

SPIRIT OF THE EARTH MEDICINE SOCIETY

VISION QUEST



3rd September – 10th September 2023

CENTRAL DESERT

ALICE SPRINGS



THE VISION QUEST



The Vision Quest is one of the most powerful and enduring experiences which is available to us in our contemporary society. It is an opportunity to step outside of all the routines of everyday life and see one's self and one's life through a new set of lenses. Drawing upon the ritual and traditions of indigenous cultures from around the world, and framed by the spiritual landscape of Australia, the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society [SOTEMS] takes each participant into the wilderness to encounter the opening of a personal, spiritual pathway, a cleansing and renewal so that each may return regenerated. There are few opportunities like this within our contemporary society wherein we can step out of everyday life and submit ourselves to a process which clears our horizons.

It is a peerless experience.

The Vision Quest involves:

- A meditation in nature, alone, within a medicine wheel
- It occurs in a place which speaks to you and you alone
- It spans three or five or days nights
- It requires the discipline of fasting and diminished sleep
- It involves facing the east each morning as the sun crosses the horizon so that Spirit may speak and renew you
- You are given songs and meditations which enrich and focus your vigil and search
- There is the opportunity to share your story and to have your personal needs for integration of the experience met.
- It is, overall, a ceremony of transition and renewal
- For one week before the quest proper begins, you will be required to do daily meditations. Once you are registered for the quest, the details of these practices will be supplied to you.

The Vision Quest will be facilitated by initiated shamans within the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society (SOTEMS) traditions. Throughout and beyond the vigil, you are supported by trained and experienced personnel from SOTEMS.

THE LOCATION



The Vision Quest is held on the most ancient river system in the world, the Hugh River in the Central Desert NT.

Participants should arrange to be in Alice Springs on Saturday 2nd September 2023 where we will leave for the site from Alice Springs on 3rd September 2023 at 10AM.

Upon enrolment, a package of information will be sent which covers:

1. Preparation for the Quest;
2. What you should bring;
3. Travel and meeting arrangements;
4. Follow up arrangements;
5. A request for information on your personal health status and needs

SPIRIT OF THE EARTH MEDICINE SOCIETY

The Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society [SOTEMS] is a community spiritual organization which is nationwide. It is dedicated to the cultivation of medicine ways, the practices and philosophy which focus on healing healing ourselves, others, the community and our relationship with the environment.

SOTEMS is also profoundly committed to assisting in the creation of an Australian spirituality and has established ceremonial and healing practices which reflect this. The Society has been in operation in Australia for over 30 years.

VISION QUEST CEREMONY LEADER

Guy is a Ceremonial Leader and initiated shaman in the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society.



Guy is also a traditionally trained and initiated sangoma. A sangoma is a traditional healer of Southern Africa, effectively a shaman of the Zulu and related Nguni cultures.

Born and raised in South Africa, he is one of only a handful of westerners that have undergone the long and intense ordeal of *thwasa* (the formal traditional training and initiation process) in order to become initiated into the traditions of the Southern African traditional healers.

Since moving to Australia, Guy is passionate about contributing to the development of a shamanic perspective for contemporary Australians that is harmoniously informed by both our unique, and often disjointed, ancestral stories and the land upon which we live.

Guy will be assisted during the Vision Quest by trained SOTEMS personnel.

VISION QUEST OPTIONS

The basic VQ involves either a 3-day or 5-day vigil with preparation and debriefing. To ensure proper attention to participant requirements, there are a maximum of 8 VQ spots available in total.

Costs:

The Vision Quest cost is \$1250 for the 3 Day Vigil and \$1450 for the 5 day Vigil.

A deposit of \$350/\$400 is required to register for the Vision Quest with the balance paid in 3 instalments by no later than one month before the start of the Vision Quest

All participants need to be in Alice Springs before 10AM on Sunday 3rd September 2023.

All participants will be sent additional information at least 6 weeks before the quest begins. This information will include the following:

1. Details of what camping items to bring
2. Details of Ceremonial objects to bring
3. A code of conduct for participating in the quest
4. Preparation requirements for the VQ daily practices

CONTACT DETAILS

SOTEMS Vision Quest

Phone: Guy (0407-495-076)

Email: info@sotems.com.au

SOTEMS 2023 VISION QUEST REGISTRATION



To register, please send the following details back to info@sotems.com.au along with details of your registration deposit. Original document can be found at <https://www.sotems.com.au/ceremonies/vision-quest>

Full Name:

City & State of Residence :

Age :

Phone Contact :

Email Address :

Date :

Emergency Contact Details

Name :

Contact Phone Number :

Relationship :

# of Days	Dates *	Cost	SOTEMS Members	Deposit & Instalments
3 Day VQ	3 Sept - 8 Sept 2023	\$1250	\$1100	\$350 Deposit to secure booking + 3 x instalments of \$300 each
5 Day VQ	3 Sept - 10 Sept 2023	\$1450	\$1300	\$400 Deposit to secure booking + 3 x instalments of \$350 each

* These dates represent the Departure and Return to Alice Springs

Banking Details

Preferred method is EFT. To ensure we can track your payments, please include "VQ 2023 "
+ your Name to the description of the transfer and send an email notification of deposit to
info@sotems.com.au

Account Name : Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society

BSB : 063-008

Account : 010031305

Full payment by 1 month prior, please. No refund on deposits after this date.