



World Federation of Tourist Guides Associations

Jane Orde Guiding Document Worldwide January 2011

An overview of the guiding profession with information on tourist guide associations, membership, the organisation of tourist guides associations, qualifications required conditions of work, fees, and legal issues. We are continually updating this information

ANALYTICAL TABLE: BASED ON QUESTIONNAIRES, SURVEY, AREA REPORTS, WEB SITES AND OTHER SOURCES.

Member Country	Association Name	Total No of Guides in Association	Is Licensing required? Who is responsible?	Training By whom Theory Practical	Basic Qualification for a guide	Fees Full Day Half Day Approx Euros	Fees decided by tourism authority or association or guide	Certification: Who is responsible?	Problems the guides are facing in the country
Albania	National Association of Tourist Guides of Albania (NATGA)		No						
Argentina	Asociación Guías de Turismo de Buenos Aires		Yes		University Graduate				
Armenia	Guild of Armenian Guides	25	Yes	Yes, 4 months, 112 hours theory, 48 hrs practical. by AGG - Accredited Trainers + Lecturers	High School +	36.6 18.3	Guide Assn.	AGG	Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Leaders, Late Payments, Low Fees.
Australia	Guiding Organisations of Australia	124	No	Different institutions	Various standards of qualification	FD 97-182	GUIDES		

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Austria	Vienna Chamber of Commerce	700	Yes. Vienna Chamber of Commerce & Federal State of Austria	Yes 960 hours Professional training, Theoretical Tuition. and Practical Training Written, theoretical, practical and language	Tourist Guide Exam	246 118		Vienna Chamber of Commerce	
Austria	Tyrolean Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Department of Tourism, Tourist Guides	202	Yes,	Yes, 1.5 years, By Wirtschaftsfoerderungsinstitut der Wirtschaftskammer Tirol, A-6020 Innsbruck, Theory: 650 hours Practical: 100 hours	Exam to get Tourist Guide License				

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Austria	Vienna Guide Service	401	Yes. Vienna Chamber of Commerce & Federal State of Austria	Yes 960 hours	Tourist Guide Exam	246 118		Vienna Chamber of Commerce	
Belize	BNTGA Belize National Tourist Guide Association								
Brazil	federacao nacional dos guias de turismo	10000	Yes,	11 months, Theory 800 hours by authorized training institutes, Practical 160 hours by Guides	Secondary.	60-100 30-35	Commercial Organisation		Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Guides, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, Shopping Obligation, No Social Security

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Canada	Association Professionnelle des Guides Touristique, Chapitre de Montréal (APGT-Montréal)	Licensed 150 Members in 2010 90: 2011 numbers in April 2011	Yes, City of Montreal. Municipal government	By Specialists, Tourist Guides. 240 hours of class time. 15 hours of research minimum required	High School(University preferred)	140 75	Guide Assn.		Illegal Guiding, Low Fees/Remuneration
Canada	Canadian Tourist Guide Association of Toronto	Unknown	No	Depends, a month or two. By College, Experienced guides.	Minimum of 10 Tours with an Established company.	100-200 36-100	Guide Assn. / Each Guide negotiates own fees.	No	Foreign Tour leaders, late payments, low fees, no social security.
Canada	British Columbia Chapter of Canadian Tourist Guide Association	200 approx		Yes guides are providing training for interpretation skills, etc.				Certification and standards has been undertaken by 602 and EMERIT, both are sponsored	

								by provincial Government	
Canada	Canadian Tour Guide Association of British Columbia		No	No				No	
Chile	Asociacion Profesional de Guias De Turismo								
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Costa Rica	Asociación Costarricense de Guías de Turismo								
Cyprus	Cyprus Tourist Guide Association	270	Yes. The Cyprus Tourism Organisation	Yes C T O with the University of Cyprus operate the	University Degree	125 80	Tourist Board	The Cyprus Tourism Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal Guiding Late Payments No Social Security

