


Participant information – Introductory 4WD Course

Thank you for enquiring about the Introductory 4WD Course. Below are some more details on the course content, competency outcomes, training venue, prerequisite conditions and support services available.

Please note that this course will involve the formal assessment of your skills in three ‘nationally recognised’ units of competency. To receive a statement of attainment in these competencies, you must satisfy all assessment requirements.

If you do not need a formal statement of attainment to verify your skills, you may prefer to enrol in one of our ‘non-accredited’ courses in 4WD operation. Full details are on our website at: www.greatdividetours.com.au.

For further information on this course, please phone or email **Jenny**, our Administration Manager, on: **02 9913 1395** or info@greatdividetours.com.au.

| Introductory 4WD Course | |
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| Duration | Two full days on-site at our specialist 4WD training centre, plus pre-reading of the course notes (which will be posted to you in advance). |
| Venue | Castle View Training Centre, 9792 Nerriga Rd, Durran Durra NSW - 14 km north of Braidwood. |
| Units of competency covered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>SISODRV201A: Drive AWD/4WD vehicles on unsealed roads</i> • <i>SISODRV302A: Drive and recover a 4WD vehicle</i> • <i>TLIC2025: Operate four wheel drive vehicle</i>  |
| Skills you will learn | <p>This course covers the basic skills and knowledge needed to drive a 4WD vehicle under a variety of conditions and terrains, including ruts, moguls, sand, steep hills, mud and river crossings.</p> <p>We will also cover snatch strap recoveries, wheel changing, basic operator maintenance and pre-start vehicle checks.</p> |
| Outcome | Participants who successfully complete all assessment requirements will receive a Statement of Attainment listing the above units. |
| Training program and itinerary | <p>If your employer has organised the course on your behalf, the training program and itinerary will have been negotiated with them. If you are enrolling as an individual, you will be sent the itinerary in advance.</p> <p>All performance and knowledge requirements for these units are available on the web. Type the unit codes and titles into your search engine and go to the listing on the ‘training.gov.au’ website.</p> |

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| Accommodation | <p>Bunk style accommodation is available at the training centre. We also have a fully serviced camp ground on-site. Motel rooms are available in Braidwood.</p> <p>Final arrangements will be made with you when you enrol in the course. See the following pages for more details on these options.</p> |
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| Vehicle, equipment, licence and driving experience | |
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| 4WD vehicle | <p>You will need to bring a registered, roadworthy 4WD vehicle that is fully insured and suitable for 4WD off-road use.</p> <p>We have vehicles available for hire on-site at Braidwood for people who are unable to bring their own 4WD vehicle.</p> <p>Please speak to us in advance if you wish to hire a vehicle, or are not sure whether your own vehicle will be suitable for the course.</p> <p>If you are attending the course as part of a group, you may share a vehicle with another driver.</p> |
| Fuel | <p>Please ensure that you have at least 40 litres of fuel in your vehicle on arrival at the Castle View Training Centre. There is a service station in Braidwood.</p> |
| Equipment | <p>We will provide all 4WD recovery equipment, attachments and other items necessary to complete the course. However, you should ensure that your vehicle is equipped with a spare tyre and jack.</p> <p>You are welcome to bring your own 4WD accessories and recovery equipment if you wish. Note that we will inspect all gear prior to use to ensure it is fit for purpose.</p> |
| Licence | <p>You must hold a current driver's licence, valid in Australia for the vehicle you will be driving during the course. A provisional or full licence is acceptable. Learner's licences are not permitted.</p> |
| Driving experience | <p>We will teach you the skills needed to drive and recover a 4WD under a range of off-road conditions – but you must already be a competent road driver, familiar with the normal operation of your vehicle, including standard clutch control and gear changing if you are undertaking the course in a manual vehicle.</p> |
| Physical and mental requirements | <p>Off-road driving can be demanding, both mentally and physically, especially on rough terrain and in potentially hazardous situations.</p> <p>To undertake the practical components of this course, you will need to be physically capable of carrying out manual handling tasks at ground level and using a jack to change a wheel. You will also need to have the mental stamina to stay cool while driving under challenging conditions.</p> <p>If you are unsure of your ability to successfully complete the activities involved, you are welcome to phone us for further guidance.</p> |

