



FGASA



MARINE COURSE

November 2010



Snapshot

Subject matter experts will take you on a tour starting with the birth and evolution of our universe; explore the geological history of our planet; the origin and evolution of life (plants and animals), Homo sapiens and how South Africa provided refuge when humanity needed it most, some 170 000 years ago. We accompany Homo sapiens on their journey to the present day and their journey to potential self-destruction.



When the sea saved humanity

The first coastal marine course was conducted here approximately 170 000 years ago when the light from the Magellanic Cloud we see today, started its 170 000 light year journey.

Cognitive complexity in technology by these early modern humans on the south coast of South Africa provides further evidence that this locality (Pinnacle Point) may have been the original location for the lineage that leads to all modern humans, who appeared between 100,000 and 200,000 years ago in Africa," Curtis Marean palaeontologist



The Large Magellanic Cloud, astronomers' playground, is close enough to facilitate studying the birth of new stars



FGASA marine students from the Namaqualand class of February 2010, in the ancient strandloper Spoegrivier caves

The FGASA Level One Nature (Marine) Qualification

The FGASA Level One Nature (Marine) qualification is registered with THETA as NQF 2. However, the course is conducted at NQF 3 level. The FGASA standard is higher than the minimum required because this is what the market demands.

How do I qualify for the FGASA Level One Nature (Marine) Qualification?

To obtain the FGASA Nature guide (Marine) qualification, you need to have:

1. Completed the FGASA Marine workbook and achieved 90%.
It is an open book exercise.
2. Passed the FGASA Level One written exam.
3. Completed the practical assessment

This course is designed to help you achieve this...and more.

Contact

Louis Willemse
National Tourist Guide: Nature & Culture
FGASA Endorsed Trainer/Assessor
Marine and Coastal Educators Network
FGASA Western Cape Voluntary Coordinator

AFRITRACKS CC



Afritracks cc
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The Lecturers

The course will be lead by Louis Willemse and a team of passionate subject matter specialists introduced in the pages ahead..

**The
FGASA/Oystercatcher Trail
Marine Course
November 2010**

When?

November 25th 2010 at 11h00 until 13h00 December 3rd (10 days)

Where?

Sandpiper Cottages (Four star) Boggomsbaai

Who?

The course is designed for:

1. Tourist guides who wish to add a strategic qualification to their repertoire. To be accredited you need to complete the FGASA workbook, pass the FGASA exam and practical assessment.
2. Nature lovers wanting to enhance their understanding and enjoyment of nature
3. Foreign visitors undertaking self-guided tours

What?

The FGASA Level One marine syllabus forms the course nucleus. Included in the course, but not in the syllabus, are:

1. Marine Navigation
2. Celestial navigation using the sun to determine latitude.
3. Evolution of shipping and navigation.
4. Brief history of South Africa
5. Marine Protected Area conservation
6. Fishing technology
7. Ships and shipping
8. Stars and star telescopes
9. Archaeology. Study of Homo sapiens who lived here 165 000 years ago

How?

1. The course methodology is discussion rather than lecture combined with practical. The discussion material will include much that is outside the syllabus.

2. Walking three days of the Oystercatcher Trail forms part of the course. During the walk you need to document the archaeology, geology fauna and flora in preparation for the practical assessment.
3. Hospitality and food preparation is performed under the supervision of professional chefs.
4. Planning and marketing guided experiences in general and the marine environment in particular.
5. Daily PowerPoint presentations and interpretation exercises

How much?

The course cost (excluding books, FGASA fees and first aid certificate) R14 250.

This includes:

- Four star accommodation
- Meals prepared under supervision of professional chefs
- Lectures led by top experts in their fields

We have separated the FGASA fees because a number of attendees are registered FGASA members.

This will ensure you can get underway immediately.

The fees include:

FGASA Fees

FGASA Registration	R220
First year subscription	350
Examination fee	250
Moderation Fee	150
Marine study Guide	120
Marine work book	55
Two Oceans marine guide	230
Sub total	1 375



Add course cost	14 250
Total	15 625

Payment

1. FGASA Fees. Call Bernice Kelly in the FGASA Office 011 886 8245 and arrange your enrolment and book orders.
2. Course Fees. Kindly deposit into the Afritracks bank account.
 ABSA Bredasdorp
 Branch Code 334412
 Account name Afritracks
 Cheque account number 4056 5580 85

Logistics

You need to bring:

Footwear:

Good worn in boots
 Non-skid strops for working the rocky shores Strops

Clothing:

Comfortable hiking gear with hat and raincoat
 Warm jacket or jersey
 Evening wear

Personal toiletries and medication.

If you are dependent on medication please ensure you bring an adequate supply.

Sunblock

Equipment

Laptop with internet facility. You need Word, Excel and PPT
 Binoculars
 Simple magnetic compass
BOTANICAL LOUPS AND MAPS WILL BE SUPPLIED BY AFRITRACKS
 Notebooks, pens and pencils
 Torch and spare batteries
 Pocket knife
 Guide books

Organisation

You will work in teams to generate synergy. Teams are assigned food preparation duties.

Dietary constraints

Please advise if you have special needs,

Pr-course Preparation

This is most important

This is what you need to do if you wish to get maximum value from this course and qualify immediately the course ends.

