



**MEDIA RELEASE
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LEARN TO BE A TOUR GUIDE WITH GLOBAL GYPSIES!

Touring and training experts Global Gypsies are holding their next short, accredited Tour Guide Training Course on October 30-31, 2010. Accreditation is provided by Pilbara TAFE under the Certificate III of Tourism Unit of Competency *THFTG05B Lead Tour Groups*.

Designed for urban, regional or remote area Tour Guides who are either permanent employees, casual, free-lance or volunteers, the course comprises both theoretical and practical content with emphasis on hands-on activities and role plays.

Held at Murdoch University and an overnight bush camp, the content covers such generic guiding skills as interpretive presentation, customer service, duty of care, basic four-wheel-driving, safety, risk management, dealing with emergencies, leadership, cultural awareness, environmental responsibility, conflict resolution and more.

Global Gypsies has been committed to Tour Guide training since the company's inception in 1997. Jeremy Perks (former FACET Golden Guide of the Year) and Jan Barrie, the Directors of Global Gypsies, say, "Our goal is to have as many WA Tour Guides trained as possible and, ideally, accredited in some way to improve the quality of Tour Guiding in our State and deliver a better - and safer - visitor experience. We also want to give the profession the status, respect and esteem it deserves and already enjoys in many other parts of the world."

Excellent courses of a longer duration are available at a number of learning institutions throughout Australia. However, believing that an inexpensive short course was the key to wide scale Tour Guide training, Global Gypsies developed their first Tour Guide Training Program six years ago in conjunction with Murdoch University and Tourism Council WA. The course has since been expanded and given accreditation.

The price for the course is \$425 per person including professional services of two tutors and a course coordinator over two days, workbook, theoretical and practical training sessions, transport to bush camp, overnight camp, all meals, non-alcoholic beverages, attendance certificate, assessment and, on successful completion of the course, accreditation documentation and bronze lapel pin. Numbers are strictly limited.

In conjunction with Pilbara TAFE, Global Gypsies has also developed a special three-day accredited course for indigenous students with more oral content than the initial course and an oral exam. The company was commissioned by Tourism WA to run a course in the Pilbara for indigenous students last year which achieved a 100% pass rate. Jan and Jeremy still mentor one of these students who plans to establish a tour business in Millstream National Park.

**For more details please contact Global Gypsies on
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