

ADVENTURE GUIDES

MOUNTAIN TRAINING CONSULTANTS



CORPORATE TRAINING, TEAM AND LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW



profile

What we are...

Adventure Guides was born out of a single desire to redefine the standards and professionalism of adventure guiding, rope & wilderness related technical training and adventure based corporate teambuilding in Australia, and could best be described as a 'concept' company. We have deliberately set out to push the current boundaries of service, standards and instructor development to levels currently only seen in Europe and North America (where the tradition of professional mountain guiding is considerably longer than in Australia). Drawing on the vast experience base of our team and our partner organisations enables us to put together programs and adventures which consistently break new ground and set new yardsticks in experiential learning.



staff

Our full time team.

Bill Proctor – 35

Bill is the founder of Adventure Guides.

Former Australian School of Mountaineering Senior Instructor & Program Designer, ex – Australian Army Parachute Jump Instructor & Recon Patrol Commander, CIA Multipitch Lead Climbing Instructor, PACI Instructor Assessor, Swiftwater Rescue Technician I, Vertical Rescue specialist & qualified survival instructor. Bill's biggest claim to fame is having raced in (& completed) two RAID GAULOISES Expedition Races, one as team leader. He enjoys running trail marathons & has traveled / climbed extensively in such locations as Nepal, Tibet, North Africa (Morocco), China, Borneo, Thailand, Malaysia, the UK, Chile, Bolivia, Peru & Ecuador.

Carl Jagusch – 41

Carl is our senior climbing instructor.

Ex - Swedish Army Major with UN postings in Angola, India, Pakistan, Lebanon & Bosnia - Herzegovina. Australian School of Mountaineering Senior Instructor, ACIA Multipitch Lead Climbing Instructor, PACI Instructor Trainer, IRATA Industrial Access & Vertical Rescue Specialist & Swiftwater Rescue Technician I with twenty years of climbing experience in Europe, the US and Australia. Carl has extensive field experience in sub arctic, mountainous, jungle and desert regions, having been amongst other things a member of the Swedish Arctic Alpine Search and Rescue Team.

Peter Doughty - 33

Pete is our senior survival instructor.

Ex – British Army Sniper who trained in survival with the legendary 'Lofty' Wiseman. PACI Instructor Trainer, IRATA Industrial Access & Vertical Rescue Specialist, Swiftwater Rescue Technician I & British Forces Expedition Leader. Pete has climbed extensively in Europe, East Africa, Canada & Australia. He is well regarded for his engaging style and broad experience in training corporate groups. He is also a very experienced open ocean sea kayaker.

Ivan Valenta - 35

Ivan is our senior rope technician & rigger.

Very accomplished climber, instructor & technical mechanic. PACI Instructor Trainer, ACIA Multipitch Lead Climbing Instructor & IRATA Industrial Access Specialist. Ivan's intensely professional delivery style makes even the most nervous participants feel well at ease in the most demanding situations. He has travelled & climbed extensively in the US and Australia.

Adventure Guides staff are **the most highly qualified professional rope technicians in Australia**. We have organisational accreditation via the Australian Climbing Instructors Association (Vic), the Professional Association of Climbing Instructors (Qld), the Industrial Rope Access Trade Association, Rescue 3 (USA), the Australian Army Adventurous Training Centre, the Australian National Training Authority (for Certificate 4 Workplace Trainer Assessor), Fallright International (for rescue accreditation) and the Outdoor Recreation Industry Council of Australia. Adventure Guides is fully licenced with the National Parks and Wildlife Service as a registered commercial operator and we have comprehensive public liability and professional indemnity insurance covering the full scope of our field operations.

However, to conduct successful team building programs we are acutely aware that simply having good rigging skills or being able to offer an abseiling day is not enough. **All our facilitation staff are trained in and familiar with DiSC, Myers – Briggs and Team Management Program** personality profiling tools and are well versed in the latest debriefing models and techniques. We have trained extensively with a number of indoor facilitators and are able to readily function both 'inside' the conference room as well as in the field.

Who have our staff worked with ?

