



# ATHOLL

E S T A T E S

**Job Title:** Groundsman  
**Reporting to:** Senior Gardener  
**Contract:** Full time, permanent

Atholl Estates covers an area of approximately 120,000 acres in Highland Perthshire, managed centrally from the Estate Office in Blair Atholl, a picturesque village close to the resort town of Pitlochry and less than 2 hours drive from Edinburgh and Glasgow.

The estates are probably best known for Blair Castle and Gardens, an iconic Scottish castle whose history dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The castle and gardens are open to visitors throughout the year. We also host corporate and public events, functions and weddings throughout the year.

Atholl Estates is run on a commercial basis, but with a strong element of corporate, social and environmental responsibility. The core businesses are tourism, farming, forestry, house lettings, hydro energy, conservation, field sports and property development.

#### Overall purpose of the post

- To assist in the provision of efficient, high quality, skilled maintenance of Blair Castle Gardens and Caravan Park.
- To maximise visitor enjoyment by maintaining excellent standards of presentation of the historic environment.
- To ensure that the Garden continues to develop at a lively pace, the post requires a combination of:
  - Dedication to the practice and development of high quality gardening and craft skills
  - Confidence and capability to carry out any ground work that may be required during the season.

#### Main responsibilities and duties

1. To undertake and assist in the provision of excellent standards of garden maintenance and presentation at all times generally through:
  - Formative, seasonal and rejuvenative pruning of deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, climbers and hedges.



- Safe and careful use of garden machinery as necessary including mowers, strimmers, tractor and trailers, shredders, scarifiers, snow ploughs and other machinery and hired plant.
  - Machine maintenance.
  - Specialist turf maintenance.
  - The appropriate, timely and safe use of pesticides, as directed.
  - Optimum use of composting systems.
  - Maintenance of paths, gates and other hard landscaping.
2. To take on specific areas of responsibility within the garden, undertaking the practical maintenance of these areas, according to a programme of works set out by the Senior Gardener.
  3. To develop an understanding of the garden's history and plant collections.

#### Terms and Conditions

- Attractive, competitive salary
- A generous defined contribution company pension scheme