

Role Profile

Job Title: Gardener Grade 9 and 10	
Managed by: Horticultural Team Leader	
Department(s) Gardens	Location: Waddesdon Manor

Waddesdon is a Rothschild house and gardens set in the Buckinghamshire countryside just outside Aylesbury. It was created for Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild in the 1870s. Now owned by the National Trust, but managed by the Rothschild Foundation, it remains the epitome of 'Rothschild style'.

Visitors today can still see Ferdinand's unrivalled collections of decorative arts and paintings, alongside contemporary art, and wander in the immaculate gardens. There is also a working aviary, wine cellars, shops, restaurants and a woodland playground.

Over 300 staff and more than 300 volunteers help mount special exhibitions, host educational visits, hold wine tastings, lead guided walks and talks, and run events throughout the year, including a magical Christmas season. Private events – parties, meetings and weddings – are held at the Dairy (a private building on the estate) and at the Five Arrows, a Grade II listed boutique 16 bedroom hotel near the gates of the Manor.

OUTLINE OF ROLE

As a member of the Gardens Team you will work towards achieving the strategic objectives and vision for the Garden Department (unique, flamboyant, inspirational and bold) in all areas of the role. The Gardener is a horticulturalist with responsibility to support the gardens presentation to agreed standards.

You will participate in a range of duties across all areas of the Garden. The care and presentation of the Garden is supervised by a Horticultural Team Leader, but all team members have significant levels of specialist skills, responsibility and collective ownership and will be expected to perform all aspects of maintenance including occasional supervising of volunteers as required.

SPECIFIC DUTIES INCLUDE

The day-to day management and presentation of the Garden, including:

- Supporting the care and maintenance of seasonal bedding where required.
- Supporting the care and maintenance of formal and informal lawn areas and wildflower meadows.
- Supporting the care and maintenance of the woody plant collection including, trees, shrubs, roses and climbing plants.
- Supporting the care and maintenance of hedges and topiary.
- Supporting the care and maintenance of herbaceous plants including aquatics and bulbous plants.
- The day-to-day care of machinery and equipment.
- Supervising and training volunteers as required.
- Participating in planning the work of the department with the Horticultural Team Leader and Head of Gardens and Aviary.
- Supporting project work as required
- Training volunteers, which may on occasion entail being available out of hours.
- Participation in talks, tours and workshops as appropriate
- Encourage a culture of collaborative working within the department and with other departments at Waddesdon, including Estates, Facilities, Visitor Services and Events and House Curators.

Training and Development

As a Gardener you are encouraged to develop your technical and practical skills and horticultural knowledge through training and courses as considered necessary and appropriate by the Horticultural Team Leader as identified as part of your personal development plan (PDR).

Health and Safety

All staff are expected to observe Health and Safety at Work Regulations as set out by The National Trust in accordance with its statutory obligations, and to ensure compliance and safe working practices within all Health and Safety regulations, statements, guidance notes and COSHH regulations, to ensure a safe working environment, for staff, volunteers and the visitors.

Environmental Awareness

All staff are expected to observe both the National Trust's and Waddesdon Manor's policy and practices for the protection and improvement of the environment, and to ensure the security of equipment and buildings.

Relationships

At all times to maintain good working relations with all members of Waddesdon staff.

Skills and Experience

- A horticultural qualification or a proven interest or track record in gardening and/or horticulture. Some level of practical experience in horticulture including plantsmanship and plant husbandry. Knowledge of a range of horticultural techniques covering the major plant types.
- Some expertise in horticulture, curation of a living plant collection, biosecurity, environment practices, leadership and engaging with our visitors.
- Good people skills to build relationships with the public, colleagues and volunteers
- A flexible, committed approach with willingness to work as the workload demands and across all the areas managed by the Gardens Department.
- Good team player
- Holding appropriate professional licences such as spraying would be an advantage
- Provisional drivers' license as a minimum

Terms & Conditions

Contract Type: Full-time, permanent

Annual Salary: £21,000 per annum

Annual Leave: From start date, 33 days (including 8 public holiday)
After three full years of service: 36 days (including 8 public holidays)
After five full years of service: 38 days (including 8 public holidays)
After ten full years of services: 40 days (including 8 public holidays)

Benefits: 20 % staff discounts in our on-site Restaurant and Shops.
Company pension scheme up to 10% of salary.
Beautiful location working within the charity and heritage sector.
Free parking.

Hours: 37.5 hours per week on a rotational shift basis. Weekend working will be required, and in response time will be taken off during the working week for the hours worked.

Application:

To apply, please send a current a CV and covering letter to application@waddesdon.org.uk no later than 12pm on Monday 10th May, interview dates W/C Monday 17th May..