



MEDIA RELEASE

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Industry-led inclusive tourism scholarship promoting travel accessibility extended to Australia and New Zealand.

The Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) help ambitious, aspiring leaders of the Travel, Tourism, Hospitality, Cruise and Aviation industry accelerate their careers through mentoring. Australia's leader in group travel for blind and low-vision Australians, Cocky Guides, has teamed up with TIME to introduce the first Inclusive Tourism TIME Scholarship.

This scholarship allows individuals to participate in a six-month structured mentoring and peer collaboration program. Cocky Guides will fund the TIME program fee for one successful applicant. Applications are welcome from Australian and New Zealand employees of the travel industry with a disability or a demonstrated passion for advancing access to travel for persons with a disability.

Cocky Guides Founder James (Buck) McFarlane says, "As a recent graduate of the TIME program, I was impressed at the mentor/mentee matching process. The program manager and committee took the time to ensure compatibility, allowing me to learn new business ways and implement successful strategies to improve my business. Cocky Guides support of this scholarship will ensure conversations about inclusive travel continues amongst industry participants."

Penny Spencer, the Chair and Director of TIME believes that "Cocky Guides are an example of a business that is driving change in tourism and opening up new markets in sensory tourism. The Inclusive Tourism TIME Scholarship will allow the successful applicant to undertake our industry-led program and advance inclusive travel outcomes in their workplace."

Applications are now open for this scholarship, and the deadline has been extended to 22 May 2023. To learn more about this scholarship, the program and the full criteria, visit www.travelindustrymentor.com.au/time-scholarships/

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CONTACT

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ABOUT COCKY GUIDES

Since launching in August 2018, Cocky Guides have specialised in providing unique, multi-sensory adventures for the blind and low-vision community. Over 1,000 travellers have enjoyed sensory experiences at more than 60 destinations across NSW and Australia.

For more information, visit www.cockyguides.com.au

ABOUT TRAVEL INDUSTRY MENTOR EXPERIENCE (TIME)

The Travel Industry Mentor Experience (TIME) is a not-for-profit company established in 2009 to help ambitious, aspiring leaders of the Travel, Tourism, Hospitality, Cruise and Aviation industry accelerate their careers through mentoring.

The program operates within a structured mentoring and peer collaboration framework to deliver agreed outcomes for each participant. The Mentor's role is to hold their Mentee accountable, offer challenging ideas and new ways of thinking and inspire, and build the mentee's self-confidence through encouragement and constructive feedback.

TIME's Board comprises Penny Spencer (Chair), Oliver Tams, Trish Shepherd, Jo O'Brien, Dan Russell and Timo Lorenzen, and respected Industry figure Marie Allom, appointed to the position of Program Manager. A committee of dedicated, passionate Travel, Tourism, Hospitality, and Aviation industry representatives support the Board.

For more information, visit www.travelindustrymentor.com.au