Drayton Colliery, Callide Mining, Macquarie Bank, Smalls Recruiting, Terrace Tower, Blue Mountains City Council, Liverpool City Council, AMP, Franklins, Video Easy, David Grant Special Events, Zurich, Wormald Fire Systems, Outward Bound, Taronga Zoo, Australian Army, Royal Australian Navy, Royal Australian Air Force, Police Rescue, SES, SCAT, Blue Mountains TAFE, BHP, Australia Coal Ltd, Renison Goldfields, Consolidated Federal Airports Corporation, Toyota Australia, Tennant Trading Australia, Unisys Australia, Polygram Records, Sun Alliance Ltd, BMW Australia, Freightrail, Kodak Australia, Fujitsu, J Rapee & Co Pty Ltd, Hewlett Packard, BP Australia, Newcrest Mining, Marketing Directions, Websters Pharmaceuticals, K F C, Time Life Books, Westpac, National Mutual, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Comalco, Coca-Cola, South Pacific, CIC Insurance, Hawker Pacific, Inchcape, Reuters, Murex Diagnostics, Pacific Power, Master Builders Association, Cereform Pty Ltd, Alcatel TCC, Phillips, Optus, Australia Post, Heath Insurance, The Regent Hotel, Workcover & Express Data to name a few.

What we can offer to you...

The cumulative experience our staff possess from operating in some of the most difficult environments, under the most trying conditions, and dealing with virtually every demographic in guiding, facilitation and skill transfer settings means we have a great deal to offer any 'team'. We understand that simply running an abseiling session or setting out a problem solving activity is not by any means necessarily 'team building' (although it may be a lot of fun). Evaluation of the individual interchanges during the activity and a thorough, honest debriefing process are paramount if the team is to observe, learn from and modify (where necessary) it's behaviour. It is only through many years of experience that our staff have acquired the 'tools' to achieve this level of facilitation.

Our training liason

To provide the very best in wholistic team training Adventure Guides is proud to have developed a strong working relationship with CCN International, a Blue Mountains based corporate facilitation, conflict resolution and mediation provider. AG and CCN collaboratively design and deliver specific programs that set new standards in what is possible in the field of interactive indoor / outdoor team building, leadership development and experiential learning.



The Scope of Our Programs

Icebreakers...

...do just as the name suggests – break the ice at conference venues. Using simple game or challenge formats we get the team thinking and acting whilst having fun. These activities can be easily conducted at your conference venue, indoors or out, rain or shine and are a great way to get the ball rolling. The activities are generally undemanding physically, which means everyone can participate to a high level regardless of age or physical impairment.

Challenge Programs...

...utilise relatively simplistic 'process activities' to simulate working environment problem solving and personal interaction. The challenge courses can range in duration from 2 – 6 hours and are generally conducted outdoors. Challenge programs highlight the positive benefits of teamwork, communication and problem solving strategies and are always related directly back to the workplace by our facilitators. The activities are generally of a low level physically, though sometimes require balance, lifting and coordination. Participants with pre existing medical conditions which preclude them from the activity are always incorporated by other means.



Abseiling & Canyoning...

... are both fantastic activities which, when modified and debriefed appropriately, can bring out the best in a team. The fun element is at a premium but not at the expense of experiential learning. We turn over the running of the activity to the team (whilst keeping a careful eye on safety) and allow them to benefit from high level, adventurous interaction. Image abseiling off a knot your work mate has just tied – definitely 'trust in action'.

Metro...

...seeks to overcome one of the main difficulties companies face when they choose to undertake a team building program – finding the time. Travel to and from conference venues is unproductive and we are often asked for a program which starts at the 'front door'. Metro takes place entirely in the CBD. It will test the quick thinking and problem solving abilities of your team with groups winding their way through the 'urban wilderness' (accompanied by an Adventure Guides facilitator). The scenario is far from the old 'scavenger hunt', however. Groups will ideally require a mobile phone and a lap top and along the way will encounter data disks containing satellite photos of a secret location in the city, blurred Polaroids of street locations, 'contacts' they need to meet, special phone numbers with cryptic keywords etc.

The focus of the challenge is to get the teams thinking hard on their feet, as well as moving on their feet, on trains, taxis (scooters?) or whatever they choose to solve a sequence of problems and arrive at a secret location for the final challenge. The activities are all designed to be achievable by any team of any size (even 2) but will at a key point involve the active teams having to rapidly find each other and work together.

Cliffhanger...

