Volunteer Ranger

Volunteer Rangers play an important support role with Historic Environment Scotland Ranger Service in caring for and protecting our historic environment and the cultural and natural resources to be found in Holyrood Park, Linlithgow Peel and the Heart of Neolithic Orkney on mainland Orkney.

In addition Volunteer Rangers assist with essential conservation and survey work, Park foot patrols, third party events, guided walks and school & community groups. This is a rewarding role where Volunteer Rangers, representing the Ranger Service, actively engage with the public advising on a variety of matters and ensuring safe and responsible access for the public to a number of properties in the care of Historic Environment Scotland. We are currently recruiting volunteers at:

- Holyrood Park
- Linlithgow Peel

For more information phone 0131 652 8150 or email Rangers@hes.scot

About Historic Environment Scotland

Historic Environment Scotland (HES) is a Non Departmental Public Body and is responsible for safeguarding the nation's historic environment, and promoting its understanding and enjoyment. Our main office is in Edinburgh but we also have staff, properties, monument conservation units and regional offices spread across Scotland.

Role of a Volunteer Ranger

We are looking for volunteer Rangers to provide support to our dynamic Ranger Service ensuring the delivery of excellent service to a variety of user groups. The core duties of our team of volunteers are to safeguard visitor wellbeing and protection of the site. In addition Volunteer Rangers will carry out foot patrols providing a conspicuous presence on our sites and play an important visitor engagement role speaking to and advising visitors. Volunteers collect and relay valuable information for the Ranger Service gathered from patrols and visitor engagement. Conservation surveys and litter pick patrols are a regular feature of volunteer activity in the Park as it is assisting with community and education groups. Attending guided walks and third party events provide volunteers with useful information and a wider understanding of how the various departments within Historic Environment Scotland interrelate.

Whilst there is no minimum requirement regarding volunteer hours we desire a reasonable attendance to ensure a meaningful volunteer contribution. Hours and duties will be flexible and agreed with the Volunteer Coordinator.

Volunteer specification

To successfully contribute to our excellent visitor experience we are looking for individuals with an interest in delivering activities who:

- Are approachable, friendly and enthusiastic.
- Can work in a team.
- Are able to take, and act on instructions, including health and safety procedures.
- Have excellent communication skills are comfortable communicating with different age groups and are confident and happy to initiate conversations with members of the public.
- Can provide directions and guidance to the public as required.

Although a background in historical knowledge is not required, an appreciation and enthusiasm towards HES’s role is essential – further information on our role will be provided to successful applicants.

An understanding of relevant conservation issues and previous ‘public-facing’ experience would be welcomed but not essential. Individuals must be happy to volunteer outdoors and in inclement weather. We will supply a volunteer uniform and waterproof clothing. Volunteers are fully supported by our Volunteer Coordinators. HES currently do not reimburse travelling expenses.

Application process

If you are over 18, fit the specification, are interested in volunteering for the Ranger Service and can commit to an agreed minimum volunteer requirement please fill in the Expression of Interest form. Individuals who fit the selection criteria will be invited to a short interview and to attend a site tour to gauge if the Volunteer Ranger role is physically manageable. In addition this will provide applicants with an opportunity to make a personal judgment towards their suitability as a member of the team.
Please note that we require applicants to supply photographic proof of identification and applicants are required to provide a Basic Disclosure certificate dated within the last 12 months. HES will reimburse this cost, as applicable. A PVG Scheme check or higher level of Disclosure is also acceptable. Further information is given at our taster days.

**Additional information**

We are committed to continually improving our service, and feedback about our volunteer programme and its participants may be sought at our events and sites from volunteers, staff and visitors.

Due to the nature of our sites full access is not always possible for those with mobility challenges or disabilities and there may be aspects of the role which are unsuitable. Please get in touch to discuss any further matters relating to a volunteer role with Historic Environment Scotland Ranger Service and we will be happy to advise.