



Steward – Iona Abbey and Nunnery

Closing Date: Wednesday 29 May 2024, Midday

Expected Interview Date: week commencing 10 June 2024

Recruitment

Reference:

HES/24/114

Starting Salary:

£24,454 pro rata per annum

Salary Range:

£24,454 - £25,331 pro rata per annum

Pay Band:

A

Directorate:

Operations

Location:

Iona Abbey and Nunnery

Line Manager:

Monument manager/Relief Monument manager

Contract Type:

Permanent

Working Hours:

35 hours per week summer (5 days)
17 hours per week winter (3 days)

Note:

Accommodation is not provided for this role.

Thank you for your interest in the post of Steward with Historic Environment Scotland, based at Iona Abbey and Nunnery. This is a permanent and pensionable appointment.

Our steward role ensures delivery of the highest standards of visitor experience at Iona Abbey and Nunnery working across all areas, including in the shop, admissions area and outside, with delivery of guided tours a core part of the role.

About us

We are the lead body for Scotland's historic environment; a charity dedicated to the advancement of heritage, culture, education and environmental protection. We're at the forefront of researching and understanding the historic environment, and addressing the impact of climate change on its future. We investigate and record architectural and archaeological sites and landscapes across Scotland and care for more than 300 properties of national importance. We have a People Strategy, which is an overarching strategy to ensure we support and develop staff within the organisation.

Our Vision

Our vision is that Scotland's historic environment is cherished, understood, shared and enjoyed with pride by everyone.

Our Priorities

- The historic environment makes a real difference to people's lives
- The historic environment is looked after, protected and managed for the generations to come.

- The historic environment makes a broader contribution to the economy of Scotland and its people
- The historic environment inspires a creative and vibrant Scotland
- The historic environment is cared for and championed by a high performing organisation.

Overview of the post and information about the team

Your role of steward sits within the Central West district, you will be actively involved in work which supports providing the best experience for our visitors – ranging from: greeting our visitors, carrying out cleaning and grounds maintenance duties, selling admission tickets or processing online bookings, selling our range of retail products or outlining the history of the site to our diverse visitor base. You will be part of a team working in the monument.

We are looking for someone who enjoys interacting with diverse groups of people, who has a passion for customer service and who would thrive in a fast paced and constantly changing workplace.

Iona Abbey is open seven days a week in summer and six days in winter and you will work five days out of seven on a rolling rota. This will include weekend and public holiday working. Outdoor working will be required at times, for example when leading guided tours. This role is year round – full time April to September on summer hours (5 days of 7 hours) and part time October to March on winter hours (3 days of 5.7 hours).

Key responsibilities, duties and objectives

Customer Service

- Process and promote retail and admissions transactions through the till system.
- Ensure a high standard of presentation throughout the site, following appropriate cleaning processes in both public and staff areas.
- Lead the team in achievement of quality assurance Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- Actively support in HES seminars, events, functions and promotions.
- Provide the warmest welcome to our visitors and engage proactively with customer service.
- Deliver guided tours as part of the core visitor experience.

Teamwork

- Proactively communicate with colleagues across the organisation to ensure high performance, standards and consistency of the team.

- Lead your team to ensure that Customer Service Industry Standards and Quality Service Awards are maintained and participate in local action plan delivery.
- Work with the Monument Manager on partnership and community engagement initiatives and projects, including volunteering, weddings and other events.

Commercial Awareness

- Working together with your monument team to achieve overall commercial performance targets.
- Maximise commercial opportunities within the monument, such as upcoming events and retail products where appropriate.
- Assist Monument Manager to ensure accurate stock management and assist with stock ordering and deliveries as required.

Health and Safety & Compliance

- Ensure the security of the site, buildings and contents, including acting as key holder (where required).
- Monitor and comply with all H&S procedures/guidance relevant to the site.
- Follow correct procedures to ensure safe operation of all equipment.
- Ensure that the health and safety of staff, visitors and contractors is paramount at all times including reviewing and developing risk assessments as required.
- Ensure compliance with PVG system checks (as appropriate) and follow corporate protocols for working with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Post Competencies

You will be assessed against these competencies during our selection process.

Core Competencies:

- Delivering excellent Service – Demonstrating a commitment to quality services
- Teamwork - Contributing to and supporting working together
- Planning and Organising - Putting plans and resources in place to achieve results
- Communication - Communicating appropriately and clearly
- Knowledge & Expertise - Applying and developing knowledge and expertise to achieve results - (See below for specific criteria)



Knowledge, skills and experience

You will be required to demonstrate that you meet the requirements and qualifications below as part of the selection process.

Essential requirements:

- Experience delivering high standards of customer service in a fast-paced environment.
- A genuine interest for working in the heritage tourism industry.
- Ability to work independently at times.
- Excellent team working skills.

Desirable requirements:

- Previous experience working a PC based till.
- Knowledge of the monument(s) and surrounding area.
- Previous experience communicating to large groups of people (Guided Tours).
- Cash handling experience.
- IT skills and ability to use basic online functions.
- An existing first aid qualification, or willingness to be trained in first aid skills.



What we offer

We welcome applications from all nationalities, assuming that they have the right to work in the UK: applying for a job with us could open the door to a unique work environment. It will give you job satisfaction and excellent development opportunities, plus a competitive salary, 25 days paid holidays (rising to 30 days after 3 years' service) and 11.5 public holidays a year – pro rata for part time staff.

In addition, we offer a great benefits package to our employees which includes:

- flexible working hours (where appropriate)
- special leave
- maternity/paternity leave
- adoption leave
- reimbursement for relevant professional subscriptions
- support for further education and personal development
- study leave for work related courses
- access to a learning resource centre

Health and welfare

We offer you access to:

- our Employee Assistance Programme – for confidential advice and counselling
- an occupational sick pay scheme
- discounts at some local authority leisure facilities
- access to a free Headspace membership
- interest free loans for bicycles and annual travel passes (see 'season ticket' below)
- reasonable adjustments when needed, as part of our Equalities policy

Staff discounts

You will receive:

- free entry to all of our properties (with up to three guests)
- free entry to English Heritage, Manx and Cadw properties
- 20% off purchases in our retail outlets

Season tickets

You can receive an advance to help with the cost of buying an annual season ticket for travel between home and work. The advance is then repaid from your salary over the life of the season ticket. Available to all permanent and fixed-term staff.



How to apply for this post

You can apply on-line by visiting our website at <https://applications.historicenvironment.scot/>

We are looking for you to complete a statement of competence looking at the essential and desirable requirements of this role. Guidance on completing a statement of competence can be found in the 'Recruitment Guidance' document, also available at the above website, which we recommend that you read, in conjunction with this Job Description.

Your application must arrive by the advertised closing date. Please note that when applying online, we will only be able to see your application once you fully submit it.

If you are unable to complete an online application form, please email centralrecruitment@hes.scot, quoting the job title and recruitment reference, and we will arrange for an application form to be sent to you.

Please note that, as we operate an electronic recruitment system, we will contact you via the email address that you provide in your application to inform you of the outcome of your application.

For further information about the post, please contact Jane Martin, District Visitor and Community Manager via email at jane.martin@hes.scot

We welcome all applicants from under-represented groups within HES. We know from our [equality monitoring](#) that we need to increase our diversity in terms of ethnicity and disability. We also want to address occupational areas where the ratio is disproportionately in favour of women or men. We ask all applicants to complete the Equality Monitoring section of the recruitment paperwork to help us pursue a diverse and inclusive workforce. In support of our Gaelic language plan we welcome applications from Gaelic speakers.

Human Resources
Historic Environment Scotland