

Grizedale

Volunteer People Engagement Ranger

For the Forestry Commission, located at Grizedale Forest, Cumbria

Deadline: 10th June 2011

“A fantastic opportunity for anyone interested in forests, education or conservation to understand more about an organisation such as the Forestry Commission and gain valuable people engagement and office skills”
Roz Shah, People Engagement Volunteer 2010-11

Purpose of the Role

A great opportunity to join our Grizedale team as a volunteer, in this diverse and popular forest in the heart of the Lake District. Full-time, 6-12 months

We are looking for someone to assist the Grizedale team with the planning and delivering of our busy, popular and wide ranging education and family events programmes; ensuring our visitors have a great experience.

This role also offers opportunities to assist the Forest Ranger teams in the practical management of the forest for biodiversity, (supporting red deer, owl, bat and red kites) and walking/cycling trail maintenance.

Skills / experience

Suit new graduates looking for work experience.

A background of education / training in a related field – e.g. countryside management or education / community programmes

Self-motivated, with excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Have confidence and interest in working with people of all ages and backgrounds. You must be able to work well as part of a busy team.

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Enjoy sharing your enthusiasm for the natural world with others, and the ability to use creative and innovative ways to encourage them to take action and make a difference.

Good basic knowledge of British wildlife and habitats an advantage but not essential.

Competent computer skills, ideally an interest in designing posters and promotions material.

This role will involve an element of weekend working.

Having a full driving licence and your own transport, or being a keen and fit cyclist, would be beneficial due to the location of Grizedale and lack of public transport.

On the job training and in-house training courses. Previous volunteers have undergone one day First Aid, Dealing with Members of the Public, Path and Boardwalk Creation, Customer Care, GIS mapping, tree and woodland plant ID

Free on-site accommodation provided, in a shared 2-bed house (free rent, but you will be required to contribute £10 per week towards bills)

Must be willing to undergo a CRB

Position available for up to 12 months. You will be required to work a 37 hr week.

The main purpose of the role is to assist with:

- Planning and delivery of a wide range of fun events and activities for visitors to the forest, in particular families.
- Planning and delivery of forest learning programmes for schools and colleges

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- Administration of the above – responding to queries (by email and phone) and taking bookings, inputting and analysing data.
- The creation of simple posters and other marketing materials for the events programme.

There will also be opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and gain experience in the following areas

- Assist with walking / cycling trail checks and maintenance
- Assist with wildlife projects
- Assist with practical forest management tasks
- Internationally renowned sculpture in the forest programme – existing collection, archive and new commissioning projects
- GIS
- You will use Microsoft word, outlook, excel and publisher to enable the above.

To apply for this position, please email a completed volunteer registration form, your CV, and a covering letter detailing why you think you are suited to this role.

Please email by 5pm Friday 10th June 2011

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