



Job Title: Caretaker Groundsman

Reports to: Gardens Projects Manager – Summer and Castle Operations Manager – Winter

Status: Permanent, Full-time

Job Summary:

This role of Gardener Caretaker supports the gardening and caretaker teams. The split of the workload will change across the season; summer work predominantly in the gardens and winter work predominately in the castle. Typically, in the summer, two days a week will be required for sole caretaker duties and three days a week for gardening duties. In the winter, most work will be in the castle supporting deep clean and maintenance but occasionally supporting the gardening team by prior arrangement through the operations manager.

The caretaker role provides immediate response to any fire or security issues across any 24 hour period and therefore residence in the immediate vicinity of the castle is a requirement of the role and accommodation will be provided.

Gardening Duties:

To undertake and assist as directed by line management in the provision of excellent standards of garden maintenance and presentation at all times generally through:

- Seasonal maintenance of flower, shrub, kitchen gardens, woodland gardens and parks, with specialised historic and botanic plant collections, including trees, hedges, shrubs, roses, wall trained fruit trees, climbers, herbaceous plants and annuals.
- Through guidance from line management provide assistance to other garden staff.
- Use of garden machinery as necessary including mowers, trimmers, tractor and trailers, shredders, scarifiers and other machinery and hired plant.
- turf maintenance.
- Optimum use of composting systems.
- Maintenance of paths, gates and other hard landscaping.

Caretaking Duties

- Opening up and close down duties for castle and grounds.

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- Operational response to castle fire and security systems, working with the Fire Brigade and Police when incidents occur.
- Having a general security presence across the castle and immediate grounds.
- Operation of castle lighting, heating and ventilation systems and water supply.
- Preparation and dismantling for castle events.
- Routine maintenance and equipment testing.
- General repairs and closed season deep clean.
- Staff transportation, post and cash runs.
- Litter collection and cleaning support.

Job Requirements:

- A commitment to the highest level of visitor service.
- Hands on team player with flexible work attitude.
- Ability to work at heights.
- Clean driving licence.
- Operations of garden machinery.
- Good level of physical fitness.
- Working hours flexibility.
- Clear Police check.

To apply for this role, please send your CV and cover letter to Niall Gosman at niallg@atholl-estates.co.uk

