

Meta-leadership – a three-day ‘holistic retreat’ for organisational consultants and leaders

7th-10th September 2011, Led by Aubyn Howard

Overview

Leadership – noun. The ability to lead. To go before or show the way.

meta- prefix. Beyond; transcending; more comprehensive. At a higher state of development. [Greek, from meta, beside, after.]

What are the leadership capabilities needed to tackle today’s increasingly complex organisational, societal and global challenges?

What is the next step for mature and successful leaders beyond conventional leadership development programmes?

How can we evolve a more transformative model of leadership that works at all levels and for all types of organisation?

In summary, in the domain of leadership, what lies *beyond...* the conventional, the mainstream, the currently accepted view of leadership? How can we get ahead of the curve in the challenge to develop leaders capable of navigating the uncertainties, ambiguities, paradoxes and complexities of the next decade?

These three days will be part **collaborative inquiry**, part **professional development** forum, part **seminar** and part **holistic retreat**. I have some answers to these questions, however I challenge you to bring your own and for us to work as a group to reach a new synthesis that will both feed your own professional or leadership practice, as well as contribute to the wider field of knowledge.

By ‘holistic retreat’, we mean an experience that is designed to nurture all levels of the human being – physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual. Château Chavagnac is the perfect venue to relax, learn and explore with a group of like-minded professionals.

Each day will be structured to include the following:

- Workshops on leading edge leadership themes
- Group dialogue sessions focused on topics of greatest interest
- Opportunities for participants to share an approach, model or idea with the group
- Personal resourcing; choice of healing, artistic, physical or reflective activities each day
- Take away material on meta-leadership, including models and tools to use in your work
- Dinner, preceded by wine tasting or an aperitif on the terrace

The venue and accommodation

The retreat will be held at Château Chavagnac, an exclusive residential facility for small groups to work together in a beautiful, resourcing and restful environment, set within 38 acres of grounds. Each participant will have their own room and most rooms come with an en-suite bathroom. Two pairs of rooms share bathrooms. Each room is different and we will try to accommodate everyone so that all needs are met.

Who is this for?

Experienced organisational consultants, facilitators and coaches who want to take time out with a peer group to reflect on their practice, explore new ideas and develop themselves, as well as any organisational leaders who are bored with hackneyed leadership development courses and want to push out their boundaries in a different kind of environment.

What are the key elements of the meta-leadership approach?

A number of elements are central to the idea of meta-leadership, which we will explore on the retreat. These include:

- A developmental perspective; understanding how leaders develop, using models such as the Leadership Development Framework and Spiral Dynamics
- An integral framework: seeing the bigger picture by including multiple perspectives, for example, using Ken Wilber's integral model
- A commitment to personal development: the three levels and nine keys to personal mastery
- Engaging with today's organisational drivers (e.g. globalisation, virtualisation, digitalisation) and critical challenges: (e.g. change, creativity and collaboration)

How will it work?

The retreat is intended to create a resourcing, reflective and generative space for experienced consultants and leaders, meeting their needs for personal and professional development, through a flexible mix of activities. Aubyn will guide the overall event and facilitate a workshop each morning on developments in leadership thinking and everyone will have an opportunity to lead a session on a topic of their choice if they want. The agenda will be shaped both by participants responses to the orientation questionnaire, as well as on-going checking out of needs and preferences for how the group wants to prioritise its time.

Retreat activity options

Every afternoon there will time set aside for you to chose from any of the following:

- Healing treatments (additional charge): shiatsu or full body massage, reiki or kinesiology
- Artistic and reflective activity: painting, Qi Gong, meditation
- Physical activity: cycling, horse riding, swimming or hill walking

Costs

The all-inclusive fee for the Retreat (4 nights, 3 days) is **600 Euros + VAT** (£525 + VAT) for individual bookings and **900 Euros + VAT** (£787 + VAT) for corporate bookings. This covers:

- (i) all accommodation, meals, wine with dinner*, snacks, teas and coffees etc.
- (ii) professional facilitation and course preparation
- (iii) take-away course materials
- (iv) cost of leisure activities, but not some treatments

The fee excludes your individual travel cost to and back from Château Chavagnac.

* House wine is included with dinner, in addition to which you may want to purchase your own wine at the table.

Travel options include:

Train (Eurostar London to Paris, then TGV Paris to Valence, where we can pick you up)

Flights (various options, e.g. EasyJet to Lyon , BA to Lyon, Ryanair to Grenoble, etc),

We can provide details on the different options depending upon where you are based and help with booking if required.

Next steps

The course is restricted to 12 places, so please make your reservation early. Please send an email to Aubyn at aubyn@powernet.co.uk to make a provisional reservation, to let me know of your interest, or to ask any questions you may have. A £200 non-refundable (but transferable) deposit is needed to reserve your place on the retreat. The balance is due by the start of the retreat.

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