



# *Horse Stamp Inn*

The Horse Stamp Inn, located in picturesque Waverly, Ga., provides a beautiful backdrop for rustic weddings and romantic accommodations for the couple. Photos courtesy of Horse Stamp Inn.



# HORSE STAMP INN

For guests who enjoy tranquility, beauty and luxury

*Photos and story by LEIGH CORT • Photo above by CHRISTINE TIBBETTS*

**I**magine your cares melting away as you drive along Horse Stamp Church Road — making up for lost time in a place where time stands still. For over a century, families have been coming to the splendidly quiet Georgia coast to escape the hustle and bustle of modern life. Enjoy the rural landscape; recharge and re-connect with one another while relaxing in the timeless beauty of Waverly, Ga. You've arrived at Horse Stamp Inn. Tom and Kris Hutcheson had a vision for their exquisite Horse Stamp Inn, a sanctuary where one can feel at peace. The inn is tucked away in a quiet little hamlet, located midway between the famous Golden Isles (Jekyll, St. Simons and Sea islands) and historic St. Marys. Nestled on a

secluded tree-covered property with expansive green fields, a rustic horse barn and artesian fresh water pond, you will drive through the gate and arrive at one of the most handsome Southern mansions that whispers "relax." Tom and Kris await your arrival with cold lemonade and a genuine Southern warm welcome. Kris and Tom begin your day with breakfast prepared from fresh, locally produced ingredients. Dine in your room, on the verandah or in the warm and inviting kitchen. They promise warm baked goodies from their legacy of family recipes. Kris always enjoyed baking and surprising their family; now she shares her passion with bed and breakfast guests who are lured downstairs each morning by aromas from the oven

and coffeepot.

*A sampling includes:*

- Grilled Prawns and White Cheddar Grits with Tomato Jam
- Caramelized Onion-Gruyere Cheese Scramble
- Homemade Biscuits and Herb Sausage Gravy with Roasted White Cheddar Potatoes
- Thick-cut French Toast with Cinnamon Syrup
- Cream Cheese Blintzes with Blueberry Lemon Glaze

Spend the morning exploring hidden nature trails or walk your horse around the lush manicured lawns. Unwind by the pool in the afternoon and don't forget a dazzling starlit sky sitting by the bonfire late at night with friends and someone you love. Together the Hutchesons have designed an inn where simple pleasures mean so much. Moving to the Georgia coast from Denver, their dream was to create an environment that's an oasis of tranquility where guests could visit and leave their cares behind. Kris says, "Our guests have time to daydream, read a book, pet a horse, gather eggs in the barn and even feed our chickens." Tom's early impression of the inn and property were equally appreciated by Kris. "When I first drove up the driveway, I felt that I was home. I knew Kris would love the country around us, the land's natural splendor and the beautiful house — not to mention her country kitchen!" How easy and fun it is to ascend to the second floor of the Horse Stamp Inn to your bedroom. The inn has a convenient and unique European-style elevator to make your arrival easy — or you can climb the grand staircase from Great Room to Balcony. The rooms and Sea Biscuit Suite at the Horse Stamp Inn reflect a style of decor and luxury that pairs perfectly with its famous horse namesake. Each accommodation offers their guests a Park Place collection king-sized bed and private luxurious bath. They are all tastefully outfitted in harmonious colors, handsome wall coverings, handcrafted furnishings and

thoughtful creature comforts to make each stay a beautiful memory. Sliding between the luxe 600 count linens, mounds of pillows, duvets, cotton quilts and feather bed tops, a night's sleep at the Inn becomes a dreamy experience that feels like sleeping on a cloud. Bath products are plentiful, especially the fluffy hotel collection of luxury towels, while overhead heaters warm you after a shower or bath. Feel pampered in your comfortable sitting area with a country view, spacious closets and dresser, ceiling fan, flat screen TV, hair dryer, iron and high-speed wireless Internet. Cleverly, Tom and Kris chose seven famous horses to represent each room — five guest rooms and suites and two innkeeper quarters.

**DAWN RUN** It was Dawn Run's victory in the 1986 Cheltenham Gold Cup that really captured the racing public's imagination. Dawn Run was a thoroughbred racehorse who remains the most successful mare in the history of National Hunt Racing as the only horse to have landed the Champion Hurdle/Cheltenham Gold Cup double and, amazingly, the only one to have completed the English, Irish and French Champion Hurdle treble!

**SEABISCUIT** Named American Horse of the Year in 1938, Seabiscuit was one of the most remarkable thoroughbred racehorses in history. He was the long shot that captured America's heart during the Depression. An undersized and overlooked race horse, his unexpected successes made him a hugely popular sensation when he won a "match race" against War Admiral (a fearsome stallion). His legacy has been immortalized in books and movies for more than half a century.

