals, this should be free from evidence of bad practice. For more info see the guidance manual, *Unacceptable and Discouraged Practices*.
- Complete, accurate animal stocklists, veterinary records and any appropriate licences or permits should be up-to-date and available for inspection. The required paperwork should be in place for any animals which have been acquired from the wild
- 10. Where animals are involved in performances these should only involve natural behaviours and be free from bad practice. Training methods should be based on positive reinforcement only.

B. Additional minimum requirements for businesses with working animals

 Tethering and hobbling should be discouraged and where unavoidable should only be conducted using appropriate materials and methods that do not cause risk to the animal's welfare. Tethering should be for a limited time of no more than a few hours per day. The animals should be able to walk, lie down and stand up without putting tension on the tether, and reach basic resources like food, water and shade. Tethered animals should be regularly monitored.

KEY POINTS

- Businesses supplying working animals should meet these minimum requirements.
- Young, pregnant, nursing, injured, ill, distressed or elderly animals should not be ridden, or carry/ pull loads.
- Working animals should not be worked or trained beyond their physical abilities, or with force.
- Equipment should fit well.
- Young, pregnant, nursing, injured, ill,
 distressed or elderly animals should not be
 ridden, or be required to carry/pull loads.
 Equids (hoofed mammals) should not be
 worked before they are three years old;
 camels should not be ridden before four
 years. Weaning should not be conducted for
 horses, donkey and mules before six months;
 preferably it should be allowed to occur
 naturally. Weaning for camels should not be
 conducted before four months; preferably, it
 should be allowed to occur naturally.
- Equipment should fit, not causing injury, and should be cleaned and dried after use.
 Equipment should be removed during rest periods and ideally when eating/drinking.
- 4. Animals should train and work within their physical capabilities. Loads should be equivalent to the animal's size and ability (e.g. not more than one person on an equine or camel), work should not be in the hottest part of the day and animals should have regular rest periods each day of at least an hour between working periods.

Managing the impacts on focal species

This chapter documents some of the working animals commonly encountered in tourism destinations, and linked to the tourism industry. It provides an overview of the species, its welfare needs and best practice guidance.

For working elephants, see the specific guidance manual, *Elephants in Captive Environments*. General husbandry guidelines are also covered in the guidance manual, *Animals in Captive Environments*.

Equine

This includes horses, donkeys and ponies, which are related but distinct mammalian species, as well as mules, which are the hybrid (mating of a male donkey and female horse).

Working equine generally pull or carry loads or people.

Equine welfare impacts are generally influenced by a combination of factors related to:

- Environments in which the animal lives and works/travels
- · Human attitudes and practices
- · Resources available.

Managing potential impacts on welfare

The table opposite provides an overview of the needs of working equine and best practices which, when implemented, will go some way to safeguarding their welfare. The table is based upon the Five Freedoms (see Section 1). Please note it is not exhaustive and many other elements will be vital to equine welfare.



Shire horses with a passenger carriage attached.

Table 2: overview of equine welfare needs and best practice for equine husbandry and care

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
1. Good feeding	 Providing water only once a day and not providing enough time to drink. Providing dusty, mouldy or manure-contaminated feed. Sudden changes to feed, or too much grain. Working the equine immediately after feeding. Feeding or grazing garbage. 	 Offer water continuously during rest, and multiple times/throughout the day. Always offered before feeding. Use clean water buckets and water; monitor both regularly. Feed small amounts often; mostly fibrous foods, concentrates and fats/oils suitable for equine. Allowed to eat undisturbed and when at rest. For dehydrated animals, provide 4.5g NaCl (table salt) and 4.5g (lite salt) per litre of water. Remove any sharp objects by sorting through feed. Clean and soak feed in water where necessary. Feed from a clean ground.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
2. Good housing	 Protruding wires or sharp edges, which can cut or injure animals upon contact. No shelter or refuge. 	 Clean, free from hazards and a well-ventilated resting place. Offers protection from weather extremes (hot, cold, wind, rain).
	 No space to turn around or lay down. Tight tethers or chains around the legs, or short ropes around the neck. Confinement without food (forage) or water. Animals standing in faeces and urine, or bedding soaked in urine or faeces. Restrained animals unable to move to escape threatening or fearful situations 	Animal can move its legs, body and neck. Tethering and hobbling is discouraged. If tethered, this should be for short periods and the animal should be able to walk, lie down and stand up without putting tension on the tether, and reach basic resources, like feed and water. Tethered animals should be regularly monitored. Dry areas and space to stand and lie down; porous, drainable and non-slippery flooring;
	(other animals, cold weather). • Animals performing abnormal behaviour such as stall weaving, crib biting, self-mutilation and pacing (e.g. walking in circles while tethered).	 Clean, comfortable bedding. The ability and a plan to move animals in case of emergencies (e.g. fire). Opportunities to interact or see other, familiar equids.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
3. Good health	 Animals being worked too young in relation to bone strength and joint development. Animals made to work while experiencing pain, fear and distress from conditions such as wounds, lameness and heat stress. Working equipment puncturing, injuring, chaffing animals; dirty equipment contributing to infections. Lack of available, affordable and accessible animal health care. Not vaccinating against preventable diseases. Unhygienic conditions. 	 Animals under three years are not working. Animals suffering from illness or injury are resting, not working. Access to shade and other means to minimise the effects of heat stress. Sufficient rest periods between working periods. Hooves should be trimmed and shod by an experienced person (if necessary/ needed; not all equine need shoes). Well-fitting equipment is cleaned daily and maintained. Owners are aware of where they can get veterinary support. Regular routine veterinary checks. Should include checks of general body condition and hoof care. Owners practise preventative care e.g. grooming, wiping eyes, fly control. Animals have been vaccinated and owners keep a record of vaccinations. Waste matter and old food is removed from the enclosure. It is cleaned daily, adding fresh soil/sand as needed.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
4. Appropriate behaviour	 Using animals showing a high level of fear, distress, aggression, excitability or signs of infectious diseases. Using animals that appear depressed, apathetic or in pain. Kicking, yelling, hitting or whipping to make animals move, or as a punishment. Prohibiting comfort or maintenance behaviours. Using animals in late pregnancy or with a foal at foot; separating mare and foal. 	 Using animals that are alert, agreeable to being handled or ridden. Animals accept the weight of a rider/load and are able to start, stop and move easily. Calm handling. Animals are given opportunities to express comfort behaviours: mutual grooming, rolling, scratching, play, vocalising. Year-round, daily access to the outdoors; given the opportunity to exercise off-tether and to socially interact with other animals. Mare and foal should be kept together until the foal is naturally weaned (at approximately one year old).