				School of Guides/ lectures in different subjects/training/certificate					
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Czech Rep	Asociace Pruvodcu Ceske Republiky	600	No, not at the moment – ongoing project	Yes Lifelong educational courses or undergraduate programme	B2 college or higher	112 64	Guide Assn.	None at the moment-ongoing project	Illegal Guiding Foreign Tour Guides, Low Fees/Remuneration, Too Many, Guides
Denmark									
Dominican Republic									
Egypt	The Egyptian General Tourist Guide Syndicate	OVER 10000	Yes MINISTRY OF TOURISM		Diploma + Egyptology				

Estonia	Tallinn Guide Association	200	No			100-120 60	Guide Assn.		Foreign Tour Guides, Low Fees/Remuneration, No Social Security, Too Many Guides, Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
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Finland	Suomen Opasliitto r.y. - Finlands Guideforbund r.f.								
Germany	Bundesverband der Gästeführer in Deutschland e.V.								
Germany	Münchner Gästeführer Verein e.v.								
Germany	Potsdam, Potsdamer Guide e.V.								

Georgia	Georgian Association of Guides (GAG)	38	No	Yes, 2 years, Theory: 72, Practical:62 hours by Trainers of the guide schools or the Association	Secondary Education	80-120 25-80	Guide Assn./ Commercial Organisation		Late Payments Low Fees/Remuneration No Social Security Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
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Greece	PANHELLENIC TOURIST GUIDE FEDERATION	Approx 2000	yes	Yes, 2.5 years. Theory: 1600 hours, by University Professors. Practical 60 hours by Experienced Tourist Guides.	High School Plus Vocational Studies.	200 130	Guide Assn.		Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Guides, Late Payments, Shopping Obligation

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Hong Kong	Association of Registered Tour Coordinators		No						
India	Tourist Guide Federation of South India	190	Yes. Government of India and State Government of Archaeological Survey of India	Yes Yes, 6 months By Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management Practical – 420 hours	Bachelor's Degree	26 16	Guide Assn. and tour operators association	Government	Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Guides, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, Shopping Obligation, No Social Security, Too Many Guides, Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
India	Tourist Guide Federation of India(TGFI)	2500	Yes. Govt of India and State Govt of Archaeological Survey of India	Yes, 6 months Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management Practical – 420 hours	Recognized University's Degree	26 16	Guide Assn. and tour operators association	Indian Institute of Travel & Tourism Management	Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Guides, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, Shopping Obligation, No Social Security, Too Many Guides, Lack of Mutual Co-Operation

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India	Tourist Guides Association Mumbai, India	140	Yes Same all India	Same all India	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
India	Tourist Guides Association Jaipur	250	Yes Same all India	Same all India	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Indonesia	Indonesian Tourist Guide Association	12000	Yes. Ministry of Culture and Tourism. In Indonesia Guiding License is issued by the Provincial Tourism Authorities	General Guide training (Local)	Senior High School Graduate	15		The Association, supported by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism or an Institution like Tourist Guides Training Centre	Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Guides, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, Shopping Obligation, No Social Security, Too Many Guides, Lack of Mutual Co-Operation

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Iran	Iran Tourist Guides Association (ITGA)		Yes	Yes, 6 months, Theory 320 hours by Tourism Institutes	Secondary		Guides negotiate own fees	Organization of Tourism of Iran	Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Guides, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, Too Many Guides, Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
Iraq	Iraqi Tourist Guides Syndicate		Yes	No					
Israel	Israel Tour Guides Association		Yes						
Italy	Associazione Nazionale Guide Turistiche		Yes, By Govt		High School/University depends				

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Latvia	Latvian Tourist Guide Association	190	Yes. The Ministry of Economics the Latvian Tourist Guides Association	University and College levels	University plus Guide Courses	60-80 40-50	Guide Assn.	The Ministry of Economics the Latvian Tourist Guides Association	ILLEGAL GUIDING NO SOCIAL SECURITY
Macau	Macau Tourist Guide Association	622	No, Only Qualification.	Yes, 3 months, Theory 180 hours, Practical 18 hours by Institute of Tourism Studies.	High School	50-60 30	Each Guide negotiates own fees.	IFT	Illegal Guiding, Late Payments, Low Fees, No Social Security.
Malta	Malta Union of Tourist Guides		No	Yes, 2 years					

