



Born in Ankara in 1969, Serhan studied English at TED Ankara College, a private school, and received his B.Sc. in Political Science and Public Administration from the Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, in 1992. He pursued graduate work in Ottoman Social History at Istanbul's Bogazici University and earned his Master's degree in Geography from Istanbul University with his thesis on the historical battlefields of Turkey.

During his years of military service, Serhan served not only as a Marine Lieutenant commanding troops in the operations of Turkish Navy, but also as a part-time protocol officer. In this capacity he organized tours and guided high-ranking NATO officials during visits to Turkey. Post-military, a corporate stint led Serhan to work in 16 countries as a factory inspector for Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

After graduating from a rigorous, one-year training program, Serhan was certified as an official tour guide by the Turkish Ministry of Tourism in 1997. During the past decade, Serhan's freelance activities have led him from one fascinating experience to the next — from working as a show translator and guide for David Copperfield's Magic Show in Istanbul to hosting official guests of the Turkish government like foreign ministers, military commanders and corporate leaders. In late 2008, as part of an official Ministry of Culture and Tourism program, Serhan gave a series of training seminars on the subject of historical battlefields of Turkey to all of the professional tour guides in Istanbul. Serhan also served as a member of the board of directors of Istanbul Tourist Guides Guild (IRO), the oldest and largest professional tourist guides organization in Turkey with 4,500 members.