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
	Zhampioo oi Dao phaodice	2000 practice
5. Protection from fear and distress	 Overweight or very tall tourists riding small animals. Horses, donkeys or mules pulling overloaded carriages. People assuming that animals are trained or accustomed to hard work and habituated to a harsh life; therefore working the animal too hard. Poor driving styles and animal handling practices including: jerking reins, harsh stops and changes of direction; operating at high speeds; whipping and racing. Equines having to compete with vehicles for road access in busy urban areas. 	One person riding at a time, matching size to that of the animal and balanced weight when riding. The number of people in a carriage should not exceed the number of wheels; evenly distribute baggage weight using appropriate equipment. Operators do not select animals whose owners are seen beating, driving, overloading inappropriately. Calm handling. Reduce danger to traffic and choose safe routes and the best quality roads. Walk the animal slowly and patiently over difficult terrain such as stones, hard and dusty surfaces, steep hills and winding steps.

Indicators of poor welfare

MANAGING THE IMPACTS ON FOCAL SPECIES

Table 3: overview of common indicators of poor animal welfare in equine, and their possible causes

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes (not an exhaustive list)
Body lesions where equipment is in direct contact (e.g. back, spine, neck, shoulders, breast, base of tail)	 Open wounds, sores, abrasions or bald patches. Scars from old wounds. Notable discomfort. Lameness. 	Ill-fitting (too big or small) dirty (e.g. sweat) or unsafe equipment (e.g. inappropriate material for the task); tight tethers or hobbling. Equipment that punctures, chafes or rubs the skin. Beating, whipping. Accidents. Not giving existing lesions time to heal.
Knee lesions from falling	 Animal seen stretching, straining, stumbling or staggering during movement. Open wounds, sores or abrasions around the knee. Lameness. Frequently shifting weight. Pointing or resting a foreleg. 	 Overworking (long hours). Overloading (with people or goods). Poor driving (e.g. harsh stops and changes of direction; jerking on reins). Movement over challenging terrain (stones, hard or dusty surfaces, steep hills and winding steps). Hoof problems.
Lip lesions and mouth wounds	Open wounds and sores on the lips, in the mouth.Notable discomfort.	 Poor driving (e.g. harsh stops and changes of direction; jerking on reins; whipping). Ill-fitting, dirty or unsafe equipment.

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes (not an exhaustive list)
Lameness	 Limping. Swelling. Frequently shifting weight. Pointing or resting a foreleg. Knee lesions from falling. 	 Overworking (long hours). Overloading carriages/pack saddles (with people or goods). There should only be one person riding one animal; no more people in a carriage than there are numbers of wheels. Movement over challenging terrain (stones, hard or dusty surfaces, steep hills). Poor driving. Animals working too young (before three years). Hoof problems, overgrown or cracked hooves. Injury/accidents.
Hoof abnormalities e.g. overgrown hooves; over-trimmed hooves; cracked or misshapen hooves; hoof deterioration; elongated hooves that may curve up at the toe	 Limping, stumbling or staggering during movement. Reluctance to place foot on the ground. Frequently shifting weight. 	 Animals working too young. Poor or no farriery (trimming and shoeing). Not removing stones or other debris from hooves. Nutrition.
Loss of body condition/weight	 Animal has prominent hip bones, backbones, base of the neck (withers), pelvis or ribs. Gums and inside nostrils are not a healthy pink. Lethargic; reluctance to move. 	 Chronic pain. Poor diet. Diet provided does not meet energy requirements for work. Poor teeth condition, mouth ulcers. Parasites (internal and external).

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes (not an exhaustive list)
Spinal problems	 Reluctance to move. Noticeable discomfort on loading or riding. Weakness. 	 Overweight or very tall tourists riding small animals. Overloading carriages. Ill-fitting equipment. Poor driving behaviour. Lameness; accidents.
Eye abnormalities	 Animals with painful eye conditions may have closed or watering eyes, may be unable to see clearly and may be fearful in new situations. 	Working in dusty environments.Beating, whipping.Injuries, disease.
Depressed or apathetic behaviour	Head is lowered or level with the animal's back (when not eating); animals with eyes half-closed that show no active interest in either their surroundings or other animals. Refusal to stand up.	 Amalgamation of physical and mental problems. Pain, fear, distress, exhaustion. Poor handling practices (beating, driving). Inability to rest/recover (linked with poor shelter). Illness, disease.
Heat stress and dehydration	Increased respiration rate, reduced grazing activity and increased water consumption. In extreme cases, the animals will progress to open-mouth panting, with tongue extended. Without relief, core body temperature increases (hyperthermia), the animal becomes recumbent, and may die.	 Working in extreme climates. Overworking/lack of rest. Lack of water, rest and shade provision. Lack of responding to behavioural signs of suffering.
Disease (e.g. tetanus, parasites)	 Poor body condition. Coloured discharge from eyes and/or nostrils. Head is lowered or level with animal's back (when not eating); animals with eyes half closed that show no active interest in either their surroundings or other animals. 	 Lack of first aid and preventative care by the owner (e.g. equipment badly maintained, lack of regular bathing and grooming). Lack of available, affordable, accessible, quality veterinary care. Not vaccinating against preventable diseases.

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes (not an exhaustive list)
Injuries	 Open wounds, abrasions, broken limbs. Scars from old wounds. Frequently shifting weight. Noticeable discomfort. Reluctance to move. Animal seen stretching, straining, stumbling or staggering during movement; exerting considerable effort – an indication of a potential or existing welfare problem. 	 Traffic accidents. Carriages crashing into the back legs from quick stops. Forcing animals to race or go very fast. Overweight or very tall tourists riding small animals. Overloading carriages. Ill-fitting equipment. Poor driving behaviour (whipping and racing).
Emotional/behaviour indicators	Performing stereotypies: repetitive behaviour without obvious function e.g. stall-weaving, pacing and crib-biting.	 Impoverished enclosure without appropriate furnishings and opportunities to express natural behaviour.

Further guidance from The Brooke

The Brooke is an international equine charity dedicated to improving the lives of working horses, donkeys and mules in some of the world's poorest countries. It has produced two very useful pieces of information: the body condition score, about identifying signs of poor welfare relating to body condition in working animals; a Happy Horses Holiday Code designed to promote best practice for horses, donkeys and mules used in tourism activities (see over page).



Horse in a badly malnourished state.

Communicating responsible equine use to tourists

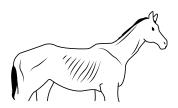
The Brooke's Happy Horses Holiday Code is a useful tool, which is being actively promoted to customers around the world. It helps tourists to identify where equine welfare may be a point of concern, and assists them in encouraging best practice for tourism activities involving horses. Though the code is primarily a customerfacing guide, its principles are of great use to businesses that use working horses.



Horse with overgrown hooves.

The Brooke's body condition score

Using this system, animals with a score of 1, 2 or 5 should be considered unfit for weight-bearing activities.