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Malaysia	Persatuan Pemandu Pelancong Wanita Malaysia		Yes, Tourism Authority	Yes, Both					Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Leaders, Late Payments, Lack of Mutual Co-operation
Nepal	Turgan Tourist guides association of Nepal	611	Yes Ministry of tourism,	Yes, 10 weeks, By Nepal Academy of Tourism & Hotel Management -(NATHM). Theory : 480/Practical 80 hours	Bachelor's Degree	25 10	Guide Assn./Commercial Organisation	Nepal Academy of Tourism & Hotel Management -(NATHM).	Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour leaders, Low fees, No Social Security
Netherlands	Netherlands Guides Association Guidor	125	No	Yes Ranges between High School and University levels	GIVAK Exams	185-260 115-160	Guides negotiate own fees	Netherlands Guides Association Guidor	Foreign Tour Guides
Norway	Norges Guideforbund					243			Low Fees/Remuneration

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Puerto Rico	ASOCIACIÓN PUERTORRIQUEÑA DE INTERPRETACIÓN Y EDUCACIÓN, INC.			300 contact hours	Graduate of secondary , and so have a national diploma given in Puerto Rico				
Portugal	Sindicato Nacional da Actividade Turística Tradutores e Interpretes				University Degree				
Portugal	Associação Portuguesa dos Guias-Intérpretes e Correios de Turismo								
Romania	Association ICA		no		High School + foreign language.	Not fixed Not fixed			FORIGEN TOUR LEADERS UNORGANISED

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Singapore	Society of Tourist Guides Singapore	300	Yes. Singapore Tourism Board and National Tourist Organisation	Yes By Tourist Guide Trainers. We offer professional development courses in various subjects to licensed tourist guides	High School	150 EURO 70 EURO	Each Guide negotiates own fees	Singapore Tourism Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal Guiding Low Fees/Remuneration No Social Security Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
Slovakia	Slovak Tourist Guides Association								
South Africa	Gauteng Guides Association	2013	Registration with the Department of Tourism (Government)	Training by Accredited Training providers (Universities, Colleges, and private providers.	Grade 12 minimum	60-100 40-60	Guide Assn.	Tourism, Hospitality, and education Training Authority (THETA), accredits the training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal Guiding Foreign Tour Guides Low Fees/Remuneration Too Many Guides Lack of Mutual Co-Operation

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South Africa	Federation of South African Tourist Guide Associations (FSATGA)	Approx 8000	Yes,	Yes, 3 years, Theory: 60% by Private Trainers. Practical 40% by Qualified Assessors.	Grade 12 minimum	60-100 30-60	Guide Assn.	Private Training Providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal Guiding Foreign Tour Guides No Social Security Too Many Guides Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
Spain	CEFAPIT	2000	Yes In 14 regions No in 2 regions	By Regional Govt. Theor:1500 hrs Prac:500 hrs	University Degree + extra academics	160 120	Guide Assn.		
Sweden	FSAG Stockholms Auuktoriserade Guider	300	Yes, Tourist Board Stockholm	Yes, 1 year, By Tourist Board		280 140	Guide Assn.		Illegal Guiding, Foreign Tour Leaders, Low Fees, No Social Security, Too many guides.

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Thailand	Professional Tourist Guides Association of Thailand		Yes Ministry of Tourism	govt				Govt	Illegal Guiding, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, No Social Security
Turkey	TUREB-IRO	Istanbul 3000 Federation 8000	yes	By experts and scholars, 560 hours	2 years College Education	MIN 110 70	Tourist Board		Illegal Guiding, Late Payments, Low Fees/Remuneration, No Social Security
UK	Association of Professional Tourist Guides	475 approx	No - Not required	Continual Professional Developmt CPD, walks, lectures, visits etc.	Guiding Accredit Course	215 137		Accreditation by the Institute of Tourist Guiding	Foreign Tour Leaders
UK	Scottish Tourist Guides Association	400+	No - Not required	Yes University of Edinburgh	Guiding Accredit Course	217 135	Guide negotiates own fees.	Yes Scottish Tourist Guide Association	
UK	Guild of Registered Tourist Guides	1,700	Institute of Tourist Guides		Guiding Accredit course	217 135		Institute of Tourist Guides	

