



ARMADALE

CASTLE, GARDENS & MUSEUM OF THE ISLES

ISLE OF SKYE

GARDENS UPKEEP VOLUNTEER TASK DESCRIPTION

Volunteer Role: Gardens Upkeep

Support Persons	Lisa Pook (Garden Manager), Kathryn MacRae & Isabel Davidson (Gardeners)
Role Purpose	The gardens at Armadale Castle are undergoing an active period of development and reclamation. The volunteer will support with the maintenance and development of the gardens at Armadale Castle.
Routine Tasks	<p><i>General maintenance of borders:</i> weeding, dead heading, cutting back, staking, tying, pruning, feeding, watering, cultivation and mulching.</p> <p><i>General garden maintenance:</i> pruning, removing dead wood, leaf collection, mulching, feeding the plant collection & vermin protection.</p> <p><i>Nursery work:</i> propagation, maintenance of glasshouses & polytunnels, potting on & division of plants. Bringing plants on to plant in the gardens. Development of an open ground nursery area. Growing plants for seasonal display.</p> <p><i>Development:</i> the garden is undergoing a process of development which volunteers can assist with.</p>
Skills and Qualities Needed	<p>Experience if not necessary as training will be provided, however an interest in plants and gardening is beneficial. Garden experience would be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Tasks should be finished to a high standard therefore an eye for detail is required.</p> <p>The gardens team is small therefore the volunteer should be a team player and able to use initiative to complete tasks.</p>

Commitment	The garden team works Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm (with 30min lunch break) therefore the volunteer hours will need to fall within this time. A regular slot is beneficial to the gardens however 1 day per week or fortnight will aid planning. This will be reviewed by both parties every 3 months.
Support and Training	<p>The volunteer will be given a general induction to the gardens and wider organisation. The volunteer will be given regular one to one guidance and support for the allocated tasks. During this support any relevant training that may be required will be identified and the volunteer will be offered suitable training to meet their needs.</p> <p>The volunteer will be welcomed as a member of the Estate and Garden team and able to draw upon the advice and support of those colleagues.</p>
Expectations of Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to abide by Clan Donald Lands Trust's Policies • Co-operation with administrative tasks <i>e.g. filling in expenses forms</i> • To attend on-going training as required • The volunteer will give the support persons notice of dates they will can volunteer • To adhere to Health & Safety policy • To maintain tools and equipment used each day (you will not be expected to supply your own tools)
Volunteer projects	<p>Projects will be varied however they are likely to involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing tree planting, development of the arboretum & woodland garden • Refurbishment of some existing, overgrown borders • New garden development for 2019/20 include hedge planting, redevelopment of the long border and planting in the Armadale carpark • Developing the nursery and its stock
Location of volunteering	Armadale Castle, Sleat, Isle of Skye, IV45 8RS

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