**CIMARRON** During the Spanish Conquest of the Americas, the Cimarrons made their way into the wild. Any domesticated



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# Horse Stamp Inn

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animal that has escaped is also synonymous with the American Mustang. Symbolizing the freedom of the “Wild West” in North America, the Mustang (originating from the Spanish word *mes-tena*) can be identified as a group of wild horses.

**APRIL LOVE** In the middle of a Lexington, Ky., horse farm, the 1957 American musical “April Love” enchanted audiences with its exquisite images of race horses and country settings. Sulky horse racing was the popular pastime in this beautiful corner of the world for actors Pat Boone and Shirley Jones. He is sent to work on his distant family’s farm but before long, he’s devoting himself to the task of training a horse to become a winning trotter. Based on an early 1940s novel “Phantom Filly,” who can forget the Academy Award nominated song of 1957 “April Love”?

**SUGARFOOT** Git along little Sugarfoot! This adorable cartoon horse first made its Hollywood appearance in the 1954 cartoon “A Horse’s Tale.” He then charmed his way into the hearts of movie fans as a supporting character in the Woody Woodpecker movies. Famed American cartoonist, animator, film producer and director Walter Lantz was Sugarfoot’s and Woody Woodpecker’s creator. His legacy of animation found his beloved Sugarfoot in dozens of award-winning films.

**BUTTERMILK** A beautiful light buckskin Quarter Horse with dark points, cowgirl star Dale Evans fell in love with Buttermilk who appeared in all but six of the “Roy Rogers Show” episodes from 1951-1957. As a colt, “Taffy” was rescued by a cattle farmer who bought him from a horse trader. Trained to be a competition horse, he had a friendly and affectionate disposition. He was noticed in a rodeo in Nebraska and brought to Hollywood where Dale Evans renamed him Buttermilk. He was one of the most recognized celebrity horses of his era.

**SADLER’S WELLS** Undoubtedly the best thoroughbred sire that France, Great Britain and Ireland have ever seen, Sadler’s Wells left a wonderful legacy of racing horses of the 21st century. The son of Northern Dancer, he was bred in Kentucky and sired 323 stakes winners during his long racing career. His offspring won a record six Breeders Cup events. His own racing career as a 3-year-old in 1984 witnessed Sadler’s Wells winning

the Derrinstown Stud Derby Trial, the Irish 2,000 Guineas, the Eclipse Stakes and the coveted Phoenix Champion Stakes.

The Horse Stamp Inn offers guests, especially wedding guests, exquisite photo and party settings. They have quickly become one of the Southeast’s popular private wedding destinations. With 16 acres of lush grounds and the serenity of nature, brides often picture themselves wearing a gown and cowgirl boots! The Hutchesons invite brides to create their own romantic setting — under the majestic oak trees and in the colorful gardens, country Artesian pond, rustic barn and majestic fountain. They’re delighted to recommend florists, caterers, musicians and tent and party rentals — all the professional people who make planning a wedding look easy. Balancing the inn’s elegant furnishings with picturesque grounds and unparalleled personal service, it’s unmatched anywhere on the south Georgia Coast for country charm and exclusive wedding solitude.

#### **INN AMENITIES:**

- Oversized accommodations, exquisite country views
- Artesian pond stocked with bass, bream and freshwater trout
- Private 16x32’ pool with comfy pool chaises and chairs
- Horse-friendly stable — four-stall barn with tack/saddle room.
- Large chicken coop for fresh farm-to-table eggs
- Brick fire pit for bonfires, picnics and cooking fresh-caught fish from the pond!
- Farm-to-table breakfast featuring family favorite dishes that also respect guests’ dietary needs
- Picturesque fountain for special events
- 21’ boat, 2012 Nautic Star XS2000 — Provides seating for eight and has 30 gallon fresh fish well. 150 HP outboard for waterskiing and tubing. It’s a great sightseeing boat to cruise on the Intracoastal Waterway for barrier island day-tripping

**HOW TO FIND THE HORSE STAMP INN:** For nearly 10 years, the state of Georgia planned to build an exit on Interstate 95 for Horse Stamp Church Road. Its timely opening has coincided with the Horse Stamp Inn’s debut. Whether driving north or south on the interstate, it’s a short 3.5-mile journey to the Horse Stamp Inn. Although the Horse Stamp Inn is far from reality and a world apart, the Hutchesons’ warm welcome will make guests feel like they’re coming home.



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