



# BALIK BAYANI SA TURISMO

## REINTEGRATION PROGRAM FOR OFWs



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

#### 1. What is the Balik Bayani sa Turismo Program?

- The Balik Bayani sa Turismo is a program of the Department of Tourism (DOT), in partnership with the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) that provides capacity building and skills training for the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their immediate families. This is in support of the national government's reintegration program for OFWs.

#### 2. What is the OFW Information Sheet (OIS)?

- The Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) Information Sheet is a survey form for OFWs to determine their training needs as well as to gather information for the profiling of the OFWs by region. Those who participated in the surveys may be invited to avail of the training programs as stated in the OIS. The OIS can be accessed through this link: <https://bit.ly/OFWreintegrationForm>.
- The Department of Tourism – Office of Industry Manpower Development (DOT-OIMD) will evaluate the submitted OIS and submit it to the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) for final assessment and endorsement of the qualified training beneficiaries. Those who were endorsed will be invited to attend the training in their region and will be required to fill-out and submit to the DOT the pre-training survey.

#### 3. What is the pre-training survey?

- A pre-training survey is given to prospective participants at least one (1) month prior the scheduled training to manage the participant's expectation and to ensure that said expectation is addressed properly by the trainer/s and organizers.

#### 4. What are the training programs offered under the Balik Bayani sa Turismo?

- The following trainings are offered under the Balik Bayani sa Turismo Program:

Training Program	Description	Duration
Micro-Retail Tourism	OFWs who wish to operate or who have existing micro-tourism or retail outlets (e.g. souvenir/handicraft/food shops) in tourism areas or communities leading to tourism destinations may participate in this program.	2 Days
Community-Based Kulinarya	Kulinarya Workshops are organized to enhance the skills in food preparation for tourists and visitors in a hygienic and presentable manner. The training program will also focus on local cuisine and local culture / heritage.	2 Days
Farm Tourism Training	OFWs with an existing farm or land that may be turned into a farm tourism site will be encouraged to open up their farms to tourists. The objective of this program is to orient farm owners on the local tourism industry and its vast potential for agritourism as an added-value product/ activity for their farms	2 Days
Homestay Training	Homestay Pilipinas is offered for residential accommodations catering to tourists especially in destinations where there is a dearth in accommodation facilities. This aims to equip the homeowners with the basic knowledge on housekeeping, front office and other topics needed in catering to the lodging requirements of tourists.	7 Days
Tour Guiding Training	This is either a 7-day or 30-day training course for prospective tour guides in specific tourist sites and/or region, targeting OFWs with a foreign language proficiency.	7 Days
Community Tour Guiding		30 Days
Regional Tour Guiding Course		

#### 5. Are the trainings under the Balik Bayani sa Turismo Program free of charge?

- Yes, all training programs under the Balik Bayan sa Turismo are free of charge except for the Regional Tour Guiding Courses where participants are requested to provide a minimal amount as counterpart share in the 30-day training.

#### 6. How can I avail of the training program?

- Returning OFWs and their immediate family members who are interested to be part of the tourism industry as a frontliner or business owner are qualified to join the program provided they comply with the following:
  - Submitted the OIS
  - Endorsed by the Department of Migrant Workers
  - Submitted the Pre-training survey

All training programs are open for the immediate family of the registered OFW except for Tour Guiding that requires language proficiency.

#### 7. Who will conduct the trainings?

- The DOT- OIMD and DOT Regional Offices, with the representative from DMW will facilitate, while the subject-matter experts/ trainers will conduct the training.

#### 8. After completing the course, will I receive a certificate?

- Yes, after completing the course and passing the assessment, a certificate will be issued.

#### 9. What are the requirements to receive a certificate?

- Part of the requirements to receive the certificate are the following:
  - Registration in the training program
  - Completion of at least 80% of the course
  - Submission of Feedback Forms and
  - Submission/ Passing of Assessment/ Examinations

#### 10. Are there courses leading to DOT accreditation?

- Yes, there are specific courses leading to accreditation such as Regional Tour Guiding, Community Guiding and Homestay Programs.

#### 11. Will I be allowed to take more than one (1) training under the Balik Bayani sa Turismo Program?

- Only one (1) OFW or his/ her immediate family member can avail one training.

#### 12. What if I didn't finish a specific training course and plan to take it again?

- The participant needs to send an official request to retake the training and shall be evaluated and endorsed by the DMW.

#### 13. Are all training courses conducted face-to-face?

- No, some trainings are conducted online which require internet connectivity.

#### 14. Are all the courses in the English language?

- No, there are cases that although English language is the main language as medium of instruction, trainers may also use local dialects for better appreciation and understanding.

#### 15. Am I qualified for the OFW Teach-it-Forward Program?

- If the OFW has at least ten (10) years of Supervisory / Managerial experience in tourism-related field while working abroad, willing to undergo the DOT's Train-the-Trainers Course, and are interested to be part of the DOT Pool of Resource Speakers / Trainers or a DOT Third Party Assessors (TPA) for the DOT STAR Rating Accreditation System, he/she is qualified for the OFW Teach-it-Forward Program.

#### 16. If there are questions or concerns, who can I contact?

- You may send an email to [balikbayani.ph@gmail.com](mailto:balikbayani.ph@gmail.com).