



STOWE HOUSE

Volunteer

Tour Guide



Visitor Services Team



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Volunteer Tour Guide

Why should I volunteer for Stowe House?

Stowe was once described as 'one of the most majestic English Houses of the eighteenth century' and our tour guides help to bring this historic property to life again. As a guide you will help our visitors to understand and learn more about our State Rooms, telling them the intriguing (and sometimes scandalous) stories of Stowe and painting a picture of how the House would have looked and felt in years gone by.

What will I be doing?

- Conducting 15/45 minute tours and maintaining a consistent standard of tour delivery. Providing an engaging and entertaining tour for all our visitors of all ages.
- Being informative and knowledgeable when answering visitors' questions about the State Rooms, Discovery Centre and Stowe House in general.
- Being the 'tail end' of other guides' tours, making sure visitors keep up with the tour.
- Providing a brilliant visitor experience; being proactive and approachable with the visitors' experience in mind.
- Monitoring the State rooms throughout the day to ensure that all visitors view the property at its best and proactively providing low level security to Stowe House during opening hours.
- Working within Stowe House Preservation Trust's procedures and Health and Safety Policy at all times.
- Undertaking training as and when required.

What qualities, skills and experience do I need?

You will need lots of enthusiasm and initiative (brilliant customer service is our focus) and as a volunteer you will be representing not only the Stowe House Preservation Trust but also Stowe School and the National Trust (our site partners). Volunteering is flexible and you will need to be adaptable due to our relationship with Stowe School and the National Trust.

Although no previous experience in public speaking is required, this role would suit someone who has an outgoing personality and who enjoys talking and interacting with the public. You will need to be able to work as part of a team, as well as able to work alone.



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How much time will I be expected to give?

Between 2 and 6 hours, one day a week or a fortnight (season dependent).

Where will I be based?

Stowe House, Buckingham, MK18 5EH

What support and training will I get?

All volunteer posts report to the Stowe House Preservation Trust Visitor Services Manager. Full training is given for each post. In addition to general training you will also receive specific tour guide training and have the chance to shadow current tour guides before undertaking your first tour.

What can I expect from Stowe House?

- A welcoming and enjoyable volunteering experience.
- A full induction and training programme with on-going support. In addition to general training, you will also receive specific tour guide training and have the chance to shadow current tour guides before undertaking your first tour.
- Regular Volunteer Coffee Mornings, bi-annual Volunteer Trips to other historic properties and museums as well as other Volunteer social events such as the annual Christmas Lunch.
- Reimbursement of out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering location.

All these arrangements are binding in honour only

and not intended to be legally binding.