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**WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS**

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## **Willis's Walkabouts Guides Wanted: 2009 and beyond**

In 2008, for the first time since 1988, we were almost forced to cancel trips due to the lack of guides. We need more guides on our list or we may face the same situation again.

### **Among other things, our guides must**

- be good bush navigators
- be good cooks
- have good people skills
- have appropriate first aid qualifications – remote or wilderness
- be flexible and happy to lead only one or two trips per year
- be responsible for most of the organisation regarding their trip. This includes things like
  - preparing a menu and the meals, taking into account any special dietary requirements (We provide sample menus and assist with the first trip.)
  - reconfirming transport arrangements
  - shipping food to the departure point for trips not beginning in Darwin
  - reconfirming (and in some cases making) transport arrangements for the trip
  - preparing the hire gear and maps that the clients request and collecting the gear back at the end.
- new guides must be willing to go out on their first trip as an unpaid assistant with one of the experienced guides so that they can learn the ropes and we can evaluate their potential.
- be good at driving four wheel drive vehicles.
- know or be willing to learn a lot about the flora, fauna, geology and Aboriginal culture of the areas in which we operate. Guides don't have to be experts, but they do need a good overall knowledge.

Other things being equal, we give preference to guides who also

- have completed the Kakadu On-Line Tour Guide Training Course (cost \$170). No one can lead a Kakadu trip unless they have completed the course.
  - Details are at [www.cdu.edu.au/tourismhospitality/kakadu-knowledge.html](http://www.cdu.edu.au/tourismhospitality/kakadu-knowledge.html)
  - A sample lesson is at [http://industry.flexiblelearning.net.au/example\\_kakadu/index.html](http://industry.flexiblelearning.net.au/example_kakadu/index.html)
- have an H (hire) endorsement on their driver's license.

It is a real hassle if they don't have it.

- A guide who doesn't have an H endorsement should NEVER drive any WW vehicle.
- Under current regulations, they should never drive one of our hire cars in the NT with clients in it.
- Clients should never drive the vehicle which is registered as a Tourist Vehicle.

If, after reading our Guides Information booklet, you feel that you are both qualified and interested in leading trips for us, please send us an email including your resume and scans of your first aid certificate and driver's license. If you have already done the Kakadu course, please send us your certificate of completion.