

Women Returners to Travel Tourism and Hospitality





What is Women in Travel's Women Returners Programme ?

- 1. A unique scheme to get unemployed & disadvantaged women returners back into Travel, Tourism and Hospitality (TTH) focussed work. Brainchild of **Women in Travel**, a social enterprise dedicated to empowering women through employability & entrepreneurship in Travel & Tourism founded by Alessandra Alonso who has spent 20 years in the industry, 15 dedicated to supporting women.
- 2. We work with women cross-referred to us by the likes of Crisis; Refugee Council; St Mungo etc. but also by the women trained with us.
- 3. A customised, week long programme providing women with upskilling; mentoring; industry knowledge and access to employers. Currently operating in Greater London but organic growth planned for rest of UK from 2019.
- 4. A unique and socially minded way for employers to demonstrate their CRS commitment; support diversity & inclusion and most of all access much needed, yet otherwise inaccessible talent.



Why Women Returners?

- Access capable & carefully selected women.
- Address 'war for talent' & save by recruiting from a local pool.
- Publicly support diversity and inclusion.
- Engage employees by investing in a worthwhile venture.
- Engage with customers: retain and expand customer base/build loyalty.



STEP By STEP

STEP #1 Women in Travel identifies and select the appropriate/work ready women from a pool made available via Crisis UK and other charities.

STEP #2 Women in Travel runs a 1 week training that provides coaching + key EMPLOYABILITY skills + access to employers on days 4 & 5 • Women who were made redundant/lost their job

- Women who have gone through a 'rough patch' (divorce, change of country, family fall outs etc.)
- Women who were previously working in a different sector and now wish to consider TTH
- Women with a modest level of disability who are capable but in need of support/boost and flexibility in order to work

- Employers presents their companies and live job opportunities
- Employers engage with women through discussion groups
- Employers provide short one to one interviews

STEP#3 Women suitable are selected for follow up interviews leading to recruitment or paid internship.

Paid internship & Jobs

WOMEN IN TRAVE

 Supported by employers through buddying/mentoring



'Paul and myself were truly inspired by the women that we met on your course, at their strength and positivity and at the thorough, relevant answers they gave to our questions.'

> Kelly Forrest Recruitment Officer MTR Crossrail

- ✓ Launched with: Diamondair; Crossrail; Georgian House Hotel; Under the Doormat; Digital Dialog
- ✓ 3 Programmes run
- ✓ 20 Women trained
- \checkmark 25 x 1st round interviews
- ✓ 10 x 2^{nd} round interviews
- \checkmark 4 x women permanently employed
- ✓ 1 x internship





About the Women

- Age: 25 to 55
- Diverse in background, race, etc.
- Job seekers because of previous challenging circumstances
- Mentally/physically job-ready
- Educated up to degree level
- Experiences in retail/ hospitality/office admin/PR
- Skills including customer services, sales, marketing, admin, IT

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About the Jobs

- Customer Service / Admin / reservation / Finance
- Entry to junior level jobs with available progression
- £18-25k initial salary
- London Wage (ideal)
- Full time or part time but PERMANENT
- Some flexibility might be required
- Supported by employers & by WIT





Employers' Engagement At A Glance



Commitment

 Access to programmes and many benefits including FREE training

Training

- Engage in the pre training period (optional)
- Join weekly training programme on day 4/5

Recruitment

• 10% recruitment fees to WIT



Benefits

- ✓ Access diverse female talent, selected and screened for TTH by WIT
- ✓ First refusal on employing women returners
- ✓ FREE Coaching/mentoring or skills training for employees**
- ✓ Dedicated social media features
- Recognised & promoted as gender balanced & CSR focussed employer
- ✓ Able to display WOMEN RETURNERS logo



Internship/Recruitment Stage

Internship

- Lasting between 3 and 6 months
- Supported through buddying/mentoring
- Paid at living wage salary [London]
- During internship employers will refund women of travel costs over and above their normal place of work when they are asked to travel on behalf of the employers
- CRISIS can pay costs of first month of travel within London. If the intern is expected to travel outside London this has to be taken into account by the employer in the salary paid to the intern.

Nothing to pay to Women in Travel during Internship

Recruitment

- Supported through buddying/mentoring
- Paid at living wage salary [London]
- CRISIS can cover costs of first month of travel within London. If the employee is expected to travel outside London in the first month before first salary, this has to be taken into account by the employer

Flat recruitment fee equivalent to 10% salary if the woman is employed <u>immediately</u>

Flat recruitment fee equivalent to 12.5% salary if the woman is employed <u>AFTER an</u> <u>internship period (temp to perm fee)</u>



Next Steps

- 1. Ask any questions
- 2. Become a Member!
- 3. Join our **next programme**
- 4. Involve your employees
- 5. Spread the word & refer your contacts





Thank you! Any Questions?

For further information Alessandra Alonso Founder, Women in Travel CIC <u>alessandra@womenintravelcic.com</u> M 07801269374 <u>www.womenintravelcic.com</u> @WTMWomen



