

So your going to Spruce Meadows

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SO YOU'RE GOING TO SHOW AT SPRUCE MEADOWS...

What should you expect?

Long days... there are a lot of classes every day, in several rings. The classes start early (often as early as 8am) and some of the big classes in the International ring can start as late as 7pm during the week.

Long walks... the show grounds are enormous. Some show rings can be up to 15 minutes away if you are walking, so get your horses ready early.

Rain! Bring rain pants, rain boots and many rain jackets (maybe if we are all prepared it won't actually rain!)

Presentations... every class, every day has mounted presentations. You need to have a horse that is well-behaved ready at the end of the class if you want to get your prize money and ribbon. If you have a conflict with another ring, you need to organize to have someone ride in the presentation for you... you really need to participate in the ceremony to get your awards and prize money!

Corks... every show ring has grass footing, so come prepared with cork holes.

Be organized with your starts for the next day... Start for competitions by 5pm the night before. Due to the large numbers and big sponsors, you can't do a same-day add to a class at Spruce Meadows. Also be sure to nominate for all your divisions at the beginning of the week, as adding nominations during the week can be costly, if they allow it at all.

Formal dress code... Tradition is a big deal at Spruce Meadows. It is absolutely required if you are showing in the International ring, Meadows on the Green, or All Canada ring that you wear white pants and show coat every day. Every other ring would prefer this as well, but tan pants and a show coat are acceptable during the week – formal dress on the weekends! No polo shirts, no dark pants – any day!

Link to website with map.