

The World Buddhist University Pilgrimage (Tour) Guide Training Program

Rationale:

Realizing that Buddhist Pilgrims are delighted to visit important temples and pay homage to the Holy Buddha Images enshrined in the main chapels of various monasteries, The World Buddhist University has designed a Pilgrimage (Tour) Guide Training Program for Buddhists and interested persons, both Thais and foreigners residing in Thailand, as well as from overseas. The program aims at providing knowledge on Thai temples and facilitating the acquisition of merit while seeking auspicious blessings at selected sites. The study and sightseeing program shall be conducted in English.

The Pilgrimage Tour Guide Training Program is based on high academic standards that also include practical training sessions, such as praying and sitting in Insight Meditation at suitable venues. It is especially suitable for those who may wish to professionally learn about pilgrimage tours for Buddhist pilgrims from abroad.

The program is carried out by qualified lecturers and professional tour guides who graduated from the Professional Tour Guide Training program of the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT).

Objectives:

1. To offer regular Pilgrimage Tour Programs
2. To introduce important temples and pagodas to cover all significant sites of pilgrimage in the Kingdom of Thailand
3. To encourage the participants to gain appropriate knowledge and experience from qualified instructors
4. To promote pilgrimage domestic and inbound tours, with outbound pilgrimage tours to be followed in the near future
5. To provide an opportunity for the participants to exchange ideas and share experience provided by their instructors and guides

Venue for classes:

Classes shall be conducted at Viengtai Hotel Banglumpoo and the Meeting room of the World Buddhist University, 3rd floor, of the World Fellowship of Buddhists Headquarters (WFB) Building, Soi 24 Sukhumvit Road, Bangkok, Thailand.

Pilgrimage sites:

Sites in Bangkok and neighboring provinces.

Duration of the Program:

One week : 19 – 25 January 2554/2011 Time : 09.00 – 16.00

Participants' qualifications for the program:

An interest in Buddhism and the Buddhist Heritage of Thailand or good command of English

Steps to proceed with the Program:

- To do relevant work on the courses, both of academic and practical nature, in the classroom and at the sites
- To engage qualified instructors and professional tour guides in the mission
- To design the plan for classes and outing programs
- To set the written examinations and evaluate the participants for graduation and awards of their program accomplishment
- To organize the Certificate Presentation Ceremony and celebration as deemed appropriate

Graduating and Grading

90% = A

80% = B

70% = C

Below 70% = F

Application:

- In person
- Through internet

Number of Participants:

50 persons

Results expected:

1. The Pilgrimage (Tour) Program has been organized, offered and participated in
2. The program has been conducted and benefited according to the objectives
3. The participants have been taught and trained as aimed
4. The Pilgrimage (Tour) Program has been promoted for expansion domestically and externally
5. The opportunity to encourage more action to develop the Pilgrimage (Tour) Program has been achieved

Responsible Body:

Institute of Training and Curriculum Development, The World Buddhist University

Opening ceremony and Lectures

Wednesday 19 January 2554(2011)

- 09.00 – 09.45 Registration
09.45 – 10.00 Coffee Break
10.00 – 10.30 Opening Ceremony / assemblage of all concerned at Sanya Dhammasakdi Hall.
10.30 – 12.00 Introduction to the Pilgrimage(Tour) by Deputy Governor of TAT
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch
13.00 – 15.00 Lecture on The Temple of the Imerald Buddha, The Temple of the Reclining Buddha, The Temple of Dawn by Ajarn Sompol Kutapand
15.00 – 15.15 Coffee Break
15.15 – 16.00 Chanting and Meditation by Phra Rajsithimuni

Thursday 20 January 2554(2011)

- 09.00 – 09.45 Chanting and Meditation by Phra Rajsithimuni
09.45 – 10.00 Coffee Break
10.00 – 12.00 Lecture on Wat Mahathatu, Wat Chanasongkram, Wat Suthat and Wat Srakes by Assoc.Prof. Boon Ketutarsa
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch
13.00 – 15.00 Lecture on The Marble Temple Wat Traimitra, Wat Indraviharn, Wat Bovornives by Ajarn Surachat Suansup
15.00 – 15.15 Coffee Break
15.15 – 16.15 Lecture on Buddhamandal, Phra Pathomchedi and Wat Luang Phor Sodh, Buddhist Meditation Institute Ratchaburi. By Dr. Amnaj Buasiri and team

Friday 21 January 2554(2011)

- 09.00 – 09.45 Chanting and Meditation by Phra Rajsithimuni
09.45 – 10.00 Coffee Break
10.00 – 12.00 Lecture on Wat Pananchoeng, Wat Yai Chaimongkol, Wat Mongkolborpit. by Arjarn Kesrin and team
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch
13.00 – 15.00 Wat Naphrameru, Wat Phrabuddhabad, Wat Thakharong, Wat Sothorn vararam, by Arjarn Kesrin and team
15.00 – 15.15 Coffee Break
15.15 – 16.15 Wat Kalayanamitra, Wat Rakang Kositaram

Saturday 22 January 2554(2011)

- 08.00 – 12.00 Outing trip to The Temple of Dawn / The Emerald Buddha Temple : Ajarn Sompol Kutapand
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch at a restaurant on the way
13.00 – 16.15 Buddhamandal and Wat Raikhing

Sunday 23 January 2554(2011)

08.00 – 12.00 Outing trip to Wat Sangka Dana Nonthaburi to observe and
12.00 – 16.00 Participate in Meditation practice at Wat Sangka Dana and Korkred
Island : Ajarn Boon.

Monday 24 January 2554(2011)

08.00 – 12.00 Outing trip to Wat Traimitr, Prapathomcgedi : Ajarn Panyaporn
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch at a restaurant on the way
13.00 – 16.00 Wat Luang Pho Sod and Floating Market Rachburi province.

Tuesday 25 January 2554(2011)

08.00 – 09.00 Chanting and Meditation by Meditation Master : Ajarn Boonsri
09.00 – 11.00 Panel Discussion on “Professional tour Guide” by Qualified instructor
11.00 – 11.15 Coffee Break
11.15 – 12.15 Group discussion and presentation by participants
12.15 – 13.30 Lunch
13.30 – 15.00 Group discussion and presentation by participants
15.00 – 16.00 Certificates Presentation and closing ceremony at Viengtai Hotel
17.00 – 18.30 Social Hour and Dinner at Viengtai Hotel Banglampoo
18.30 Departure

Application Form
Pilgrimage (Tour) Guide Training Program
For All

Please complete this form and E-mail to the World Buddhist University Centre before 10th January 2011(2554) : Thank you very much for your interest.

1. Name of the applicant : MR./MRS./MS
Age Birth of place.....
2. Current Address : ...(Contacted Address)
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3. E-mail :Website :
4. Telephone : Mobile :
5. Education :
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6. Work Experience :
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7. Experience in pilgrimage / tour :
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8. Any previous experience in Buddhist Meditation :
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Signed by
Title
Date