

TRAVEL WELL, DO GOOD

Making It Better

The only thing sweeter than exploring a dazzling, far-flung destination

is improving the lot of those who live there. Relief Riders International (RRI), a Massachusetts-based adventure travel company, makes globe-trotting as gratifying for the locals as it is for the visitors. Founder Alexander Souri, who attended school in the foothills of the Himalayas, takes small groups on horseback for 15-day trips through the desert of Rajasthan, India. For \$5,950 each, participants visit ancient



A holiday on horseback: Altruistic vacationers herd goats in India.

villages and temples, sleep in grand hotels and tented encampments, and attend local music and dance performances. But they also spend time in mobile medical camps, triaging patients and distributing food and medication—a short-term Peace Corps for the adventure travel set. And because RRI accepts donations, anyone can get involved; \$65 provides cataract surgery for a Rajasthani citizen, so she can see the enchanted scenery herself. (reliefridersinternational.com)

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