1. Complete your FGASA enrollment immediately and order your study books.
2. Work through the FGASA Level One Marine Training manual and complete the FGASA Level One marine workbook. If you have problems with difficult questions leave these for the course and get help from your facilitators. Bear in mind the facilitation sessions are for discussion and confirmation NOT for traditional lectures. You have nearly three months to do this provided you start NOW.
3. Ensure you are fully proficient using Power Point and Excel.
4. Practice making speeches and presentations.
5. Visit a planetarium and aquarium if at all possible. Buy a November star chart and Astronomical year book.
6. Obtain a Level Two first aid certificate from a registered service provider. The law requires Level One. However, this does not include snake envenomation. Rather important for the nature guide.

What if you do not pass?

Not the end of the world. Get stuck in and write the next exam in March 2011

If you do not intend becoming a guide? You will receive a certificate of attendance.

Our Venue

The Oystercatcher Trail.

Fred Orban's Oystercatcher Trail is an international masterpiece and no small wonder chosen by the BBC as one of the "30 walks to do before you die" and National Geographic Traveller as "the TOP 50 tours of a life time" for 2007 and 2008.

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Experiencing one of the world's best guided experiences first hand provides you with an excellent model for your own business. As a guide you obviously wish to operate your own business. This course will help you achieve just that. In addition, as a member of the FGASA network you will have access to opportunities.



Fred Orban of The Oystercatcher Trail.

Our Guides

It all started a long long time ago....



Dr Deville Wickens geologist, will guide us from the very beginning 15 000 million years ago to the present. DeVille will explain the formation of the Moss gas fields, how geologists find oil and when we are going to run out of oil.

Aiden Beck, conservation manager of the Oyster Bay reserve in Mossel Bay will introduce us to the conservation challenges in the area. Aiden holds a Bachelors Degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Pretoria.



"We show that early modern humans at 72,000 years ago, and perhaps as early as 164,000 years ago in coastal South Africa, were using carefully controlled hearths in a complex process to heat." Kyle Brown.



Tools at Pinnacle Point



Kyle Brown PhD student in archaeology, unveils the startling revelation that modern man has his roots right here where we are attending the course and demonstrates how they manufactured their tools.



Reptiles are smart and we might increase our chances of survival by evolving into reptiles.

Dr Tony Phelps will demonstrate how abundant snakes are and offers a bottle of the finest Red to the first student to find a Harlequin snake.



Peter on Marion Island

Peter Chadwick is the driving force behind MPAs and has been instrumental in having the FGASA Level One marine guide manual introduced as an entry level for candidates embarking on a career in MPA management.

The FGASA marine ecology syllabus component of the course will be covered by Dr Deborah Robertson-Andersson.

Deborah is a FGASA Honorary Marine specialist and specialist marine guide. In addition to being a skipper and divemaster, Deborah is a world authority on abalone. Deborah who also holds a Masters in botany will unveil the wonders of life in the rocky pools, sandy shores and dunes



Hospitality and tourism are synonymous. In fact eighty percent or more of the success of a tourism experience is dependent on hospitality.



Teresa and Karin will demonstrate the art of cuisine and you will be given the opportunity to demonstrate your culinary ability.

The course facilitator is Louis Willemse, sailor, pilot, navigator and national nature/culture guide.

Louis will introduce you to the art and science of navigating by the sun, stars, beacons and GPS. You will also learn to identify ships and fishing techniques.



Course Programme

Date/Time	Course Event	Facilitator
Thursday November 25		
11h00	Check in and welcome	Fred Orban
12h30	Lunch	
14h00	Introduction	
	Course Admin and Organisation	
14h30 until approx 18h00 on November 26th	Subject introductions	
	1. Geology	DeVille
	2. Intro to guiding Astronomy	Louis
	3. Archaeology	Kyle
	4. Marine Ecology + Botany	Deborah
	5. Reptiles	Tony
	6. Conservation	Peter and Aiden
	7. Navigation fishing and shipping	Louis
Friday November 26th		
08h00 till 18h00	Subject discussions	As above
20h00	Evening stars	Louis
21h00	Sex in the sea	Deborah
Saturday November 27th		
08h00	Visit Pinnacle Point	All facilitators involved
16h00	Group work. Summarise	Kyle is lead facilitator
20h00	Start preparation for assessment	All facilitators available
	Brief for tomorrow.	All facilitators involved.
	Continue group work.	Each facilitator will have input
Sunday November 28		
18h00	Day One of Oystercatcher Trail	All facilitators. Kyle and Tony depart
	Group work summarise.	All facilitators available
	Prepare for assessment	
20h00	Evening stars	By students
	Briefing for tomorrow	All facilitators available
Monday November 29		
08h00	Day Two of Oystercatcher Trail	All facilitators
	Group work summarise	All facilitators available
	Prepare for assessment	
20h00	Evening stars	By students
	Briefing for tomorrow	All facilitators available
Tuesday November 30		
08h00	Day Three of Oystercatcher Trail	All facilitators. DeVille departs today
	Group work summarise.	All facilitators available
	Prepare for assessment	
20h00	Evening stars	By students
	Briefing for tomorrow	All facilitators available
Wednesday December 1st		
08h00	Marine syllabus revision	Deborah
	Group work summaries	Deborah and Louis
	Prepare for assessment.	

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Thursday December 2

08h00

Group assessment presentations
Practical group assessments

Deborah Louis Fred
Deborah, Louis Fred

Friday December 3

08h00

FGASA Marine exam

12h00

Farewell Luncheon
Course opinion survey by students

Louis

Comments

1. The programme is not cast in concrete and will be amended as necessary to accommodate weather and unforeseen opportunities.
2. Meal times will be announced every day.
3. Be prepared to work long hours.

