

Trainee Countryside Ranger – Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust

Would you like to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to pursue a career in the environmental sector?

We are recruiting a volunteer trainee countryside ranger for Berry Head National Nature Reserve. Set on the beautiful coastline of South Devon, this 9-12-month training opportunity offers valuable experience in practical habitat management; footpath maintenance; visitor engagement and ecological monitoring.

Free basic accommodation and training budget included.

Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust manage a wide variety of sites and habitats, including SSSI calcareous grassland, lowland heathland, LNR Woodlands and the stunning South West Coast Path.

The main focus will be on carrying out practical habitat management between Berry Head and Sharkham Point. Some of the key work areas include grassland strimming and raking in winter, and coast path cutting and footpath maintenance in the summer. You will also get involved with seasonal guillemot counts, botanical surveying, butterfly transects, guided bat walks, livestock checks, site patrols, litter picking and public events.

What we offer:

- 9-12-month training programme, 4 days per week plus weekends on a rota basis;
- Free on-site accommodation including bills (excl. TV licence);
- Training budget to spend on relevant external courses of choice but must include First Aid and Brushcutter courses;
- Work experience in a successful organisation that will demonstrate your abilities and commitment to future employers;
- Full mentorship throughout your placement from an experienced member of staff guiding you through your professional development, including regular 1:1s and a reference for future employers;
- Working in a supportive environment alongside other long-term and local volunteers;
- Networking opportunities within the organisation, partner organisations and other organisations that work within the same sector.

“This placement is a wonderful way to get further into the field of conservation and to make connections to learn from. I have learned a lot more about practical conservation work and managing a nature reserve. I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to work and live in such a special place, working outdoors every day and becoming immersed in the surrounding wildlife.” – Emily Roulston, Trainee Countryside Ranger Jan-Nov 2023

To apply for the position please visit our recruitment page (<https://www.countryside-trust.org.uk/vacancies/>) where you will find the job description and an application form. We aim to conduct interviews in person.

For further details about the role, please email Marije Zwager, Engagement Ranger at Berry Head marije.zwager@countryside-trust.org.uk

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Monday 12th August 2024

Proposed interview date: Tuesday 20th August 2024 (tbc)

Preferred start date: Monday 2nd September 2024

Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust is a charity (1077561) who is actively committed to embracing diversity. We particularly welcome applicants from areas under-represented within our workforce.