



MEDIA RELEASE

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Industry association cuts accreditation red tape for tour guides as Australia's borders open on International Tourist Guide Day

Leading industry association Tour Guides Australia offer free accreditation assessment to experienced tour guides who join their national industry association and can meet with assessors in Cairns, Sydney, or Melbourne on 27 March 2022.

Tour Guides Australia continue to cut red tape to support quality standards for tour guides servicing the visitor economy by coordinating assessment on specific dates and waiving the standard assessment fee. This latest offer is in addition to a recent overhaul of membership categories that enable experienced guides to take advantage of recognised prior learning to attain a National Guide Accreditation.

For candidates that seek to enter the industry, Tour Guides Australia will commence micro-credential workshops to create famil ready Guides for Australia's tour operators from May 2022.

President of Tour Guides Australia Jim McInerney says, "Tour Guides across the country are excited about the return of international visitors. Our industry was the first impacted by border closures and will be the last to recover. Many of our colleagues have left the industry. So, we are working hard to remove the barriers for Australia's most experienced tour guides to return to the job they love and also develop clear pathways for Australians that are interested in becoming a professional Tour Guide."

Tour Guides Australia is aware of the visitor economy's challenges from a new or experienced Guides perspective. Their focus is to

- Promote National accreditation of Guides as a sign of quality and safety
- Collaborate to create training solutions that align with the needs of the industry
- Develop pathways for Guiding as a career into the broader visitor economy

Whether you are a tour guide looking to get your experience recognised with national accreditation or seeking a new career as a professional guide, visit www.tga.org.au

END



MEDIA RELEASE

CONTACT

For further information: please get in touch with Jim McInerney on 0417 123 178 or email president@tga.org.au

ABOUT TOUR GUIDES AUSTRALIA

Tour Guides Australia was formed in 2021 when the Professional Tour Guides Association of Australia amalgamated with Guiding Organisations Australia. Tour Guides Australia has undertaken professional tour guide accreditation and professional development since 1985.

Tour Guides Australia is a member-run association supporting education, professional development, advocacy, and career support.

For more information, visit www.tga.org.au