| On-site contact | |
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| Phone and internet reception | <p>Telstra internet and mobile phone reception is available in the training room, but limited elsewhere on the Castle View property.</p> <p>The landline contact number for the centre is: 02 4842 1414.</p> |

| Other prerequisites | |
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| USI | <p>Before you fill in the enrolment form for this course, you must have a unique student identifier (USI). If you do not already have one, go to the USI website and create one at: www.usi.gov.au.</p> |
| Literacy requirements | <p>This is a very practical course with an emphasis on the hands-on skills needed to drive and recover a 4WD.</p> <p>However, there are still course notes to read and a written test to cover the theory component of the course. You will also be required to complete a simple risk assessment, pre-start checklist and other on-site forms.</p> <p>All materials are 'literacy assisted', written in plain English, and contain extensive diagrams and photos. Your trainer will provide on-the-spot help if you have trouble with any of the literacy tasks.</p> <p>If you believe you may need additional assistance with your language or literacy skills, please contact us in advance for further advice. We have a specialist literacy consultant available who can discuss the details with you.</p> |

| Things to pack / clothes to wear | |
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| Personal items | <p>If you are staying in the on-site bunk house at Castle View, you will need to bring your own pillow, bed linen or sleeping bag, toiletries and a towel.</p> <p>If you wish to camp on-site, bring your own tent and camping gear.</p> <p>Make sure you pack warm clothes, especially in the colder months. Remember that the Southern Highlands can be cold at any time of the year. Also pack wet weather gear, a hat or beanie and sunscreen.</p> |
| Personal protective equipment | <p>You will be required to wear sturdy, closed-in footwear, preferably boots. You should also pack gloves that are suitable for handling cables and 4WD recovery gear.</p> <p>There is no specific requirement to wear high visibility vests – however, if you are attending as part of a work group (organised by your employer), you will be expected to wear all of the clothing items specified by your company for this type of activity.</p> <p>This is likely to include high visibility tops, long trousers and safety boots.</p> |

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| Food and drink | <p>Bottled water and soft drinks are available for sale at the training centre, or you may bring your own if you prefer. You should carry drinking water in your vehicle while on-site.</p> <p>There is a commercial kitchen and dining room at the centre. Meals will be provided as per the arrangements made with your employer, or with you personally if you enrol as an individual.</p> <p>Please let us know in advance if you have any special dietary requirements. These will be accommodated where possible, but you may need to bring at least some of your own food items if they are unusual or specialised.</p> |
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| Pre-reading, assessment processes and course conclusion | |
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| Pre-reading | <p>Once you enrol in the course, we will send you a pre-reading pack to get you started, called: 'Introductory 4WD course notes'. These notes are excerpts from the 2019 edition of Vic Widman's book: <i>4WD Driving Skills</i> (published by Landlinks Press).</p> <p>Please read these notes in preparation for the course. Nonetheless, all topics will be covered in full during the face-to-face training sessions, with plenty of time to discuss the concepts. You will also be given your own copy of <i>4WD Driving Skills</i> during the course.</p> |
| Assessment processes | <p>The assessment process will be conducted during the two-day program. Assessment tasks include a written test, practical demonstration events and completion of a range of checklists.</p> <p>We generally find that participants are able to successfully complete the assessment requirements within the time allowed – however, there is provision for you to receive an extension in time if you are assessed as 'Not yet competent' at the end of the two-day program.</p> <p>In instances where you require further practice in your skills before being re-assessed, we will discuss the options available to you at the conclusion of the course. If you have been sent by your employer, we will also discuss these options with your supervisor or manager.</p> |
| Work placement | <p>There is no requirement to undertake a 'work placement' in order to successfully complete this course. Although most of our course participants are already engaged in 4WD activities as part of their job role, it is not mandatory to gain workplace experience before undertaking the final assessment of competency.</p> |
| RTO policies and procedures | <p>In accordance with the legislation governing our activities as an RTO, we have written policies and procedures covering a wide range of administrative and organisational matters.</p> <p>These include: access and equity, on-site safety, harassment and behaviour, fees and refunds, complaints and appeals, and privacy.</p> <p>To see the detail of these policies, please go to our website and follow the links to the downloadable Student Handbook.</p> |

