## ASSOCIATION OF GROUP TRAVEL ORGANISERS

The AGTO is an independent organisation representing the interests of those who organise tours and trips for groups as well as those who provide services for group travel.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To enhance the status and professionalism of group travel organisers, and the importance of their contribution to the travel and leisure industry.

To encourage the development of a national network structured on branches where organisers can meet and work together for their mutual benefit.

To represent the interests of group travel organisers in their dealings with industry and official bodies.

To help group organisers to improve their buying power and provide consequential financial benefits to the members of the organisations they represent.

To provide a means for the different categories of members to work together to mutual advantage.

To negotiate various travel and leisure related services for the benefit of all AGTO members and the organisations they represent.

To create an awareness of, and where appropriate, to give advice about the commercial, legislative and emergency conditions prevailing at any time in the travel industry's ever-changing environment so that group travellers' well being and safety is paramount.

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

All members are expected to act in an honest and open way at all times and with all parties, including the organisation they represent, and the public at large. They must ensure that dealings with travel, leisure and associated industries are undertaken in a way that would receive the approbation of their fellow members and the approval of the elected members of the Association's committees, to whom they should apply when in doubt.

They must not accept hospitality in its various forms from one party that may influence or prejudice their dealings to the detriment of others or defame the good name of the Association.

They should reject any form of personal incentive offer and always report to the organisation they represent, such offers, and in addition all offers of 'free places' so that they can be seen to be acting without undue influence.

They must not disclose information that is given to them in committee, or at any time, by another member that could be used by third parties to the detriment of the party providing the information.

Their behaviour and the behaviour of their guests when participating in AGTO sponsored, approved or organised events must be impeccable.

Offers of 'educational' trips or hospitality in connection with products or particular suppliers, or to particular destinations, should not be accepted unless there is a real possibility of the member organising a visit or taking advantage of the products or places involved for his organisation.

Such trips should not be regarded as leisure events but as working visits.

Associate and Intermediate Members are bound by the intentions of the code and should not abuse their favoured position.

This Code of Ethics will be strictly enforced by the National Committee/Board of Directors in assessing and taking any appropriate action.

All members should comply with all the laws associated with arranging packages as per the July 2018 Package & Linked Travel arrangements directive. Further information on your legal obligations can be found here: www.abta.com/tips-and-advice/is-my-holiday-protected/new-package-travel-regulations

Disclaimer - AGTO as a membership organisation cannot be held legally responsible for any acts, errors or omissions of any of its current or previous members.



