

A man with dark hair, wearing a blue t-shirt, khaki shorts, and a climbing harness, stands outdoors against a clear blue sky. He is holding a thick green rope over his shoulder and has various climbing equipment attached to his harness. The background shows some greenery and a rocky ground.

Drew the Ecotourism Guide: Tours for Visitors

Who is Drew?

Hi, I'm Drew. I'm an ecotourism guide, which means I provide educational and adventure tours to visitors.



**An educational tour teaches visitors about land, animals, and history.
Here are a few examples:**

Learning what plants grow in the rain forest.



Discovering unusual sea life underwater.



Observing different rocks to determine how an island formed.



Adventure Tours

An adventure tour involves activities that are exciting. They also can be educational! Here are a few examples:

White Water Rafting



Zip-lining

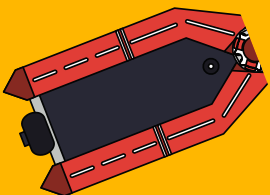


Spelunking (Exploring Caves)



Think about it!

Which of my adventure tours
would you most like to go on?



Favorite Tools to Use at Work

iPhone:

I use my iPhone to call or text the groups I meet. I also take cool photos of our adventures and post them on Instagram and SnapChat!



Harnesses and Ropes:

I use these for rock climbing. I have all different rope lengths for the different rock formations.



Segways:

I take visitors on Segway tours around the park! Segways are extremely popular among teenagers.



Map:

This map might look old fashioned, but it is very handy! If my phone GPS doesn't work, I use a regular map to find where I am going and make sure I don't get lost!



Can you think of any other tools that an ecotourism guide might need?

Giving Tours

Right now, I work in the Garden of the Gods. The Garden of the Gods is a public park in Colorado. Today, I am going to take two groups of people on different adventures around the park! This park is filled with large, unique landforms that jut out of the Earth. There are also trails to hike and bike on.



First Adventure

Check out what I did with my first group!

8:00 A.M.

At 8:00 A.M., I meet my first group on horseback at the entrance to the park. Each person rides a horse and follows me around the park. While we are riding, one person asks why there is a valley in the park. I explain that this area was hollowed out by glaciers during the Ice Age millions of years ago.



9:30 A.M.

As we continue our ride, I point out the huge rock formations and explain that they formed when the old Pacific Plate and the North American Plate slammed into each other. The rock formations in Garden of the Gods used to be parts of an ancient sea floor and mountains. But, when the plates were forced into each other, they tilted the layers of rock up. Over time, part of the softer rock eroded away. After the rock eroded, it left behind these beautiful rock formations.



Second Adventure

12:00 P.M.

At noon, I met my next group at the base of a rock formation called Scarecrow. This group will rock climb with me! It is a tricky climb, so I am glad that everyone has experience rock climbing. After putting on our ropes and harnesses, we start the climb. One of the climbers points out how gritty the texture of the rock feels under her hands and feet. I explain that this land formation was primarily formed from red sandstone millions of years ago. The texture and type of rocks can tell us about their history. In this case, the red sandstone at Garden of the Gods used to be a sandy beach and seafloor millions of years ago.



Check out this picture and caption that I am going to post on Instagram tonight!



@AdventuresWithDrew

1,310
posts

2,965
followers

1,009
following



@AdventuresWithDrew Whew! This was a tough, but awesome climb. Now I need to go clean this red dust off of me.

Take a Vote

If you could be an
ecotourism guide
anywhere in the
world, where would
you go?

Which adventure would you have gone on
with Drew?

☐

Rock-Climbing

☐

Horseback Riding