Score 1: Very thin

- Neck concave
- · Point of shoulder prominent
- · Spine Prominent
- Ribs Prominent
- · Pelvis hollow: hooks and pins prominent
- Tailhead prominent

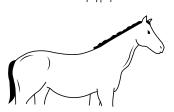


Score 2: Thin

- · Neck concave or straight
- · Point of shoulder visible
- Spine visible
- · Ribs Visible
- · Pelvis flat, hooks and pins visible
- · Tailhead visible

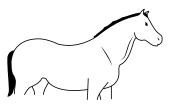


- Neck straight
- · Point of shoulder not clearly visible, joins the body smoothly
- Spine slightly visible at withers, smooth elsewhere



Score 4: Fat

- · Neck slightly convex
- · Some fat accumulation behind shoulder
- Slight gutter along spine
- Some fat accumulation over ribs
- Pelvis well rounded or slightly heart-shaped
- Some fat accumulation over tailhead



Score 5: Very fat

- · Fat accumulation behind should clearly visible
- · Fat accumulation on either side of spine distinct gutter.
- Fat accumulation clearly visible over ribs
- · Fat accumulation clearly visible over tailhead

The Brooke's Happy Horses Holiday Code

Match sizes - donkeys and horses in developing countries are not always as strong as you might think, so always match your size to that of the animal and ensure that your weight is evenly balanced when riding.

Pay a fair price for the ride - encouraging owners to undercut each other only devalues the work of the horse or donkey - and means both owner and animal must work even harder to earn a living wage.

One person per animal no horse or donkey should carry more than one rider. The animal must accept your weight without discomfort and be able to start, stop and move easily. If it stumbles, staggers or appears to be struggling in any way, please get off.

One wheel per person when riding in a carriage - two people in a two-wheeled cart and so on. Carriages should be driven at a walking pace only or it can run into the animal when it stops.

Take a closer look - it is important to look past the decoration or carriage and choose an animal that is fit and healthy - with a good covering of flesh, rather than prominent hip bones,

backbones or pelvis.







Avoid using animals with sores and wounds - check places where equipment could rub such as the mouth, shoulders, spine and belly. Wounds might be hidden under a saddle or harness, so if you are concerned, ask to check.

Read the comfort signs - a healthy animal will have a high head position, with eyes open and ears forward. It will also stand evenly, so look at all four legs for signs of pain or injury and check for cracked or misshapen hooves.

Speak out - if you see an owner mistreating his animal, by riding it hard or whipping it. we urge you not to use their services and explain why.

Offer praise - if an animal seems well looked after, please praise the owner and tell him why you have chosen to give him your trade.

Report mistreatment - if you see an animal being severely mistreated, consider making a formal complaint to your tour operator, tourist police or the local authorities.





- Neck distinctly convex
- Pelvis distinctly rounded (clearly heart-shaped)



Camels are used in tourism to transport both goods and people.

Camelids

Camelids are mostly used in tourism to transport goods; the dromedary camel, in particular, is used to transport people. Other activities include camel racing and camel dancing. Most camels today are either domesticated or feral (returning to living in the wild from domestication).

Introduction

Camelids are found in South America (Ilama, alpaca, guanaco and vicuña), across North Africa and the Middle East (dromedary camel; one hump camel), Northern India, Central Asia (Bactrian camel; two humped camel). Camel fairs in the Middle East and Northern India are still commonplace and they have become popular tourist attractions.

As with all working animals, a poor diet, unsuitable living conditions, a lack of regular veterinary care and over-work can severely harm camelid welfare. Owners and suppliers should have the knowledge and competence to maintain the health and welfare of their animals according to best practice. Should

a camelid in their care become ill or injured, the animal should receive treatment to alleviate pain or distress; euthanasia is a last resort only if, in the opinion of a vet, an animal is suffering from an incurable disease, or severe pain or suffering which cannot be alleviated.

Animals, whether wild or domestic, can be unpredictable and potentially dangerous. Even in a controlled, captive environment or after generations of captive breeding, an animal retains its innate behaviour and instinct. Suppliers of activities involving animals and people should take all reasonable steps to safeguard the health and safety of visitors and staff, as well as the animals themselves.

Customers should be informed of the potential risks and the rules of engagement, for example washing their hands before and after permitted animal contact to prevent disease transmission. Contact should only occur under constant supervision.

Of the camelids, camels (Camelus) are categorised as Greatest Risk according to the Hazardous Animal Category in the UK Secretary of State's Standards on Modern Zoo Practice, Defra 2004. (See Appendix 1: animal husbandry information tables, *Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism.*)

Managing potential impacts on welfare

Table 4 opposite provides an overview of the needs of camelids and best practices, which will go some way to safeguarding their welfare. The table is based upon the Five Freedoms (see Section 1). Please note it is not exhaustive and many other elements will be vital to camelid welfare.

Table 4: overview of camelid welfare needs and best practice in camelid husbandry and care

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
1. Good feeding	 Providing water only once a day and not giving camelids time to drink. Providing dusty, mouldy or manure-contaminated feed. Feeding or grazing garbage. Sudden changes to feed, or too much grain. Working animal immediately after feeding. Not providing food after working. 	 Daily access to sufficiently clean water, particularly after working and during rest, and always before feeding (average camel requires 30 to 40L/day). Use clean water buckets and food receptacles. Ensure food is free from harmful objects, such as string, plastic etc. A balanced diet with relevant nourishing and high-energy foods. Free-roaming camels browse trees and selected plants. Captive camels should be fed large quantities of fibrous foods including hay (e.g. 1/3 bale of hay per day) and freshly cut browse, which should include suitable pelleted food. Soft salt blocks should be available (with small levels of urea). Vitamin and mineral supplements should be provided to young animals.

Examples of bad practice Five Freedoms Best practice 2. Good housing • No space to turn around or lay down. • Enclosure should be as large and varied as possible to permit and encourage all Animals kept alone and no opportunity individuals to exercise, providing 24-hour, to interact with other camelids, offspring year-round access to the outdoors, and bonded individuals. shelter and privacy; social interaction with other animals. · Animals performing stereotypical behaviour such as stall weaving and crib-biting. · Tethering and hobbling is discouraged. If tethered, the animals should be able · Tight tethers or chains around the legs, to walk, lie down and stand up without or short ropes around the neck. putting tension on the tether, and reach · Restrained animals unable to move basic resources, like feed and water. to escape threatening or fearful situations (Once a camel starts to sit down it (other animals, cold weather). should sit all the way down before it can re-stand. Camels should therefore always · Animals are saddled the whole day. be tied low to the ground or provided with sufficient rope length to enable · Protruding wires or sharp edges, which can them to sit down. Tethered animals cut or injure animals upon contact. should be regularly monitored). · No shelter from weather conditions. • Secure yards are preferred, which can · Animals standing in faeces and urine, accommodate a number of animals or bedding soaked in urine or faeces. comfortably, at the same time. Saddles and seating structures should be removed during rest periods. Clean, free from hazards and a well-ventilated resting place. Offers protection from weather extremes (hot, cold, wind, rain) and continual access to shade. • Dry areas and space to stand and lie down; clean, comfortable bedding. Porous, drainable and non-slippery flooring e.g. compacted sand.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
3. Good health	 Animals being worked too young in relation to bone strength and joint development. Use of animals in late pregnancy or with a calf at foot; separating mother from calf. Animals worked while experiencing pain, fear and distress from conditions such as wounds, lameness and heat stress. Animals ridden on tours during the hottest part of the day (12 noon to 2:30 pm). No regular foot care. Working on roads and other hard or rocky surfaces. Unhygienic living conditions. Working equipment puncturing, injuring, chaffing animals; dirty equipment contributing to infections. Nylon ropes, corrugated twines or iron hooks used to secure the saddles. Use of nose pegging. Lack of available, affordable and accessible veterinary care. Not vaccinating against preventable diseases. Elderly animals continue to be used. Branding animals with fire or corrosive chemicals. This is not acceptable on welfare grounds. 	 Animals under three years old should not be broken-in for riding and those less than four years should not be ridden. Mothers with calves should be housed together and kept separately from other animals. Separation of mother from calf only after two years of age (when naturally weaned). Animals suffering from illness or injury are resting, not working. Veterinarian has been consulted. Access to shade and other means to minimise the effects of heat stress. Animals are not ridden during the hottest part of the day and not for more than four hours per day; they are not ridden for longer than two hours at any one time. Animals should benefit from a rest of at least one hour after each two-hour ride. Regular foot care and toe nails trimmed by an experienced person. Waste matter and old food is removed from the enclosure; the enclosure is cleaned daily, adding fresh soil/sand as needed. Lightweight, well-fitting structures and saddles that do not cause the animal any discomfort, pain or injury. Cleaned daily and maintained. Rope or nylon halters should be the only method of control. Care should be taken when loading passengers as this could damage the back of the animal. Loading should take place seated. No more than one person per animal. Owners are aware of where to find veterinary support.





Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice	
5. Protection from fear and distress	Overweight tourists riding small animals. Camels pulling overloaded carriages. People assuming that animals are trained or accustomed to hard work and habituated to a harsh life; they therefore work the animals too hard. Poor driving styles and animal handling practices including jerking of reins, harsh stops and direction changes, operating at high speeds, whipping and racing. Working animals in busy urban areas where camelids compete for road space with vehicles.	Do not overload: one person riding at a time; evenly distribute baggage weight using appropriate equipment. Do not select animals whose owners are seen beating, driving, overloading inappropriately. Rope or nylon halters should be the only method of control. Calm handling.	

MANAGING THE IMPACTS ON FOCAL SPECIES

Table 5: Overview of indicators of poor animal welfare in camelids, and their possible causes

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes of problems
Body lesions on equipment contact sites (e.g. on back, spine, neck, shoulders, breast, base of tail)	 Open wounds, sores, abrasions or bald patches. Scars from old wounds. Notable discomfort. Lameness. 	 Ill-fitting (too big or small), dirty (e.g. sweat) or unsafe equipment (e.g. poor material). Puncturing, chaffing or rubbing the skin. Use of nylon ropes, corrugated twines or iron hooks to secure the saddles (these should not be used). Beating, whipping. Accidents.
Nose/nostril lesions and wounds	 Open wounds and cuts around the nostrils. Coloured discharge, pus or blood from the nostrils. Swelling. 	 Use of nose pegging – an unacceptable practice. Rope or nylon halters should be the only method of control. Poor driving behaviour (e.g. harsh stops and directional changes, jerking on reins).
Lameness	 Limping. Swelling. Frequently shifting weight. Pointing or resting a foreleg. Knee lesions from falling. 	 Overworking (long hours). Overloading pack saddles (with people or goods). No more than one person per camel. Movement over challenging terrain (stones, hard or dusty surfaces, steep hills). Animals working too young (before four years old). Poor driving behaviour. Feet/toe problems.
Toe abnormalities e.g. overgrown or over-trimmed toes; cracked or injured feet; feet deterioration	 Limping. Reluctance to place foot on the ground. Swelling. Wound, blood or pus on the underside of the foot. 	 Animals working too young. Poor or no foot care. Not removing stones or other debris from between the toes.

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes of problems
Loss of body condition/weight	• Animal has a low hump score (see illustration on page 32, prominent hip bones, backbones, pelvis or ribs that do not have well-covered skeletons and are vulnerable to wounds or injuries. Camels with only moderate or no fat in their humps (when the humps are small or limp) are in poor condition and should not be ridden.	 Poor diet. Diet provided does not meet energy requirements for work. Parasites (internal and external).
Spinal problems	 Reluctance to move. Reluctance to being touched. Noticeable discomfort on loading or riding. Weakness. 	 Overloading and unbalanced pack saddles (with people or goods). Ill-fitting equipment. Poor driving.
Eye abnormalities	Animals with painful eye conditions may have closed or watering eyes, be unable to see clearly and may be fearful in new situations.	Working in dusty environments. Beating, whipping.
or apathetic behavioural states	 Head is lowered or level with the animal's back (when not eating); animals with eyes half-closed that show no active interest in either their surroundings or other animals. Reluctance to stand/move. 	 Amalgamation of physical and mental problems. Pain, fear, distress, exhaustion. Poor handling practices (beating, driving). Inability to rest/recover (linked with poor shelter).
Heat stress and dehydration	 Increased respiration rate, reduced grazing activity and increased water consumption. In extreme cases, the animals will progress to open-mouth panting, with tongues extended. Without relief, core body temperature increases (hyperthermia), the animal becomes recumbent, and may die. 	Working in extreme climates. Overworking/lack of rest. Lack of water, rest and shade provision. Lack of responding to behavioural signs of suffering.

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes of problems
Disease (e.g. tetanus, parasites)	 Poor body condition. Coloured discharge from eyes and/ or nostrils. Head is lowered or level with the animal's back (when not eating); animals with eyes half-closed that show no active interest in either their surroundings or other animals. 	 Lack of first aid and preventative care by the owner (e.g. equipment badly maintained; lack of regular bathing and grooming). Lack of available, affordable, accessible, quality veterinary care.
Injuries	 Open wounds, abrasions, broken limbs. Scars from old wounds. Frequently shifting weight. Noticeable discomfort. Reluctance to move. Animal seen stretching, straining, stumbling or staggering during movement; exerting considerable effort – an indication of a potential or existing welfare problem. 	 Traffic accidents. Forcing animals to race or go very fast. Overloading and unbalanced pack saddles (with people or goods). Ill-fitting equipment. Poor driving (whipping and racing).
Emotional/ behavioural indicators	Performing stereotypes: repetitive behaviour without obvious function, such as stall weaving, pacing and licking or biting.	Impoverished enclosure without appropriate furnishings and opportunities to express natural behaviours and socialise with other camelids (and offspring, if separated).

Body condition score guide

Camels with hump score 1 and 5 should be considered unfit for any weight bearing activity until their condition improves. (Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Camel (2nd Ed. 2006).

Diagrams showing body varying degrees in condition.

Score 1



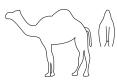
Little or no fat in the hump, which may be leaning to one side.

Score 2



Hump with moderate development rising to 5% higher than chest depth, but may also be leaning to one side.

