



T H E B A Z A A R

PRO SHOP: Equestrian Boots

Happy TRAILS



Louis Vuitton boots, \$1,990. louisvuitton.com.

On Larson: Ariat International boots, \$290. ariat.com.



Ralph Lauren Collection Wellington Reia boot, \$1,250. ralphlauren.com.



Gucci boot, \$1,980. gucci.com.



J.J. Gray riding boot, \$950. jj-gray.com.

How HISTORY-MAKING horseback rider GILLIAN LARSON boots up

In 2014, at the age of 22, Gillian Larson became the youngest person to solo thru-ride the Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada. Then a novice trail rider, she completed the nearly five-month journey just as she started grad school. "It was a mess," says Larson, now 29. "I didn't understand the mountains or the snow, so it was a lot of trial and error, but I gained an incredible sense of freedom and adventure." At Cal State Northridge, she missed that lifestyle so much, she dropped out after two years. "I had a midlife crisis after the first thru-ride," she explains. "I liked who I was on the trail and realized it was such a purer way to walk

through life." Since then, Larson has ridden the PCT a second time and logged more than 10,000 backcountry miles. On the trail, she relies on Merrell hiking boots to find her stride. But at home on California's Central Coast, where she's been spending more time since reenrolling in grad school at Cal Poly last year to study agricultural education, Larson prefers a taller style by Ariat when she mucks stalls and feeds her horses. "There's a lot of dirt and sand that will get inside if you're wearing sneakers," she notes. "I go out to check on the horses all the time, so it's nice to have something that's easy to put on or take off." ARIANA MARSH