| Cancellations, fees, insurance and liability | |
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| Course cancellations | <p>We do not cancel courses due to normal wet weather events. In extreme circumstances, such as during bushfires or other unforeseen emergencies, we may need to re-schedule course dates.</p> <p>These issues will be discussed with you if the situation arises.</p> <p>If you are unable to attend the course you are booked into, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss the matter on 02 9913 1395 or info@greatdividetours.com.au. See below for details on fees and refunds.</p> |
| Fees, funding and refunds | <p>All training is provided on a fee-for-service basis. We do not utilise any government subsidies or funding schemes.</p> <p>If your employer has booked you into the course, we will have already organised the fees and financial arrangements with them.</p> <p>If you are enrolling as an individual, the following terms will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fees will be payable in full at the time of enrolment, and will include all costs, such as reference materials, accommodation arrangements, meals and 4WD hire (if requested) • if you cancel your enrolment more than seven days in advance of the commencement date, we will refund your payment in full, or give you the opportunity to re-book for another course • if you cancel within seven days of the commencement date, no refund or re-booking option will be provided, unless we decide at our own discretion to grant a concession. <p>Note that up-front course fees charged to individuals never exceed \$1,500.</p> <p>Please see the Student Handbook for full details on the 'Fees and refunds; policy.</p> |
| Insurance and liability | <p>Great Divide Tours carries public liability insurance to cover accidents and incidents that may occur on-site.</p> <p>If you are attending the course as part of your work, you will also be covered by your own employer's insurance policies, including workers compensation for any injuries sustained.</p> <p>However, if you have enrolled as an individual, we will ask you to sign a declaration and waiver to confirm that you understand the hazards involved in off-road driving and have agreed to accept the risks involved and any consequences arising from them, to the extent determined by the law.</p> <p>If you will be undertaking the course in a privately-owned vehicle, or a vehicle hired from an external company, you should also confirm with the insurer that this type of off-road driving and course participation will be covered under the insurance policy.</p> <p>Note that all vehicles must be comprehensively insured.</p> |

Getting there

Some navigation systems do not position the location correctly when you enter the address: 9792 Nerriga Road, Durran Durra, NSW.

Please rely on the attached map and the description below for directions.

- From Goulburn, drive to the intersection of Kings Hwy and Braidwood Road and turn left (approximately 25 kilometres west of Braidwood)
- Follow the Kings Hwy to the town of Braidwood and turn left onto Nerriga Road, just after entering the 50kph speed zone.
- Follow Nerriga Road for 12 kilometres to where the road becomes unsealed, and continue straight ahead on the unsealed road.
- Continue driving for 2.2 km until you see the blue and white sign (pictured below). The sign reads: 'Castle View Training and Conference Centre, Lot 160 Nerriga Rd'. The cross road opposite is Hobbs Creek Road.
- Turn left at the sign and follow the track for 100 metres to the entrance of the property. You will be met there by one of the trainers.

If you need further directions, you can ring us at the Centre on 4842 1414.



Great Divide Tours – about us

Great Divide Tours Pty Ltd is owned and operated by Vic Widman – author of the reference book '*4WD Driving Skills*', and recognised authority in off-road driving. Vic is our lead trainer. All of our other trainers are also experienced remote area 4WD tour guides, expert off-road drivers and qualified trainers and assessors.

Our dedicated training facility at Castle View comprises 240 acres of bushland that includes tracks, moguls, ruts, bogs, water crossings, hill climbs and other 4WD off-road driving challenges and features. The nationally recognised training courses we provide are delivered to the highest standards, in full compliance with the *Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 (and Amendment 2017)*.

For more information on Great Divide Tour's world-class training facilities, and details on other services we provide (including non-accredited training, tag-along tours and industry events), go to our website at: www.greatdividetours.com.au.