Score 3



Hump with good development and rising to 10% higher than chest depth. Hump still sculptured inwards on both sides and still fits over the chest and abdominal area.

Score 4



Hump fully developed and rising to 15% higher than chest depth. Hump rounded outwards on both sides and runs from the shoulder to the rump.

Score 5



Hump over extended and rising more than 15% higher than the chest, or the hump so full that it is rounded on the sides like a semi-circle.

Further guidance from SPANA

SPANA is the Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad and is an animal welfare charity based in London that works to advance good welfare standards for working animals around the world. SPANA has produced a very useful guidance document for holidaymakers, which identifies six things that customers can do to help ensure better welfare conditions of camels, horses, donkeys and mules encountered through tourism. The document is called The Holiday Hooves Guide and can be found at www.spana.org/vets/tourism



Sled dogs work as a team and enjoy social contact.

Sled dogs

Generally referred to as mushing, one or more sled dogs is used to pull a sled, or individual person on snow or a rig on dry land.

Introduction

Traditionally, in North America and northern Europe, dog sleds have been used as a mode of transport of both people and goods. But this has evolved into an international, recreational activity that includes dog sled racing and cultural experiences and tours for tourists. Considered a sport by the sled dog racing industry, it is practised worldwide, but still primarily in North America and northern Europe.

Several dog breeds are used as sled dogs, including the Siberian Husky and Alaskan Malumute. Crossbreeding is also common and mixed breeds are used for both racing and touring. The dogs are bred for endurance and speed; racing sled dogs can travel up to 130km per day at speeds up to 23km/hour in extreme cold. Like all canines, sled dogs are intelligent, social animals that require stimulation, socialisation and social structure to avoid behavioural problems.

Managing potential impacts on welfare

Table 6 provides an overview of the needs of sled dogs and best practices, which will go some way to safeguarding their welfare. The table is based upon the Five Freedoms (see Section 1). Please note it is not exhaustive and many other elements will be vital to sled dog welfare.

Table 6: Overview of sled dogs' welfare needs and best practice in sled dog husbandry and care

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
1. Good feeding	 Providing water only once a day and not allowing the dogs time to drink. Frozen water. Working the animal immediately after feeding. Not providing food after working. Dirty, stagnant or contaminated water. 	Plentiful clean water. Dogs should receive daily, high-quality food; a sufficient amount for each animal. Varied diet of various types of meat and dry foods including minerals and vitamins. Use clean water buckets and food receptacles.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
2. Good housing	 No space to turn around or lay down. Tethered or chained for long periods. Limited or no exercise. Restrained animals unable to move to escape threatening or fearful situations (other animals, extreme weather). No access to shelter from extreme weather conditions. Animals kept alone; no opportunity to interact with other dogs. Protruding wires or sharp edges, which can cut or injure animals upon contact. Animals standing in faeces and urine, or bedding soaked in urine or faeces. 	Tethering should be discouraged, but if it happens, it should not be for long periods and dogs should be exercised off-tether daily. Individual housing should be well maintained and clean; includes clean, dry bedding, and should provide protection against heat and cold. Operations with small numbers of dogs are preferable; they allow greater individual attention for each dog, including socialisation. At kennels, secure yards are preferred, which are well-maintained, allow regular exercise and can accommodate a number of animals comfortably.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
3. Good health	 Irregular or no veterinary health checks. Use of animals in late pregnancy, or that are too young or too old. Healthy, but unwanted dogs are euthanised. Animals worked while experiencing pain, fear and distress from conditions such as wounds and lameness. Dogs worked beyond their willingness or capability during races or tours. No rest stops during races. Unhygienic conditions. Blooded and wounded feet. 	Dogs should have regular access to veterinary care, including at least one annual health check. Routine checks of length of nails, size of their collars, paws, joints and body condition. Operator policies include a life cycle plan to ensure retired sled dogs can be re-housed and retired. Euthanasia only to be carried out by a veterinarian and only if, in the opinion of the vet, an animal is suffering from an incurable disease, or severe pain or suffering which cannot be alleviated. Dogs train and work within their physical capacities, with regular rest periods and veterinary checks during long races. Care is taken to ensure weight carried does not exceed dog numbers and ability. Kept in hygienic living conditions. Use of neoprene (or similar material) booties to protect the dogs' paw.

Five Freedoms	Examples of bad practice	Best practice
4. Appropriate behaviour	 Using animals that show a high level of fear, distress, aggression, excitability or signs of infectious diseases. Kicking, yelling, hitting or whipping sled dogs to move or as a punishment. Using animals that appear depressed, apathetic or in pain. Animals kept alone and no opportunity to interact with other sled dogs, offspring and bonded individuals. Prohibiting comfort or maintenance behaviours. Aggressive behaviour between animals. 	Dogs have plenty of exercise, stimulation or socialisation to avoid anxiety, aggression and other behavioural problems. Long periods of tethering without adequate stimulation can be a significant harmful factor; dogs should be untethered for a significant part of each day and be allowed to play and socialise with other dogs and humans. Dogs are not worked beyond their willingness or capability during races or tours. Toys and daily time for play and stimulation are provided. In the kennels, social grouping, compatibility and dominance amongst animals is recognised and respected.

Five Freedoms Examples of bad practice **Best practice** • Overloading the sled. 5. Protection from • Dogs appear energetic, take an interest fear and distress in their surroundings, and demonstrate • People assuming that animals are trained fearless interaction with people. Evidence or accustomed to hard work and habituated of physical or psychological abuse of sled to a harsh life; they therefore work the dogs is unacceptable. animals too hard. • All owners should establish a life-cycle Poor driving styles and animal handling plan for each dog, setting out the provisions practices including jerking of reins, harsh it will need throughout its life. stops and direction changes and whipping. · Calm handling.

Table 7: Overview of indicators of poor animal welfare in sled dogs and their common causes

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes of problems
Limb problems	Lameness, limping, grunting/yelping when rising or settling; affected limb is either carried high or partially elevated and/or is not bearing full weight, resulting in an uneven gait (nodding action of the head or rump).	Injury to paws (lacerations, cracks, raw paws), arthritis, bone fracture, sprain, dislocation.
Body lesions and skin damage	Visible sores, wounds or abscesses.Calluses.Frostbite.	 Poorly fitted equipment causing excessive rubbing. Bites from other animals. Unsuitable bedding/shelter. Excessive tethering.
Exhaustion	Collapse.General lethargy.Vomiting.	Insufficient rest. Excessive physical demands put on the animal.
Heart failure, lung damage	 Collapse. Breathlessness/shallow rapid breathing, coughing. Swollen abdomen. Exercise intolerance. 	Excessive physical strain put on the animal. Failure to provide the animal with adequate recovery time/rest.
Behavioural problems	Self-mutilation (bald spots resulting from lick granuloma). Excessive barking, fighting, stereotypical behaviour.	Frustration/boredom/nervousness due to tethering/chaining and inability to socially interact with others.
Poor coat condition	Bald patches. Dull/dirty fur.	 Poor diet Equipment rubbing Self-harming due to stress/frustration Unsuitable shelter.

