



Short-term volunteer post on Skomer Island

Skomer Island is located just off the coast of the Pembrokeshire peninsula and is one of Britain's most important seabird colonies. Skomer holds roughly 50% of the world's Manx Shearwater population along with internationally important numbers of Puffins, Guillemots, Razorbills and gulls. The island is open for up to 300 visitors a day, with up to 16 staying overnight in a small hostel.

We are looking for volunteers who would like to spend a minimum of one week on Skomer Island in the period between 23rd March 2019 and 30 September 2019 to help with the day-to-day management of the reserve.

Tasks:

- To welcome overnight and day visitors to Skomer Island
- Assist with loading and unloading of overnight visitors' luggage from the boat
- To help visitors off boats
- To sell merchandise and hire out binoculars
- To answer wildlife queries and generally assist visitors during their stay
- To help maintain, clean and manage the visitor accommodation and facilities
- To conduct, cetacean and bird surveys and note wildlife sightings
- Island patrol and general wardening duties
- General island maintenance tasks (path clearance, building maintenance etc.)
- Assist the warden/assistant warden/visitor officer in other tasks if necessary
- Depending on the time of year, they may be additional extra-curricular opportunities to assist various researchers with seabird or vole monitoring, outside of the day to day duties.

Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring a slide-show/presentation of their choice (previous environmental volunteer/work experiences etc.), which may be presented during the week to island staff, researchers and overnight guests if time allows.

The main benefit for the applicant will be the experience of island living and working on a high profile conservation site. The applicant will gain knowledge and experience in people engagement, practical wardening skills and reserve management.

Accommodation

Shared accommodation will be provided on the island. Successful applicants will be required to bring their own bed linen.

Food

Successful applicants will be expected to provide their own food.

Travel

Boat travel to and from the island will be provided.

Photography

You are welcome to take photos during your spare time. Please refrain from photography when you are on duty as this will distract you from your responsibilities.



The successful applicant should have the following experience/skills/attitude

Essential

- Love and enthusiasm for wildlife and conservation
- Hardy nature, happy to work in all weathers and in remote locations
- Physically fit (you will need to- as a minimum, walk up and down the landing stairs 3 times in a morning and walk around a significant portion of the island in the afternoon)
- High level of motivation, happy to work independently and within a team
- Flexible attitude

Desirable

- Experience in people management, public speaking
- Experience in reserve management / DIY
- Experience in wildlife monitoring and surveying

There will be a nominal fee of £35 per person per week which will be payable on being offered a place. This is to help with the administration of the scheme and the upkeep of accommodation and infrastructure. A number of free places will be funded through the Skalmey Bursary for students, unemployed and people on low incomes.

If you cancel your volunteering stint then the fee, less a £15 administration charge, will be refunded providing your written or emailed cancellation reaches the Island Booking Office, The Nature Centre, Fountain Road, Tondy, Bridgend, CF32 0EH, islands@welshwildlife.org AND the assistant warden on skomer.assistant@welshwildlife.org four weeks before the start of your volunteering week.

Further Information

You will be sent further information before going to Skomer which will include what you will need to take with you, how to get to Martin's Haven for your boat, contact details, and some information about local accommodation, shops and advice about car parking and public transport.

How to apply

Please fill in the application form. No cover letters or CVs should be included as part of your application.

Application forms can be found at www.welshwildlife.org/about-us/jobs

Completed application forms have to be sent via email by 30th September 2018 to:
[**skomer.assistant@welshwildlife.org**](mailto:skomer.assistant@welshwildlife.org).

For more information please contact the booking office on 01239 621600/621212 or the Assistant Warden on 07816990371.

The successful applicant will hear from us by end of October, please note we only get in touch with successful applicants.



Skomer Volunteer Tasks

| | March | April | May | June | July | August | September |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|
| Welcoming visitors | | █ | | | | | █ |
| Patrol / general wardening | | █ | | | | | █ |
| Cleaning | | █ | | | | | |
| Building Maintenance | | █ | █ | | | | █ |
| Path Maintenance | | █ | █ | | | | |
| Path clearance | | | | █ | | █ | |
| Cetacean surveys | | █ | | | | | |