



Desert Encounter

Desert Encounter (Ire)

Own: Mr Abdulla Al Mansoori

B. g. 6 (Mar)
Sire: Halling (Diasis)GB \$10,000
Dam: La Chicana'Ire (Invincible Spirit'Ire)
Br: Tally-Ho Stud (Ire)
Tr: D. M. L. Simcock(0 0 0 0 .00) 2018:(0 0 .00)

Life	22	7	4	5	\$388,789	-	D.Fst	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
2018	7	1	1	2	\$78,009	-	Wet(234)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
2017	6	2	1	1	\$228,383	-	Syth	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
Wo@	0	0	0	0	\$0	-	Turf(318)	22	7	4	5	\$388,789	-
							Dst(294)	10	4	2	1	\$142,243	-

22Sep18	Newbury (GB)	sf	1 1/4 @ LH 2:25 1/4	Dubai Duty Free Legacy Cup-G3	7 3/4	Bentley H	129	4.00	Young Rascal ¹⁰⁰ Mirage Dancer ³ Desert Encounter ^{3 1/2}
				Stk 70500					Hld up in last pair w/ in tch: hwy over 2f out: rdn into narrow
25Aug18	Windsor (GB)	gd	1 3/4 @ 2:28 1/4	Sri Lanka August S.	5 1 1/4	Bentley H	131	5.50	Desert Encounter ^{1 1/2} Game Starter ³ Prize Money ³
				Stk 47500					Dwlt: hld up in last: smooth prog 3f out: jnd lbrs 2f: shkn up to
28Jly18	Ascot (GB)	gf	1 1/2 @ RH 2:25 1/4	King George VI&Queen Elizabeth Stakes-G1	7 6 1/4	Atzeni A	133	33.00	Poet's Word ⁴ Crystal Ocean ³ Coronet ⁴
				Stk 763000					S.s.s: ct up at bk of field but mostly last and lft bhd over 2f o
21Jly18	Newbury (GB)	gf	1 1/4 @ LH 2:04 1/4	Bet365 Stevenon S.	7 2 1/2	Atzeni A	132	4.50	Emotionless ² Desert Encounter ³ Fajaja ^{2 1/2}
				Stk 48600					Hld up last: hwy 2f out: wnt 3rd over 1f out: sn rdn: kpt on fal
20Jun18	Ascot (GB)	gf	1 1/4 @ RH 2:03 1/4	Prince Of Wales's Stakes-G1	7 7 1/4	Spencer J	126	40.00	Poet's Word ^{2 1/2} Cracksman ³ Hawkbill ³
				Stk 98000					Stld and dropped in bhd after s: hld up off the pce in m: clsd e
24May18	Sandown Park (GB)	gd	1 1/4 @ RH 2:13 1/4	Matchbook Brigadier Gerard S.-G3	5 3 1/4	Spencer J	129	12.00	Poet's Word ^{2 1/2} Laraaib ^{2 1/2} Desert Encounter ³
				Stk 53400					Hld up in last: prog to take 3rd over 2f out: shkn up and nt qckn
31Mar18	Meydan (UAE)	gd	*1 1/2 @ LH 2:28 1/4	Dubai Sheema Classic-G1	10 9 1/4	Levey S M	126	-	Hawkbill ³ Poet's Word ⁴ Cloth of Stars ^{3 1/2}
				Stk 600000					S.L.S. wnr to chal
21Oct17	Ascot (GB)	sf	1 1/4 @ RH 2:11 1/4	QIPCO Champion Stakes-G1	10 5 3/4	Levey S	131	33.00	Cracksman ⁷ Poet's Word ⁴ Highland Reel ¹
				Stk 1714400					Held up in last: ridden and progress over 2f out, reached 5th and
				Timeform Rating: 113					

● A seven-time winner who is set to contest one of North America's premier turf races? No, it's not a mirage. The connections of Desert Encounter, a six-year-old son of Halling, are hoping the gelding leaves Canada with a coveted Grade 1 score.

● Owned by Abdulla Al Mansoori and trained by David Simcock, Desert Encounter has a win, a second and a third in three of his past four starts, as he readies for one of the biggest races of his career.

● If you're looking for consistency, Desert Encounter is a horse to keep tabs on in the Pattison Canadian International. In 22 lifetime starts, he has seven wins, four seconds and five thirds. This season, the Irish-bred has one win, a second and a pair of thirds from seven starts.

● "All his life he has been a consistent horse," said Simcock. "He was a late developer and only had two runs at two and he was lightly raced at three."

● On August 25, 2018, the Tally-Ho Stud-bred tuffer took the Sri Lanka August Stakes at Windsor, crossing the line a 1 3/4-length winner. In his most recent effort, Desert Encounter finished third in the Grade 3 Dubai Duty Free Legacy Cup at Newbury on September 22, just a half-length out of top spot. One year earlier, he won the race, a neck in front of Second Step in the 1 3/8-mile event.

● Now, the lifetime earner of \$388,789 will get his first taste of Canadian racing in the 1 1/2-mile turf classic.

● "He has run some good races in the right grade, had a couple of tough assignments early in the season," said Simcock, who enjoyed a memorable afternoon at Woodbine four years ago (see his bio below). "He has run two very good races in his last two starts."

● Simcock believes the E.P. Taylor Turf Course will make his Irish-bred charge feel right at home. "Woodbine is a flat, fair track and similar to European style courses, which is obviously a benefit for us. Desert Encounter is a kind horse. He is very straightforward to deal with."

Owner – Abdulla Al Mansoori

Abdulla Al Mansoori has reached the 20-win plateau in each of the past four racing campaigns, including a career-best 27 victories in 2016. Some of the stable's most significant victories include the 2013 Group 2 Bloodstock Jockey Club Stakes and 2013 Group 3 John Porter Stakes, both with Universal, the Group 3 888Sport Solario Stakes with First Selection in 2015 and the Group 3 Prestige Stakes (for fillies) with Kilmah in 2016. Sporting Chance recently took the Group 3 Prix Eclipse (two-year-old, turf).

Trainer – David Simcock

Born February 23, 1972 in Worcester, England, David Simcock began his career with Ian Balding, and then moved to Lambourn where he was employed by the legendary Major Dick Hern, before joining Luca Cumani in Newmarket as an assistant. He began to train horses on his own in 2004. The 2011 season proved a breakout year for Simcock, as the stable's Dream Ahead developed into Europe's top sprinter, winning three Group 1's. In 2012, Simcock saddled I'm A Dreamer to win the Grade 1 Beverly D at Arlington Park, his first Grade 1 victory in the U.S. The trainer also enjoyed a highly successful run at Woodbine in 2014 as he sent out Sheikhzayeroad to win the Grade 1 Northern Dancer, Trade Storm to take the Woodbine Mile, and Caspar Netscher to capture the Grade 2 Nearctic.

Jockey – Andrea Atzeni

Andrea Atzeni is an Italian jockey based in England. He hails from the Mediterranean island of Sardinia. Atzeni expressed an interest in racing at a young age, competing in pony races in Sardinia. At 15, he moved to Milan and started working for Italian trainer Alduino Botti. Some of his major victories include the Premio Lydia Tesio with Sortilege (his first Group 1 triumph) and the Dubai Sheema Classic with Postponed in 2016. As of October 8, he has 413 career wins from 2,295 races.