Problems	Indicators	Possible causes of problems
Depression/lethargy	Lack of appetite.Disinterest in surroundings.Reluctance to move.	Pain, poor handling, exhaustion, amalgamation of physical and mental ailments, stress.
Muscular problems	Cramping.Signs of pain.Lameness.Swelling, localised tenderness.	Inflammation of the muscles due to excessive exercise.
Spinal problems	Trembling while standing.Staggering gait, weakness, humping of the centre back.Reluctance to being touched.	Ruptured discs, vertebral fractures and dislocations resulting from falls, trauma.
Dehydration	Lack of skin elasticity.Dry gums.Sunken eyes.Lethargy.	Lack of available drinking water, over- exertion, stress, gastrointestinal disorder.
Hypothermia	 Lethargy. Low body temperature. Excessive trembling. Shallow/slow breathing. Unresponsiveness, collapse. 	Unsuitable shelter resulting in exposure to extreme cold.
Gastro-intestinal problems	Vomiting, diarrhoea.	Stress from physical over-exertion, resulting stomach ulcers, intestinal viruses.
General pain symptoms	 Inability to settle, rapid, shallow breathing, crying out, aggression, reluctance to being touched, biting and licking specific area, lack of appetite. 	Injury, muscular inflammation, spinal damage, fracture etc.

Managing the impacts of rodeo

Rodeos involve horses, bulls, calves and steers in exhibitions developed from a mixture of American wild west shows and displays of ranching skills.

Rodeo events include calf-roping, steer-wrestling, bull-riding, chuckwagon racing, saddle bronc and bareback riding (riding bucking horses). Competitors aim to complete events in the fastest time (e.g. roping and tying a calf) or ride a bucking animal for a set period (e.g. bull-riding, bareback riding). In the chuckwagon race, teams of horses pull covered wagons around a track at high-speed. Some events, such as wild cow milking, horse tripping and the wild horse race are considered unacceptable and have been phased out at some rodeos.

Managing potential impacts on welfare

Rodeos involve horses, bulls, calves and steers – animals similar to those referenced in Table 2 (Equine) of this document. Please use this source when considering potential welfare impacts. Wild animals should not be used in rodeo events.

Identifying poor welfare indicators and possible causes

Rodeos involve horses, bulls, calves and steers—animals similar to those referenced in Table 3 (Equine) of this document. Please use this source to identify poor welfare indicators.

Range of activities in rodeos

Animals are induced to perform in rodeos by various means, allowing human competitors to test their skills in handling, roping and riding. Rodeo events can involve risk of injury or death to animals and can subject them to fear, pain or stress to make them perform. Key rodeo events are described below.

Calf-roping (also called tie-down roping) — In this timed event a calf is goaded out of a steel-barred chute into the arena and chased by a horse and rider. The calf, which runs at speeds up to 27miles/hour, is roped around the neck and jerked to a sudden stop. The rider then picks up the calf, throws it to the ground and ties three of its legs together. The young age of the animal (three to four months), the stress of the chase and the impact of the sudden jerking on the calf's neck makes this a controversial rodeo event.



Calf roping is common in rodeos.

Chuckwagon racing – Invented at the Calgary Stampede rodeo in Canada in 1923, the chuckwagon race involves several teams of horses pulling wagons in a figure of eight course and racing down a track at high speed to the finish line. Several other rodeos in western Canada have adopted this event. Horses have been killed in this event, mainly due to crash injuries, broken legs and heart attacks brought on by stress. The considerable risk of injury and death to horses has made this event highly controversial but it remains one of the main attractions at the Calgary Stampede.



Chuck wagon racing is popular at rodeos.

Team-roping — In this event two mounted cowboys attempt to rope and immobilise a steer in the quickest time. The lasso is thrown around the steer's neck by one rider, while the other rider ropes the hind legs. The steer is then pulled from each end and stretched, sometimes so violently that all four feet leave the ground and the animal is suspended in mid-air by the neck and rear legs with considerable risk of injury or death.



Two cowboys attempt to rope a steer.

Steer wrestling – A rider jumps from his horse on to the head and neck of a running steer. He then twists the neck of the steer until it falls to the ground. This can result in neck injuries.



Steer wrestling, riders jump from their horse onto the head of the steer.

Bareback riding/bull riding — Riders compete to see who can stay mounted on a bucking horse for a set time. A flank strap is tied around the horse's sensitive hindquarters to make it buck. The horse will buck until the strap is released. The horses are bred for a predisposition to buck but the flank strap and the desire to get the rider off are the key factors. A flank strap is also used in bull riding for the same purpose. Rodeo aficionados claim that rodeo is a reflection of historical ranch practices; however, there is no practical reason why a flank strap would be used on a ranch.



Bareback bull riding, riders compete to stay on a bull or horse.

Wild cow milking – This timed event involves three cowboys chasing and roping a cow, grabbing and twisting the cow's head to stop it moving long enough for one cowboy to take milk from its udder. Considerable stress can be observed among the cows as they attempt to escape the men chasing them. (The animals used are range cows – not dairy cows – so they are not used to close contact with humans.) Some major rodeos have eliminated this event.



Wild cow milking is common in rodeos.

Wild horse racing and wild pony racing

– Three-man teams catch, saddle and ride an unbroken horse wearing only a halter. Approximately ten teams and horses are simultaneously released into the arena. The scene is chaotic. Wild pony racing is the same event, but with children as competitors. In both cases, the animals are subjected to extreme stress. Some major rodeos have eliminated this event.



Wild horse racing involves an unbroken horse.

Horse-tripping – The practice of roping the front or hind legs of a galloping horse the cowboy is on foot or horseback – causing it to trip and fall. Used in Mexican-style rodeos called charreria.

Steer-tripping – A steer is roped and pulled to the ground by a mounted competitor. Many north American rodeos have eliminated this event.

Reforms and rule changes

Public pressure on rodeos to make events safer and more humane has had an impact in recent years. As mentioned above, some controversial events have been eliminated by certain rodeos. In one case, a major Canadian rodeo dropped all roping events.

In addition, high-profile rodeos have made rule changes in an attempt to make events safer or more humane. For example, risk of injury in calf-roping can be reduced by a no jerk-down rule, which disqualifies the roper if a calf is pulled off all four feet and its body touches the ground before the competitor reaches the calf. Some rodeos have introduced break away calfroping (the rope is tied to the saddle horn with a string. When the calf hits the end of the rope it is pulled tight and the string breaks. The calf is not thrown or tied).

Similarly a rule change to steer-wrestling can reduce risk of injury. (The steer should be thrown so its feet and head are facing the same direction; this prevents the steer coming down on its belly with its legs underneath and the cowboy having no momentum to turn the steer over to safety.)

Changes to chuckwagon racing include mandatory vet checks on horses before races, mandatory rest days, fewer riders on the track and better track maintenance.

Such changes should be encouraged.

