

LUNDY LONG-TERM VOLUNTEERING 2024

Volunteer Assistant Ranger

Reports to: Island Ranger

LUNDY



The Island

Lundy is situated at the entrance to the Bristol Channel about 23 miles from Bideford, the nearest port. The Island is about 3½ miles long by ½ mile wide and rises some 400 ft from the sea. Recently re-accredited as a Bird Observatory, much of the Island is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the sea surrounding the Island is England's first statutory Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) with a No Take Zone (NTZ) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).

Lundy is owned by the National Trust and managed by the Landmark Trust under the terms of a 50-year lease. Visitors can stay in any of the islands 24 self-catering cottages or the small camp site which accommodates 40 people. During the summer there can be 140 people staying on the Island and over 260 day trippers.

Please refer to the island's website for more information:

www.landmarktrust.org.uk/lundyisland/discovering-lundy

Job Description

The Volunteer Assistant Ranger will primarily support the Island Ranger deliver practical habitat management and estate maintenance on a high-profile wildlife conservation site. The role is highly varied, and a flexible approach is essential. LANTRA ATV training will be provided along with one other practical ticket upon completion of the season. The candidate will also be expected to undertake general island duties such as housekeeping, recycling and visitor engagement as required. Previous volunteers have gone on to further studies or jobs with Natural England, National Trust, Wildlife Trusts and in some cases with The Lundy Company.

Volunteer Assistant Ranger duties:

- Maintenance of island infrastructure such as fences, dry-stone walls, gates and gullies.
- Path clearance, strimming, lawn mowing and estate maintenance throughout the village.
- Conducting rhododendron seedling surveys and eradication efforts.
- Leading volunteer work parties on practical tasks.
- Tree maintenance and woodland management.
- Bracken bruising and alexanders control.
- Traditional lime mortar building and pointing on occasions when visiting stone masons coincide with volunteering period.

In-house task training will be provided. There will also be the opportunity to assist the warden team with wildlife surveys such as seabird productivity monitoring.

General Island Duties:

- Cargo & baggage handling on busy sailing days.
- Supporting the Housekeeping team on busy changeover days.
- Recycling plant duties.

In a small island community, there is often a need for all hands to the pump so candidates may be required to 'muck in' with other duties from time to time. Additionally, there is an opportunity for

you to work within the Tavern and Housekeeping teams to earn complementary meals for the duration of your stay.

Personal Criteria

- Candidates must be prepared to live and work on a remote island in hostel-style, mixed gender accommodation.
- Happy working outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Prepared to camp (with shower and cooking facilities provided) in the event of accommodation being needed for essential island infrastructure work.
- Candidates must be over the age of 18.
- Hold a good level of health and fitness.
- Confident working independently in potentially hazardous terrain e.g. coastal slopes near cliffs.
- Excellent communication skills and adaptable to a small working community.
- Respect and adhere to the islands code of conduct set out by the Lundy Company.
- Keep communal areas clean and tidy, accommodation areas are shared by contractors and visiting researchers.
- Exceptional candidates will hold practical qualifications such as brushcutter, pesticide use or first aid tickets.

General Information

Lundy has its own passenger and supply vessel, *MS Oldenburg* which brings everything and everyone to the Island, with up to four sailings per week in summer. Long-term volunteers should not expect to travel to the mainland during their placement but if the applicant already has commitments prior to this application, depending on the circumstances, time off the island can be arranged. The Island generates its own electricity (the generator is switched off at midnight and comes back on at 6am). The Island is self-sufficient as far as utilities are concerned and there is a well-stocked shop and Tavern. Candidates are encouraged to arrange to have short-term visitors to the island, but we cannot house partners or family members. Volunteers will need to arrange transport at their own expense to the port (Ilfracombe or Bideford). Candidates cannot bring pets. The Island is rodent-free so please check any luggage before departure.

Accommodation and all meals are provided. Please note, the hostel-style accommodation is shared with other staff or volunteers. It may be necessary for candidates to camp (with shower and cooking facilities provided) at times. Therefore, we ask all volunteers to bring a sleeping bag and small tent. We have large tents and camp beds that can be borrowed if needed. If the weather is not suitable for camping (e.g. gales) there is always indoor shelter available.

Sailing tickets will be provided for successful applicants and seasonal volunteers also benefit from concessionary rates in the Lundy Shop and Tavern.

Duration of role: **9th May to 25th October 2024.** *However, dates can be flexible.*

Hours of work: Generally, 8am-5pm five days per week (including weekends) but flexible hours are an essential part of island life, especially during the height of the season.

Health and safety: All volunteers are expected to observe all Health and Safety at Work Regulations as set out by the Lundy Company or in accordance with other statutory requirements. The roles will involve lone working and candidates must adhere to risk assessments. All relevant PPE will be provided.

Notice: An initial two-week probationary period will be in place during which time the position can be terminated at any time.

How to apply: Please send a completed Volunteer Assistant Ranger application form to the warden. Please note, the closing date for all applications is 11:59 pm on **19th April 2024**.

Any further questions or queries please contact the warden.

Joe Parker
Lundy Warden
warden@lundyisland.co.uk
01237 431831