Advanced Executive and Close Protection Operations Training Course



26 - 30 Oct 2026

Vienna

5800 € (Per Person)

Ref: #SM5887_131740

Course Introduction / Overview:

This comprehensive training course provides an in-depth exploration of the principles and practices of modern executive and close protection. In a world of evolving threats, the security of key individuals requires more than just a physical presence; it demands a sophisticated, intelligence-led approach to risk management and operational planning. This program is designed to equip participants with the strategic thinking and tactical skills necessary to manage and execute professional protection details. Drawing upon established doctrines and contemporary best practices, the curriculum delves into every facet of a protective operation, from initial threat assessment to emergency response and post-incident analysis. As security expert Gavin de Becker outlines in his seminal work, "The Gift of Fear," understanding and predicting violent behavior is key to preventing it. This course, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, builds on such foundational concepts, translating them into actionable protocols for high-stakes environments. Participants will learn to move beyond reactive security measures, instead developing proactive, multi-layered security plans that ensure the safety, privacy, and productivity of the principal. This is a definitive guide for professionals seeking to master the art and science of close protection operations management.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Close Protection Officers and Bodyguards.
- Corporate Security Managers and Directors.
- Security Team Leaders and Supervisors.
- Law Enforcement and Military Personnel transitioning to the private sector.
- Risk Management and Security Consultants.
- Family Office Security Coordinators.
- High-Net-Worth Individual Personal Assistants with security responsibilities.
- Protective Security Specialists.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Corporate and Multinational Corporations.
- Financial and Banking Institutions.
- Private Security Companies.
- Entertainment and Media Industries.
- High-Net-Worth Families and Individuals.
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) operating in high-risk areas.
- Government agencies and diplomatic corps.
- Hospitality and Luxury Goods Sectors.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Corporate Security Department.
- Risk Management Department.
- Facilities and Operations Management.
- Executive Management and Administration.
- Human Resources (for duty of care responsibilities).
- Legal and Compliance Departments.
- Event Management and Logistics Teams.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Conduct comprehensive threat, vulnerability, and risk assessments for principals.
- Develop and implement intelligence-led protective security plans.
- Master the fundamentals of security advance planning and site surveys.
- Execute protective walking formations and motorcade operations effectively.
- Implement surveillance detection and counter-surveillance strategies.
- Manage emergency situations, including medical and security crises.
- Apply principles of conflict de-escalation and defensive tactics.
- Lead and manage a professional close protection detail.
- Understand the legal and ethical considerations of close protection.
- Utilize modern technology to enhance protective operations.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, practical, and highly interactive, ensuring that participants not only learn the theory but can also apply it effectively in real-world scenarios. This course moves beyond traditional lectures by integrating a dynamic blend of training techniques. A significant portion of the program is dedicated to hands-on learning through realistic tabletop exercises, scenario-based simulations, and practical drills that challenge participants to apply their knowledge under pressure. We utilize detailed case studies of historical protection details, both successful and unsuccessful, to facilitate critical analysis and group discussions. This collaborative environment encourages the sharing of experiences and perspectives, enriching the learning process for all attendees. Expert instructors provide continuous, constructive feedback throughout the course, guiding participants as they refine their skills in areas like advance planning, operational tactics, and emergency response. The methodology emphasizes a holistic approach, developing not just tactical proficiency but also the critical thinking and leadership skills essential for managing complex security operations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Modern Close Protection

- The history and evolution of professional protection.
- Roles and responsibilities of a Close Protection Officer.
- Legal frameworks and ethical considerations in the protection industry.
- Threat assessment and risk analysis methodologies.
- Understanding the principal's profile, lifestyle, and risk exposure.
- Developing a protective mindset and situational awareness.
- Introduction to protective intelligence and its role in planning.

Unit Two: Protective Intelligence and Advance Planning

- The intelligence cycle for protective operations.
- Conducting comprehensive site surveys for venues, hotels, and offices.
- Route analysis and selection for secure movement.
- Principles of surveillance and counter-surveillance.
- Designing and implementing surveillance detection routes (SDRs).
- Liaison with local law enforcement and other security stakeholders.
- Creating a detailed security advance report.

Unit Three: Operational Tactics and Procedures

- Principles of protection on foot, including individual and team formations.
- Choreography of arrivals and departures (embus and debus procedures).
- Motorcade operations, security driving principles, and protocols.
- Security protocols for public events, meetings, and travel.
- Low-profile and covert protection techniques.
- Residential and office security integration.
- Communication procedures and protocols within the protection team.

Unit Four: Emergency Response and Specialist Skills

- Emergency action planning and immediate response drills.
- Introduction to Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC).
- Conflict management and de-escalation techniques.
- Unarmed defensive tactics and physical intervention skills.
- Attack recognition and response to immediate threats.
- Crisis management and incident command principles.
- Post-incident procedures and reporting.

Unit Five: Management of the Protection Detail

- Leadership and team management within a protective detail.
- Operational security (OPSEC) for the principal and the team.
- Budgeting, logistics, and resource management for security operations.
- Integrating technology in protective operations (GPS, drones, communication).
- Client relationship management and professional conduct.
- Conducting operational briefings and debriefings.
- Continuous professional development and maintaining operational readiness.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

In an era of increasing digital surveillance and cyber threats, how must the traditional principles of physical close protection evolve to provide truly comprehensive security for a principal?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by focusing on the strategic management and intelligence-led foundations of close protection, moving beyond the purely tactical aspects often emphasized elsewhere. While many programs teach physical techniques, this training course dedicates significant time to the cognitive skills that prevent incidents from ever occurring. It champions a proactive, analytical approach, teaching participants how to build a holistic security framework based on meticulous threat assessment, protective intelligence, and advance planning. The curriculum integrates critical soft skills, such as conflict de-escalation and client management, recognizing that a modern protection professional must be as adept in communication as in physical intervention. Rather than simply providing a set of pre-packaged solutions, the course develops the participant's ability to think critically, adapt to dynamic environments, and design bespoke security solutions tailored to the unique risk profile of any principal. It is this emphasis on strategic thinking and operational leadership, combined with practical, scenario-based training, that provides a deeper, more sustainable level of mastery in the field of executive protection.