... is our big recreational adventure day but it also makes a fantastic stage on which to challenge the nerve and cohesiveness of your team. Located 5 minutes from the centre of Katoomba the activity is the most elaborate aerial adventure available in the Blue Mountains. Although the actual format of the day is something of a secret, you can expect to abseil from the most incredible locations, climb on rock, traverse roped ledges whilst suspended over the abyss, have lunch on a tiny platform with only air under your heels, and then face the final challenge - the giant flying fox (no other adventure company offers an activity of this size or complexity). All this set in one of the most spectacular regions of the Blue Mountains World Heritage area.



Here are the stats:

The course took two months to recce, plan, rig and test | the abseils are 30 metres (100') and 70 metres (230') respectively | the rockclimb is 25 metres (80') but is 80 metres above the ground | the view from the lunch ledge is FANTASTIC | the flying fox (otherwise known as a 'tyrolean traverse') is 80 metres (270') across the span and is about 90 metres (300') above the ground | the chances of you having the most amazing day of your life - 99%.

How did we do it?

We went to a great deal of trouble to utilise existing tracks and walkways to minimise the impact on the native bush | wherever possible passive rockclimbing protection is used to construct safe anchors, minimising the number of bolts used (some bolts were even pre existing) | where we have placed bolts they are glue in industrial fixtures which can be readily removed and the holes filled with sand and resin, thus making the placement invisible | we avoid using native trees as anchors to minimise the chance of root compaction or ring barking.

Why?

To simply offer the biggest & best day of aerial adventure. So 'hold on tight'!

Corporate Raider Survival Challenge...

... puts you and your team in a 'difficult' situation. You are forced to land, en route to your conference venue, in a foreign country. You must make your way to, and across, the border. Survival advisors help you out but only your team's resourcefulness and ability to work together will win the day.

This is the program for high level teams or workgroups. Multi day, difficult terrain, complex challenges and the strain of commitment. Designed to highlight high level dynamics with a heavy emphasis on debriefing (via on the spot video feedback). Although the nature of the scenario means that participants are instructed in genuine survival techniques by our highly qualified instructors, the program is open to anyone of reasonably good fitness. The stresses of the program are largely self imposed due to weather and terrain, with no coercion of participants to be hungry, cold or tired. This is not a 'commando course' – rather a seminar in high level team dynamics conducted in an adventurous, challenging and realistic environment.



Corporate Adventure Races

Ever thought about doing a hard core adventure race such as the Eco Challenge or the notorious Raid Gauloises? Well, a number of our staff have and we can bring that same format (on a slightly lesser scale) to your company. The emphasis here is on **teamwork, teamwork, teamwork** as groups of four to six hike, climb, paddle & bike across a wilderness course. The route is planned to coincide with your conference venue and the activities are set at a level so everyone can participate, from the 'very' to the 'not so' fit.

Leadership Development Programs (LDP)

The LDP is available to any company, big or small, which is looking to specifically target and develop the attributes of it's leaders. We examine the philosophy and science of leadership, archetypal role models, conflict resolution, 'followership', mentoring, successful manager intervention in the workplace, problem – solution pathways, the 'jargon' of teamwork and a host of other subject areas. Theory is tested in practice via outdoor challenge scenarios and we make extensive use of on the spot video debriefing. The LDP can be delivered on site in your work environment, anywhere in Australia or off shore.



Some notes on program fees and booking

Recreational activities for company groups.

Program fees are the same as listed in our **Recreational Dates & Prices**. This cost implies that the company group are attending in the same sense as **standard recreational participants** and that **no facilitation or debriefing** will take place (or is expected) outside the normal safe conduct of the activity, and that the activity will be run in the standard format.

Facilitated activities for company groups.

Program fees are largely based on the number of Adventure Guides staff required plus incidental expenses. Staff to client ratios are governed by:

1. Safety parameters
2. The clients expressed program outcomes
3. Adventure Guides recommendations (particularly to first time organisations or groups).

Facilitated programs are **quoted on specifically** after consultation with the client. On agreement of a given program, an initial booking deposit of **30% of the program cost** is required with the balance due within 14 days of program delivery.

Adventure Guides can also assist in the selection of conference venues, travel arrangements, catering and the provision of after dinner 'guest speakers'.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with you.

The Adventure Guides Team.



www.adventureguides.com.au