



MARCHADOR! FAQs

What is a Mangalarga Marchador?

The Marchador is an outstanding saddle horse with athleticism, stamina, beauty, pleasing temperament and a unique gait. It was developed in Brazil in the 1800's when the King of Portugal, fearing Napoleon's invasion, fled to Brazil with his Alter Real stallions. In Brazil, one of these stallions, Sublime, was crossed with Spanish Barbs and the smooth gaited Jennet to produce the Marchador.

What makes the Marchador unique?

The Marchador is a true sport horse that also is gaited. Some have the smooth lateral "Picada" gait similar to other Spanish Paso breeds, but many display a unique gait called "Batida". In this gait, lateral and diagonal pairs alternate, but with moments of triple support. Often to the human eye no "gait" is detected. The "Batida" gait is a tireless, ground covering gait with speeds as high as 15 miles per hour.

How are Mangalarga Marchadors used?

It is a horse without borders, very versatile and not limited to any single discipline. In Brazil, it excels at working cattle, hunting, jumping, endurance, polo, dressage and, of course, pleasure riding. The Marchador made history as an endurance horse; appearing in the Guinness Book of World Records for the longest horse trip ever - over 8,500 miles in a one-year period.

What size and color are the Marchadors?

The Marchador ranges from 14.2 to 16H, averaging about 15H in height and is of medium build. They come in many colors: bay, black, buckskin, chestnut, grey, roan, palomino, and pinto.

Is the Marchador a rare breed?

Yes, in North America, but not in its native country. In Brazil, the Marchador is the National Horse and numbers over 600,000. Exported to 21 countries; Germany has the largest population outside of Brazil. Only recently has the breed come to the USA, where it numbers under 500 individuals.

Who Controls the Registration of the Mangalarga Marchador?

In the USA and Canada, the USMMA, an affiliate of the ABCCMM, registers Marchadors and seeks to maintain the standards of the breed set by the ABCCMM. It is a DNA based registry requiring proof of parentage.

In Brazil, the ABCCMM, the Association of Brazilian Marchador owners sets the registration rules. So demanding are their standards for the Marcha conformation and disposition - that Marchadors, at the age of three, must be tested by ABCCMM technicians if they are to be permanently registered. Only if a Marchador passes the test does the horse receive permanent registration and is then allowed to breed. The proven horse is branded with the ABCCMM brand, a horseshoe with an M in the middle. (This brand is officially trademarked by the ABCCMM in Brazil and in the USA.)

Why is the Marchador perfect?

In real estate, it's location, location, location. In horses, it is temperament, temperament, temperament. The Marchador has great intelligence and a desire to please. Once trained, it is a trustworthy mount, suitable for all ages – toddlers to senior citizens.

The Marchador is a working horse breed. It is built solid and square with lots of energy to go all day. The 200-year legacy of breeding and the inspection process virtually guarantee consistency and quality in the breed, plus, they are beautiful, proud Iberian horses.

How does the Marchador handle cold climate?

There are Marchadors living in many cold areas, including Montana, Canada and Denmark! They are easy keepers and have adapted in many areas.

USMMA. - Marchador Assn
www.namarchador.org