Best practice

- Rodeo animals should not be subjected to physical abuse such as kicking, tail-twisting or electric shocks.
- Animals should be checked by veterinarians before and after events.
- Appropriately qualified and experienced veterinarians should be on-site at all times.
- Independent animal welfare authorities should be on-site at all times. Usually the local SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) or humane society is present. However in British Columbia it's the BC SPCA, in Calgary, it's the Calgary Humane Society and in other Canadian regions; it is usually covered by provincial or municipal organisations. They are given legal powers by provincial authorities to enforce provincial animal cruelty legislation and/or federal provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada.
- Plentiful food and clean water should be provided daily.
- Stabling and transport should provide shelter from extreme heat and cold and excessive confinement.
- Events that subject the animals to pain, fear or distress should be discouraged.
 This should include wild horse racing, wild cow-milking, horse-tripping, steer-tripping and calf-roping.
- Chuckwagon horses should have rest days (two for every four days of competition) and should have veterinary checks before and after races. Tracks should be well maintained. Allowing fewer riders on the track allows greater space for wagon teams.

Appendices

Appendix 1: sources of further information

Category	Further info source	Description	
Legislation & Conventions	Welfare Quality®	Animal welfare principles & criteria.	
	Source: www.welfarequalitynetwork.net		
Organisation & Associations			
	Source: corporate.calgarystampede.com/animal-care/rule-and-format-changes-2012.html		
Organisation & Associations			
	Source: www.rodeocanada.com/pdfs/2010animalwelfare.pdf		
Organisation & Associations	SPANA	Survey of holiday makers and animal welfare concerns.	
& ASSOCIATIONS	Source: cdn.yougov.com/cumulus_	uploads/document/n9rzwbo071/YG-Archives-Spana-Holidaying-070812.pdf	

Appendix 2: legislation by source country

Country	Legislation Links	
Albania	None noted.	
Australia	Under Australia's constitutional arrangements, state and territory governments are responsible for animal welfare arrangements within their jurisdictions. The states and territories set and enforce animal welfare standards through animal welfare or prevention of cruelty to animals' legislation. Source: www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfarehealth/welfare/model_code_of_practice_for_the_welfare_of_animals#horses	
Columbia	National Animal Protection Law (Ley 84, 1989) includes aspects related to responsibilities towards animals. Animal Cruelty Act (Ley 769, 2002) in which the third part of this law mentions working equines. Other articles refer to loose or abandoned animals, laws coming into force regarding the removal of animal traction vehicles from some cities where authorities should contemplate alternative activities for owners of tourism vehicles. Decreto 510, 2003 gives guidance on what ATV drivers should have with them as well as maximum load specifications.	
Cuba	None noted.	
Egypt	Articles in Egyptian law relate to the animal welfare but do not translate into action. Trials often taken place by local animal welfare organisations to enforce the animal welfare laws but they are faced with challenges.	
Greece	None noted. There are few full time animal welfare workers or animal sanctuaries/shelters in Greece. Since 1999 the Greek Animal Welfare Fund's Equine Project has worked to alleviate the suffering of all equines in Greece. Source: www.gawf.org.uk/index.php?page=equine-project	
Guatemala	None noted.	

Country	Legislation Links
India	Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 – prevents treating animals cruelly and provide a legal framework for the protection of all animals.
	Animal Welfare Act 2011 – in draft but will provide for the welfare and wellbeing of animals and to prevent the infliction of trauma, pain, or suffering on them, and to prevent unnecessary killing of animals and for that purpose to consolidate the law relating to prevention of cruelty to animal and providing for their welfare generally.
	Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 – regulates veterinary practice and education.
	Glanders and Farcy Act 1899 – Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious need and means of checking spread of disease.
	Veterinarian's oath has been changed in Dec 2010 to include animal welfare which emphasises growing focus on ensuring animal welfare in veterinary profession.
	Source: www.peopleforanimalsindia.org/animal-protection-laws.html
Kenya	The Kenyan Constitution, Laws of Kenya Chapters 360, 356, 364 and Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Para-professionals Act and Animal Technicians Act are the main laws that relate to veterinary and animal welfare issues in the country.
	The laws give the various provisions and prohibitions regarding veterinary service provision and how animals should be treated. These laws regulate animal health service provision and also address matters related to animal welfare in the country generally but not specific to working equines. The ongoing formulation of new laws under the country governments is expected to come up with new laws specific to working animals.
	These laws are enforced by the Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB) in conjunction with the Director of Veterinary services (DVS), through the other law enforcing agents including Kenya Police and Provincial Administration.
	Source: www.kendat.org/partnerships/animal-welfare-action-kenya-awake and www.anaw.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=76<emid=73
Morocco	SPANA has had some success in working with local authorities to develop local legislation. National level legislation does not exist.
	Source: www.taws.org/TAWS2003/TAWS2003-Animal-Welfare-Legislation-Jones.pdf and www.spana.org.ma/

Country	Legislation Links
Nepal	No finalised welfare legislation exists.
	Government of Nepal is in the process of drafting Animal Welfare Act to prevent cruelty to animal, safe transportation of animals and optimum load carrying limits for pack and draught animals. So in the process a draft for incorporation of equine welfare issue is prepared with involvement of I/NGOs working in the field of animal welfare and presented to the policy makers.
	Source: www.animalnepal.org/reports.htm
New Zealand	Animal Welfare Act which stipulates care and conduct towards animals and codes of welfare, of which there is one for horses.
	Source: www.biosecurity.govt.nz/legislation/animal-welfare-act/guide/index.htm and www. biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/codes/horses/index.htm
Romania	None noted.
	World Horse Welfare has reduced their presence in Romania and they are supporting Romanian Equine Veterinary Association AVER who is giving advice and expertise on welfare issues.
	Source: ecvet.ro/ and www.worldhorsewelfare.ro
Spain	Animal Protection Law exists.
	Source: www.animallaw.info/nonus/statutes/stesawl2007.htm
Tunisia	Their protection and wellbeing have been defined by legislation, specifically referencing bad treatment, living conditions, inspection of animals working in cities.
	Source: www.cabdirect.org/abstracts/20083249334.html Also SPANA and WSPA have a presence there. Source: spana.org/country/tunisia and www.wspa.org.uk/members/findmember/MemberSocietyForCountry.aspx?country=Tunisia
United Kingdom	Animal Welfare Act 2006 (for England and Wales) which makes owners and keepers responsible for ensuring that the welfare needs of their animals are met.
	Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006.
	Defra has a Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses, Ponies, Donkeys and their Hybrids.
	Other useful resources located in section 8.
	Source: www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/03/29/pb12460-animal-welfare-act/ and www. legislation.gov.uk/asp/2006/11/contents and www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/horses/ and www.worldhorsewelfare.org/help-tomorrow/uk-horse-welfare-law

