



LAURI GATES

TRIPSCHOOL CERTIFIED
TOUR DIRECTOR/GUIDE

CONTACT

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✉️ LauriGatesTravel@gmail.com

📍 Dallas/Fort Worth, TX

✈️ DFW or DAL



CERTIFICATIONS

Tour Director Certification -
TripSchool 2025 (Washington DC
Bootcamp)

First Aid/CPR/AED - American Red
Cross

GUIDE LICENSES

Washington DC

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Boating, antique shopping, historic
courthouses and architecture,
reading/book clubs, psychology/body
language, escape games, dogs and as
much live music as I can consume

DESTINATION KNOWLEDGE

Washington DC/Williamsburg/Philadelphia/Boston (Tours led)
New England Fall Foliage (Tours led)
Savannah/Charleston/Deep South
Texas - Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio (Tours led)
Well-traveled throughout US Midwest/South, Music Cities

DESTINATION TRAINING

TripSchool Tour Director Bootcamp - Washington DC - 2025
New England Fall Foliage (TripSchool FAM training - July 2025)
Savannah/Charleston (TripSchool FAM training - Nov 2025)
TripSchool MegaTraining (NYC, Boston, DC) - Feb 2026

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- **Tour Director (independent) for student/adult Tour Operators: 2025 to present**
- **20 year career in corporate accounting, including leading teams in hyper-growth start-up environments**
- **4 years as a convention center event manager**
 - Coordinated facility logistics while vigorously serving clients' needs for banquets, sporting events, political rallies, concerts, conventions, trade shows and more
- **US Citizenship Teacher - 2015/2016**
 - Taught US civics/government content and coached candidates on interviewing skills for US citizenship exam
- **6 years retail and customer service experience**

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire

Bachelors of Business Administration (Finance) - 2000
Study Abroad program to Valladolid, Spain

International Association of Venue Managers

Graduate of Venue Management School (VMS) 2006-2007

USEFUL SKILLS AND FUN FACTS

- *Technology - MS Office, PowerPoint, financial platforms & more
- *Well-traveled in 43 states and 14 countries
- *Excellent active listening and rapport-building skills
- *Passion for continuous learning for myself and others
- *Effective at using humor, music and shared interests to bond a group
- *Hearty midwestern work ethic (and just a bit of a Minnesota accent!)
- *Superpower - Reading the room & adjusting to an audience on the fly