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USA	Guild of Professional Tourist Guides of Washington D.C.	350	Yes Licensing is the responsibility of the District of Columbia Government Washington	Professional Tourist guide training programme for new associate members (no college credits are given)				Internal Certification	

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USA	Tour Guides Association of Greater New Orleans	200	Yes, City of New Orleans. Needs to be renewed yearly.	Yes, Community College gives a course on Tour Guiding. The course is 8 weeks long. After a test is administered this has been prepared by the teacher and tourist guides. If a passing grad (over).					
USA	Guides Association of New York City	250	YES, Dept of Consumer Affairs New York City	No					

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USA	National Federation of Tourist Guide Associations - USA	10s of Thousand	Varies	No				N.A.	Foreign Tour Guides No Social Security Lack of Mutual Co-Operation
USA	Chicago Tour-Guide Professionals Association		No						
USA	Dallas/Fort Worth Tourist Guides Assoc								
USA	Greater Boston Tour Guide Association		No						
USA	Professional Tour Guide Association of Houston	No info	No	By Certification Committee. 1 year	Association Certification Classes and Testing		Each guide negotiates own fees.	Certification Committee	
USA	Professional Tour Guide Association of San Antonio		No						

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USA	San Diego Professional Tour Guide Association		No						

Non-Member Country	Association Name	Total No of Guides in Association	Is Licensing required? Who is responsible?	Training By whom Theory Practical	Basic Qualification for a guide	Fees Full Day Half Day Approx Euros	Fees decided by tourism authority or association or guide	Certification: Who is responsible?	Problems the guides are facing in the country
France			No			290 120	Guide Assn.		
Iceland					Secondary Education + experience	Max 112			
Croatia			YES BY MINISTRY OF TOURISM	YES, BOTH				By GOVERNMENT	FOREIGN TOUR LEADERS
Sri Lanka	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TOURIST GUIDE LECTURERS		YES BY MINISTRY OF TOURISM	YES BOTH	HIGHER SECONDARY		TOURISM AUTHORITY	TOURISM AUTHORITY	ILEGAL GUIDING, FOREIGN TOUR LEADERS LATE PAYMENTS
Vietnam									
Bhutan	BHUTAN TOURIST GUIDE ASSOCIATION		YES MINISTRY OF TOURISM	YES BOTH			TOURISM BOARD	TOURISM BOARD	FOREIGN TOUR LEADERS NO EFFICIENT TRAINING
Jordan			YES						

Notes:

1. **Total Number of Countries: 61**

2. **Number of Countries where Licensing is required: 29**

Armenia, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada (Montréal), Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Malaysia, Nepal, Peru, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, USA(SOME PARTS ONLY)., Croatia, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Jordan.

3. **Number of Countries where Licensing is not required: 16**

Australia, Canada Toronto, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hong Kong, Macau, Malta, Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Serbia, UK, USA (some parts), France, Uruguay

4. **Number of Countries where Fees is decided by Guide Association/Tour Operators: 19**

Armenia, Canada Montreal, Canada Toronto, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, India, Japan, Latvia, Nepal, Peru, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, UK, Georgia, Uruguay.

5. **Number of Countries where Fees is decided by Tourist Board: 4**

Cyprus, Turkey, Sri Lanka, Bhutan,

6. **Number of Countries where Fees is decided by Guides: 7**

Australia, Iran, Macau, Netherlands, Singapore, UK, Canada, Toronto.

7. Number of Countries where Full Day Fees is:

LESS THAN 50 EUROS: 5

Armenia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Russia,

50-100 EUROS: 11

Brazil, Latvia, Serbia, South Africa, Turkey, Tunisia, India, Macau, Malaysia, Puerto Rico, Uruguay.

100-150 EUROS: 10

Canada Montreal, Canada Toronto, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Iceland, UK, Singapore, Turkey, Georgia.

More than 150: 11

Australia, Austria, Greece, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK, France, Denmark