



The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust

Residential Volunteering

About us

The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, cares for 60% of the landmass of Scilly from uninhabited islands and coastal fringes to exposed heathland. This includes most of the unenclosed land of the inhabited islands of St. Mary's, St. Agnes, Bryher and St. Martin's and all of the uninhabited islands, islets and rocks.

The Trust has an office based and volunteer centre on St. Mary's and a small Wildlife Information Centre on St. Mary's.

Volunteer opportunities

The Trust takes volunteers all year round and places are limited. You are welcome to apply in advance or phone to check availability.

Unfortunately we cannot accept applications from people under the age of 18.

Volunteer Wardens (1 week - 2 months)

Support Trust Wardens with practical land management and maintenance. Here are some examples:

- Cutting and raking vegetation.
- Clearing footpaths of vegetation.
- Putting up electric fencing.
- Assisting with checking and movement of livestock.
- Clearing vegetation around sites of archaeological interest.

Please note that we are not an animal welfare organisation and do not have the facilities or expertise to cater for sick and injured wildlife, so you will not be involved with this sort of work.

Wildlife Information Volunteers (1 month - 6 months)

Support the Volunteer & Education Manager with staffing the Wildlife Information Centre, updating the Trusts digital media and research topics for a weekly Wildlife Trust radio show on the local radio station Radio Scilly. You may also get the opportunity to assist with activities with the local school and events.

Students

We are happy to take student placements or support students and researchers carrying out projects by offering accommodation. This does need to relate to the work of the Trust so please ask for advice.

How do I apply?

You can apply by sending a CV or a letter outlining your work and volunteering experience, and two contacts for references. Please ensure that one reference can comment on your work and that you have recently worked with them.

Travel and Expenses

You will need to organise your own travel and the Trust is unable to cover the cost of your transport to the islands and food during your stay. Do not book your travel until you have received confirmation of a place and please organise your travel to arrive in Scilly on a weekday.

The Steamship Company kindly gives volunteers a 10% discount on the Skybus (plane), excluding airport charges and a special rate of £19 each way on the Scillonian III (boat). For further information, timetables and fares www.ios-travel.co.uk. If you are planning a short stay then Great Western Railway sometimes have train/boat/flight special offers www.firstgreatwestern.org.uk. Please note that we are unable to assist with extra costs incurred due to travel delays. Insurance can be bought at www.ios-travel.co.uk

Expenses incurred, as a necessary part of your volunteering with the Trust will be covered. Any out-of-pocket expenses must be agreed with staff in advance and will be paid during your stay.

The working day

Residential Volunteer Wardens work 5 days a week, Monday to Friday. The volunteer working day is approximately from 8.30am to 4.30pm with an hour for lunch. Occasionally you will be asked to work longer especially if working on an uninhabited or Off island. Duties will vary according to the time of year. Volunteers are not expected to work on day of arrival or departure and if you wish to take time off for a holiday while you are here please let us know in advance to assist us with the volunteer work programme. If wanting to explore Scilly then you do not need to vacate the volunteer centre.

Our commitment to you:

We aim to:

- Introduce you to the work of the Trust and The Wildlife Trusts partnership and your role within it.
- Provide appropriate training/instruction that volunteers need to carry out their role.
- Respect volunteers skills and dignity.
- Provide regular and constructive feedback.
- Provide a safe working place.
- Insure you against injury
- Apply equal opportunities.
- Resolve fairly any problems, grievances or difficulties you may have while you volunteer with us.

We ask volunteers to:

- Work to the best of their ability and to arrive on time and fully prepared.
- To follow IOSWT rules and procedures, including Health & Safety and equal opportunities in relation to its staff, volunteers and the public.
- To follow any instruction given, asking for additional information required for clarification of instructions as necessary.
- To maintain the confidential information of the organisation.
- Maintain the accommodation in a clean, safe and tidy state.

The Woolpack Volunteer Centre

Accommodation is available for volunteers at the Woolpack Volunteer Centre on St. Mary's. This accommodation is to enable volunteers to carry out their voluntary work, which is offered due to the shortage of available accommodation on the Islands. The centre is shared by Volunteer Wardens, other volunteers, those carrying out study and groups. You may need to move rooms during your stay to enable extra volunteers and groups to use the accommodation.

The Woolpack Volunteer Centre is a converted Naval Gun Battery that can house up to 13 volunteers in single sex dormitories with bunk beds. Please note that the accommodation is partially underground. We cannot guarantee that there will be anyone else volunteering during your stay; it is therefore possible that you may be on your own in the accommodation.

At the Woolpack Volunteer Centre (WPVC), there is a kitchen, dining room, leisure room, shower block and toilets. There is a TV, video, and DVD. Please note that we do not get a TV signal. Bedding is provided consisting of pillows, a duvet and sheets. There is a washing machine and small drying room.

Accommodation is provided free of charge to Volunteers Wardens for a period of your volunteer place. Pets are not allowed. Failure to comply with instructions and/or if a volunteer causes disturbance/annoyance to others, the offer of accommodation will be withdrawn, this is separate to your volunteer work place.

Other Information

St. Mary's is the main island in Scilly and there are 2 banks – Lloydtsb and Barclays, only Lloydtsb has a cash machine. A £50 cash back service is available at the Co-op supermarket. Food is available at a number of places and is more expensive than on the Mainland with less of a choice. Unless you have a really restricted diet you should be able to get everything that you need.

The best mobile network coverage is Vodafone and Tesco; O2 and Orange have limited coverage. St. Mary's has a Health Centre and Hospital with a minor accident unit, a dentist service is available; there is no optician. There are various places around the island where you can access the internet for a charge, but during office hours you can usually get time in the Trusts office, but this cannot be guaranteed. For further information about Scilly visit www.simplyscilly.co.uk .

We strongly recommend that you are up to date with tetanus.

Please send your application to:

Julie Love
Volunteer & Education Manager
The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust
Carn Thomas
St. Mary's
Isles of Scilly
TR21 OPT

Tel: 01720 422153

email: julielove@ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk

www.ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk

Why not join us on facebook



