Wilderness Guide Training Programme

Developed in partnership between
Wilderness Scotland & The Wilderness Foundation UK
Background and need:

- Lack of structured and coherent training for guides around the non-technical areas of knowledge and awareness in adventure and nature based tourism.
- Develop guides who are top of their game and who would be sought after by any guiding operation both in the UK and internationally.
- Provide training in a range of areas, which is either unavailable or not considered relevant elsewhere.
- Create a structured modular training programme to make continued professional development both varied and cumulative.
Aims of the WGTP:

- Prepare guides to facilitate and inspire clients about cultural heritage, natural history and conservation

- Increase awareness of sustainable tourism best practice leading to improved practice in the field.

- Increase awareness of what constitutes sustainable tourism and communication of this to clients and other partners

- Recognising and valuing the important role of the informal curriculum that exists in adventure and nature based tourism experiences

- Create guiding perspective and practice, which offers the highest level of customer experience
Run on sustainable principles:

- Participants encouraged to use public transport or car share to attend the three residential.

- Minibus used where transport required during the course to reduce vehicle use.

- Use of local accommodation providers (Green Tourism Business Scheme Gold wherever possible) e.g. Glenuig Inn Fort William.

- Use catering providers operating as much as possible with fair trade, local and organic products e.g. Mountain Café Aviemore.
Core Modules

- Leave No Trace - certificated
- Cultural History & Interpretation
- Guiding - Concepts & Philosophies for Adventure Tourism
- Environmental Advocacy
- Natural History & Conservation
Habitat Modules

- Coastal - Riparian - Upland
- Flora & Fauna
- Geology/geomorphology
- Conservation issues
Option Modules

- Weather Interpretation
- Music
- Storytelling
- Ethnobotany
- Wilderness Cooking
- Natural Navigation
- Inclusive Adventure
- Astronomy
Programme Structure

- Core, habitat and optional module attendance
- Consolidation of guiding experience (mentored, shadowing)
- Attendance only - Assessment component in development
Process

- Modules run in the off-season Oct - April
- 9 month process
- Senior Guide for WS & WF
Further information

Myles Farnbank - Director of Training
myles@wildernessscotland.com