HIGHLAND RIDGE FARM LLC

Terms & Conditions, Assumption of Risk & Liability Waiver

Please read carefully. All participants must agree to these terms and sign this waiver before participating in the event.

By purchasing a ticket and participating in any/all events at Highland Ridge Farm LLC, you acknowledge and agree to the following terms and conditions.

1. EVENT PARTICIPATION & ADMISSION

- A valid event ticket is required for every person attending, including adults and children.
- No admission to the farm will be permitted without a valid event ticket.
- Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a paying parent or legal guardian.
- Suggested participant age is 12 years and older.
- Participants must follow all instructions provided by Highland Ridge Farm staff, event instructors, and animal handlers.
- Highland Ridge Farm reserves the right to refuse participation or remove any guest who fails to follow safety instructions or engages in unsafe or disruptive behavior, without a refund.
- Event will be held rain or shine.

2. HIGHLAND COW & FARM ANIMAL EXPERIENCE

The event includes an opportunity to interact with Highland cattle and other farm animals. Activities may include calf cuddling, brushing, meeting animals, and photo opportunities.

By participating, you understand and acknowledge that:

- Farm animals are unpredictable by nature and may move suddenly, kick, bite, push, step on, or otherwise cause injury.
- Even normally calm, friendly, and well-handled animals can behave unexpectedly.
- Interacting with livestock involves inherent risks, including scratches, bruises, falls, bites, kicks, and other physical injuries.
- Animal interactions must take place only in designated areas and under staff supervision.
- Guests must never approach, touch, feed, or handle animals without permission from farm staff.
- No running, screaming, jumping, chasing, or sudden movements around animals.

- Gentle handling is required. No pulling hair, grabbing horns, climbing on animals, tight hugging, or touching an animal's eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Guests may not feed animals unless expressly permitted by farm staff.
- Animals may be removed from the experience at any time for their health, comfort, or safety.
- Guests must respect all barriers, gates, fencing, and restricted areas.

Highland Ridge Farm reserves the right to modify or discontinue any animal interaction if staff determine that conditions are unsafe or that an animal needs a break.

3. BARN ENVIRONMENT & WEATHER CONDITIONS

The event will take place inside a farm barn that does not have electric heat.

Highland Ridge Farm will provide propane heaters; however, the barn may remain cold depending on outdoor temperatures and weather conditions.

By attending, participants acknowledge and accept that:

- Temperatures inside the barn may fluctuate.
- Guests are responsible for dressing appropriately for cold weather.
- Uneven flooring, farm surfaces, equipment, and other typical barn conditions may present tripping or slipping hazards.
- Propane heaters and heating equipment may create hot surfaces and fire hazards. Guests must maintain a safe distance and may not touch, move, or adjust heating equipment.
- Guests must follow all posted safety instructions and staff directions.
- Highland Ridge Farm reserves the right to modify, postpone, or cancel activities due to unsafe weather or environmental conditions.

Additional Footwear Requirement

- Closed-toe shoes are required for all participants while on the farm and during the Highland animal experience.
- Sandals, flip-flops, and open-toe footwear are not permitted in animal interaction areas.
- Participants should wear comfortable, sturdy footwear appropriate for walking on farm and barn surfaces.

4. FOOD & BEVERAGES

Hot beverages will be provided by Highland Ridge Farm. Guests are welcome to bring their own beverages and snacks.

Participants are responsible for identifying and managing any personal food allergies, dietary restrictions, or sensitivities.

Highland Ridge Farm cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment.

5. CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

Due to the advance planning and preparation required for this event, the following refund policy applies:

- Cancellations requested **14 or more days before the event** are eligible for a 50% refund of the ticket purchase price.
- Cancellations requested **within 14 days of the event** are not eligible for a refund.
- Failure to attend the event, late arrival, or early departure does not qualify for a refund.
- Refund requests must be submitted directly to Highland Ridge Farm.

In the event Highland Ridge Farm must cancel the event, ticket holders will be notified regarding available refund or rescheduling arrangements.

7. ASSUMPTION OF RISK

I understand that attending a working farm and participating in activities involving livestock and farm animals presents inherent risks that cannot be completely eliminated.

I voluntarily choose to participate in this event and assume all inherent and reasonably foreseeable risks associated with:

- Interacting with Highland cattle, calves, and other farm animals.
- Brushing, cuddling, petting, and photographing animals.
- Walking through farm and barn areas.
- Participating in painting activities and using painting supplies.
- Exposure to cold temperatures, propane heaters, and barn conditions.
- Slips, trips, falls, and other hazards associated with a working farm.

I understand that injuries, illness, property damage, or other losses may occur, even when reasonable safety precautions are followed.

I voluntarily accept these risks on behalf of myself and any minor child for whom I am signing, to the extent permitted by applicable law.

8. RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In consideration of being permitted to enter Highland Ridge Farm and participate in the event, I agree, to the fullest extent permitted by Maryland law, to release and hold harmless Highland Ridge Farm LLC, its owners, members, employees, volunteers, representatives, contractors, event instructors, and animal handlers from claims, demands, damages, or causes of action arising from my participation in the event and the inherent risks associated with the activities described in this agreement.

This release is intended to apply to claims arising from ordinary negligence to the extent such claims may legally be released under applicable Maryland law.

Nothing in this agreement is intended to waive rights or release liability that cannot legally be waived, including liability for gross negligence, reckless conduct, or intentional misconduct where prohibited by law.

9. PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY & EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

I acknowledge that I am responsible for my own safety and for supervising any minor child accompanying me.

In the event of an accident, injury, or medical emergency, I authorize Highland Ridge Farm staff to contact emergency medical services if deemed necessary.

I understand that I am responsible for any medical expenses, transportation costs, or other expenses resulting from an injury or medical emergency, except as otherwise required by law.

I agree to notify farm staff immediately of any injury, unsafe condition, or animal-related incident.

10. PHOTOGRAPHY & EVENT MEDIA

Highland Ridge Farm may take photographs or videos during the event for documentation and promotional purposes.

Permission to use an identifiable participant's image for marketing or promotional purposes must be provided separately and is not a condition of participation.

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT & AGREEMENT

By signing below, I acknowledge that:

- I have read and understand these Terms & Conditions and Liability Waiver.
- I understand the risks associated with participating in a farm animal experience and painting event.
- I voluntarily agree to participate and accept the inherent risks described above.
- I agree to follow all farm rules, safety instructions, and staff directions.
- I understand that failure to follow safety instructions may result in removal from the event without a refund.
- I am at least 18 years old, or I am the parent/legal guardian signing on behalf of a minor participant.

HIGHLAND RIDGE FARM LLC

Thank you for joining us for a little Christmas creativity and Highland cow magic! We appreciate your cooperation in helping us provide a safe and enjoyable experience for our guests and animals.