Country	Legislation Links
Ukraine	None noted.
USA	Animal Welfare Act 1966 regulates the treatment of animals as the minimum acceptable standard. Other laws, policies, and guidelines may include additional species coverage or specifications for animal care and use. Source: awic.nal.usda.gov/government-and-professional-resources/federal-laws/animal-welfare-act; awic.nal.usda.gov/government-and-professional-resources/federal-laws/horse-protection-act
Jordan	Jordanian Penal Code article number 472 prohibits leaving animals without food, water or shelter. It prohibits the beating of animals, overloading them, and obliging animals who are incapable of working, due to old age, injuries or sickness to work. In 2010 a new animal welfare bylaw was enacted in Jordan and published in the official Gazette. The bylaw contains more strict measures and stipulates the formation of an advisory committee to appoint inspectors, and to train them in animal welfare issues. The committee is to submit its reports directly to the Minister of Agriculture. In the new bylaw there is no special reference to working animals. The government started to activate the implementation of this bylaw by banning the sale of any animal before the end of the weaning period, imposing more strict measures related to vaccinations, adequate health conditions, unlawful trade of animals, and by the activation of the electronic registration systems. This is mainly due to efforts exerted by Princess Alia, The Brooke's patron and the lobbying by local and international animal welfare organisations. In Petra, tribal relations are very strong and the tourists' police are part of this tribal structure, thus they rarely interfere to ban or punish ill and inhumane practices against animals. This is a real challenge because other innovative methods should be adopted to stop these practices. Source: www.thebrooke.org/our-work/our-countries2/jordan
European Union	Animal Welfare Strategy, though not specific to working equine animals. Source: ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/index_en.htm

Appendix 3: source of welfare support by country

Organisation	Where they work	Contact information
American Association of Equine Practitioners	United States based guidance	www.aaep.org
The Brooke	Afghanistan Egypt Ethiopia Guatemala India Jordan Kenya Nepal Pakistan Senegal	www.thebrooke.org/support-us/responsible-tourism
The Donkey Sanctuary	Cyprus Egypt Ethiopia Greece India Ireland Italy Kenya Mexico Spain	www.thedonkeysanctuary.org/uk

Organisation	Where they work	Contact information
National Equine Welfare Council	Umbrella organisation that brings together more than 60 equine groups and charities from all over the UK with an interest in upholding good welfare standards.	www.newc.co.uk
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals		www.rspca.org.uk
Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad (SPANA)	Algeria Ethiopia Jordan Kenya Mali Mauritania Mongolia Morocco Syria Tunisia Zimbabwe	www.spana.org
World Association for Transport Animal Welfare and Studies (TAWS)		www.taws.org
World Horse Welfare		www.worldhorsewelfare.org
World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA)		www.wspa.org

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Statement from the Born Free Foundation

Each year, the Born Free Foundation receives thousands of calls from members of the public concerned by the suffering of animals that they witness whilst travelling. Born Free investigates these concerns and, as part of our follow-up procedures, contacts governments calling on them to draw up, improve and enforce animal welfare legislation. We also work with the travel industry which is ideally placed to influence the current situation and bring about positive change. Our extensive expertise in the science of animal welfare and wildlife conservation ensures Born Free can provide accurate and reliable information which can be used to tackle many of the negative and harmful practices that impact on the welfare of both captive wild animals and their free-living counterparts, as well as the habitats they depend upon. The Born Free Foundation is delighted that our experience has contributed to a landmark decision by ABTA to produce its ground-breaking *Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism* and six supporting guidance manuals which represent a significant step towards improving animal welfare standards of attractions associated with and supported by the tourism industry.

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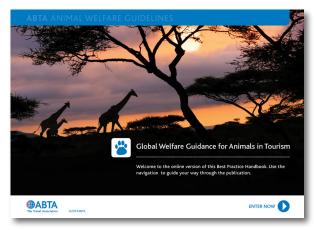
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Appendix 4: photo captions and credits

Page	Caption	Credit
	Mule in Jordan.	The Brooke
5	Dog sledging.	Stock image library
7	Camels are widely used in tourism.	Stock image library
10	Shire horses with a passenger carriage attached.	Abi Skipp
11	Donkey foraging for food from a litter bin.	Martin Ushbourne, The Brooke
11	Horse drinking from a clean trough.	The Brooke
12	Chained horse.	Martin Ushbourne, The Brooke
12	Stables providing shelter.	The Brooke
13	Horse with saddle wound.	The Brooke
13	Farrier and horse.	istock
14	Overweight tourist on a donkey.	The Brooke
14	Donkey and foul under shelter.	The Brooke
15	Two people riding a horse.	The Brooke
15	Horse and cart.	C Draper
19	Horse in a badly malnourished state.	Born Free Foundation
19	Horse with overgrown hooves.	Born Free Foundation
22	Camels are used in tourism to transport both goods and people.	C Draper
23	Inaccessible drinking water.	Elizabeth Warkentin
23	Accessing clean water.	theboybg
24	Short tethering and poor housing.	P Maasz
24	Suitable housing enclosure for camels.	Born Free Foundation
26	Camel with wounds.	G Sullivan
26	Healthy camel.	Stock image library

	Caption	Credit
27	Camel family.	Charles Barilleaux
27	Camel ride.	Frank Vincentz Echadero
28	Camel dancing.	C Carlstead
28	Example of a good bridle.	Sailing Nomad
31	Chronically ill camel.	Angel Eyes
31	Camels being restrained through nose-pegging. Rope or nylon halters should be the only method of control.	Born Free Foundation supporter
33	Sled dogs work as a team and enjoy social contact.	Stock image library
34	Dogs lying down without water.	Robin Hood Tierschutzverein
34	Access to clean water.	Jacob Scheckman
35	Poor housing environment.	Dave Hensley
35	Good housing environment.	Sponng
36	Unhealthy dogs.	Alaska Teacher
36	Healthy sled dog.	Toms Pixels
37	Dog chained and isolated.	Robin Hood Tierschutzverein
37	Dog sledging.	Gradys Kitchen
38	Overworked unhealthy dog.	Robin Hood Tierschutzverein
38	Racing with protective booties.	Teuobk
41	Calf roping is common in rodeos.	Humane Society
42	Chuck wagon racing is popular at rodeos.	Xlibber
42	Two cowboys attempt to rope a steer.	Ken Bosma
42	Steer wrestling, riders jump from their horse onto the head of the steer.	Vancouver Humane Society
42	Bareback bull riding, riders compete to stay on a bull or horse.	DFB Photos
43	Wild cow milking is common in rodeos.	Vancouver Humane Society
43	Wild horse racing involves an unbroken horse.	Vancouver Humane Society

ABTA ANIMAL WELFARE GUIDELINES



Global Welfare Guidance for Animals in Tourism



Animals in Captive Environments



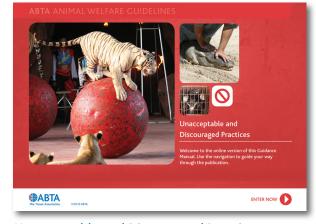
Dolphins in Captive Environments



Elephants in Captive Environments



Wildlife Viewing



Unacceptable and Discouraged Practices

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