

Volunteer Role Description

Garden Volunteer

What is a Garden Volunteer?

Garden volunteering at Fulham Palace is an exciting and unique opportunity to be part of a thriving horticultural team. Volunteers will gain experience in an historic garden open to the public that aims to demonstrate high horticultural standards to the visitors and provide high-quality training to volunteers.



<p>What's in it for you?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opportunity to improve your gardening skills and develop your horticultural knowledge • Meet like-minded individuals and become part of a fun and social team • Be part of helping the gardens develop and grow • To be involved with a positive and engaging volunteer culture including social events, outings, forums and our volunteer portal - where volunteers are able to contribute blogs posts; join in discussions with other volunteers, sign up to sessions and access all the information you need as a volunteer online • A reference when you have volunteered with us regularly for 6 months
<p>What's involved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist in seasonal gardening tasks throughout the year that will develop as the gardens develop • Volunteers work in supervised groups usually led by a member of the gardens team staff • Some tasks are physically demanding and require a level of manual dexterity • Garden maintenance – including weeding, mulching, edging, raking, digging over, pruning, dead heading, bed preparation, tidying and path maintenance • Seed sowing and potting up • Composting – processing, spreading and digging in • Bed renovation and grounds development - reinstating and installing beds, ground preparation, planting, bulb planting • Clearing overgrown areas – keeping on top of the ivy and other invasive species • Woodland management – coppicing and grubbing out • Meadow management – ground preparing, cutting down and raking • While support and training will be provided, from time to time volunteers may work independently or without one to one supervision
<p>This role will suit people who...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All levels of horticultural experience are accepted but enthusiasm for outside practical horticulture work is essential

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible – willing to give support where necessary and be able to change plans at short notice to adapt to changing priorities • Approachable – have positive attitude where staff and management feel at ease to approach and discuss in a constructive manner • Ability to listen and follow instructions • Ability to work safely and to not endanger yourself or others, using common sense to maintain a safe working environment • Able to work in a team with people of wide ranging ages and abilities
Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work on a weekly basis, coming in on the same day and time each session • Volunteer Days: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays – Volunteers to state preferred day • Prompt start from 10.15am (or join the team for tea break at 9.45am) Finish by 4pm • Lunch break – 12.30pm to 1.30pm of course volunteers will have holidays too! Normal working days are Monday to Friday
Main contact	Lucy Hart, Head Gardener
Training/Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular specialist training to help you carry out and develop in your role • Full induction including health and safety procedures, fire safety and customer service • All new volunteers have an introduction period, this is a settling in time of around 2 months. At the end of this an appropriate person will catch up with you. This is an opportunity for both parties to reflect and make any adjustments to the role that are needed • Access to our volunteer’s website, the “Volunteer Portal”, including a blog, downloadable resources, rota and events page
Getting to the Palace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nearest tube station is Putney Bridge • The nearest railway station is Putney • There are several bus stops within walking distance • We reimburse travel expenses up to £8 per session
What next?	<p>Please get in touch by completing an enquiry form, available at: http://www.fulhampalace.org/about/volunteer/</p> <p>You can also check our FAQs sheet here: http://www.fulhampalace.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Volunteering-FAQs.pdf</p> <p>If you have any questions you can contact our Volunteer Enquiry Assistants by emailing volunteer@fulhampalace.org or telephoning 020 7751 2433</p> <p>Potential volunteers will be invited to an informal interview to discuss the role further in person.</p>
<p>Fulham Palace values the involvement of volunteers; they enhance everything we are able to do. We are committed to offering volunteer opportunities of a high standard and welcome feedback.</p>	