



## **Benefits to becoming a Tour Guide Member of the Tour and Safari Association Namibia**

### **Provisional Members (Bronze Membership) – Membership Fee: N\$220,00/annum (2010)**

All new Tasa Tour Guides will have to serve at least one year as a Provisional Member. This is because Tasa is a standards organisation and the Tasa Executive Committee must be sure that Tour Guide Members are offering a high degree of professionalism before being allowed to become a Professional Member.

#### **Standards:**

- By being part of Tasa you are immediately showing that you are associated with a professional organisation that has a strict code of conduct and does not tolerate low standards.

#### **Information:**

- Monthly Tasa e-news with valuable information for the industry and tour guides.
- Additional communications when there are issues or information important to tour guides in particular.
- Access to the Tasa office and data base.

#### **Tasa website:**

- A new section on the Tasa website will be created where details, (on request), of Tour Guide Members can be listed, together with contact details.

#### **Training:**

- Discount on selected NATH, (Namibian Academy of Tourism & Hospitality), tour guide training courses and training tours. Details of discounts will be sent out with regular e mail communications.

#### **Identification:**

- You will receive a credit card sized Tasa Tour Guide Identity Card that is valid for one year and bears the Tasa Tour Guide Logo

#### **Boardroom:**

- A new seat on the Tasa Board will be created for a Tasa Tour Guide representative to join the monthly board meetings, in order to bring forward and discuss issues concerning tour guides. Provisional, Bronze Members will not be allowed to take this seat but are encouraged to nominate Silver or Bronze Members to the Tasa board room.

## **Professional Members (Silver Membership) – Membership Fee: N\$220,00/annum (2010)**

After this first year has passed and if you are working professionally as a tour guide, the following benefits, (in addition to all that are listed for Provisional Membership), will automatically follow once an application for Professional Membership has been approved.

### **Issues & disputes:**

- Tasa looks after all its Members. Tour Guide Members will have direct access to the Tasa Board should it be necessary to mediate on behalf of Members in the resolution of disputes, contractual issues any other problems concerning any Members in their professional capacity.

### **Tasa Website:**

- You will be offered a personal section on the Tasa website where you can add a photo and list your qualifications and experience. Other information, such as who to contact for references and what sort of trips you are able to do, (camping, accommodated, specialised desert guiding, birding etc).

### **Finding work:**

- Tasa Members will be encouraged to use Tasa tour guides when looking for either full time or freelance guides. Tasa Members will also be offered a service to advertise work, through the Tasa network, that will be forwarded to all Tasa Silver and Gold Members.

### **Identification:**

- You will be issued with a brass name badge that bears the Tasa Tour Guide logo, your category of Membership and your name.
- There will also be other branded badges, patches, hats and other clothing available for sale to Professional Tour Guide Members.

## **Expert Members (Gold Membership) - Membership Fee: No charge**

After an additional one year, any Professional Member will be entitled to apply for the top category of Membership, Specialist or Gold Membership. Gold Members will retain all the above benefits together with one additional advantage:

- Expert Membership is free

In order to qualify for Gold Membership, applicants will have to prove a minimum of five years guiding experience and that they can provide an exceptionally high standard of service.

Additionally, it will be necessary to demonstrate to the Tasa Executive Committee that the applicant has expert qualifications, skills and abilities in at least one specialised guiding area.