



# KAREN she/her SHOEBOTTOM CAREER MAP

Extroverted, motivated, passionate & organized Tour Guide professional. Aspires to make the unfamiliar familiar to guests as host & partner around the world. Authentic & natural leader who prides herself on building trusted relationships.

*"An enthusiastic service leader with a passion for meeting new people & sharing informative & memorable adventures across the world"*



### CONTACT

503-754-1853  
[KShoeTravels@Gmail.Com](mailto:KShoeTravels@Gmail.Com)  
Gateway City: Portland OR



### TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Well-traveled within the U.S: 42 of 50 states  
Internationally: Canada, Ireland, & Australia  
Relocated from Midwest to Pacific Northwest in 2005



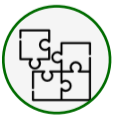
### SKILLS

Graduated top of class from the International Guide Academy, with a superior rating based on speaking skills, enthusiasm, broad knowledge, positive outlook, narration skills, leadership abilities, ethics, presentation, & problem-solving abilities.  
Well-organized, enjoys conducting thorough research to ensure no detail is missed.  
Excellent communication and negotiation skills & exemplary customer-service techniques.



### EDUCATION

2019: TripSchool New England Fall Foliage training  
2018: Licensed Tour Guide - Washington DC, NYC (score 136/150)  
2018: International Guide Academy, Denver CO  
1998: Central Michigan University BS in Education



### INTERESTS

To Watch: concerts, theater, whale watching, improv comedy  
To Do: hiking, karaoke, road trips, game nights  
Memberships: IATDG, Travel Massive, Pacific Northwest Experience, Portland Global Travel Meetup group  
Volunteer: SOLVE, Hood to Coast, Oregon Environmental Council, Charitable Chicks.  
Family: Upper Peninsula Michigan, Oregon



### BY LAND

I have led a variety of tours across the USA & internationally. Whether the tours are geared toward students, seniors, international travelers or a mix, I always find ways to authentically connect & engage with my travelers.



EXPLORE AMERICA | **EF EXPLORE AMERICA**  
2018 - PRESENT

Opening the world through travel & education. Helping educators teach & students learn about tolerance, other perspectives, & themselves.

Tour Director for the Eastern Seaboard managing all logistics & information. Based in Boston MA.



**ACIS**  
2019 - PRESENT

Delivering exceptional educational experiences, cultural touchpoints, a service guarantee & a profound commitment to make every single moment count.

Tour Manager arranging all logistics, time keeping & information across Toronto & Niagara Falls.



**YMT VACATIONS**  
2019 - PRESENT

Leading mature travelers on dream vacations to Alaska, Europe, the continental United States & beyond

Tour Director covering Portland, Seattle & Vancouver BC.



**WESTERN LEISURE**  
2019 - PRESENT

Specialized in creating Custom Group Tours which are: "Private Labeled" for Tour Operators, Travel Agents, & Group Leaders.

Tour Director covering New Mexico, Colorado & National Parks.

### BY SEA

Sea tours are a great way for travelers to see multiple destinations while also enjoying nature. I enjoy working with guests to match their goals with a trip that exceeds their expectations.



**COLUMBIA CROSSROADS**  
2018 - PRESENT

Professional destination management helping clients find incredible adventures across the Pacific Northwest.

Tour Leader, Pacific NW excursions based in Beaverton OR.  
Hospitality for American Empress Riverboat: check in, selling excursions, luggage management, transportation to riverboat.



**CRUISE COMPANY UK**  
2019 - PRESENT

We help clients find the best value on cruise holidays tailored to their needs. Across: Mediterranean, Caribbean, North America, Australasia, Middle East & Europe.

Tour Manager covering Nashville, Memphis, & New Orleans.

### ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

I've excelled in two prior career paths that helped me build my interpersonal skills, time & person management, operational excellence & business acumen.

**CORPORATE OPERATIONS/MANAGEMENT, PORTLAND OR**  
**PROFESSIONAL NANNY, ANN ARBOR MI**

**2005 - 2017**  
**1998 - 2005**