



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

18 NOVEMBER 2021

### **Tour guide association calls on former Guides to help Australia's tourism skills shortage**

Tour Guides Australia has launched a new membership level that provides a hassle-free pathway for experienced Guides to return to the industry.

The new Registered Guide membership category enables experienced tour guides to return to the industry and gain national accreditation based on their previous work experience.

President of Tour Guides Australia Jim McInerney says, "Our association traditionally catered for independent tour guides sourcing clients. However, right now, we are experiencing a once in a generation nationwide skills shortage, so we must utilise our accreditation processes to link tour operators with experienced Guides to protect the quality of Australia's visitor economy."

Suppose you have previously worked in a guiding role and are keen to return to tourism with a national guiding accreditation. In that case, you can take advantage of the new pathway for experienced guides. Here are the criteria to become a Registered Guide via the new hassle-free pathway:

- Resume with relevant guiding experience or similar
- Minimum of 3 years or 300 hours of delivering services as a Guide.
- Current First Aid Certificate, including CPR.
- Proof of identity and ability to work in Australia

Ready to take advantage of national accreditation? Whether you qualify or are unable to be eligible and still want to connect with Tour Guides Australia, individuals of all levels of guiding experience can join as an Associate Membership. This option is free until 31 December 2021. Once you've joined as an Associate Member, talk to Tour Guides Australia about the best membership level and accreditation for you in 2022.

Get started today at [www.tga.org.au](http://www.tga.org.au)

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### CONTACT

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### ABOUT TOUR GUIDES AUSTRALIA

Tour Guides Australia formed in 2021 when 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 members with education, professional development, advocacy, and career support.

For more information visit [www.tga.org.au](http://www.tga.org.au)