

Volunteer Role Description

Heritage Intensive Volunteer



Purpose of the role:

To provide valuable support to our Library and Visitor Experience teams during our busy October half-term period by engaging visitors with the history of the ship and objects from the National Brunel Collection.

Main activities:

Heritage Intensive Volunteers will engage visitors across the site; in our library, on board the ship and in our museum spaces, including the new Being Brunel museum. You will volunteer for a two week, intensive period and will gain experience in a number of areas of Brunel's SS Great Britain Trust. This role might particularly suit those looking to gain experience in heritage, the arts or museum sectors.

Mornings will generally be spent in the Brunel Institute and library. You will support a small team of fellow volunteers to research an object from our collection before sharing the story of the object with members of the public during our 'Archive in 5' session.

Afternoons will be spent with visitors out on board the ship and our museum spaces. You could be sharing stories of passengers and crew who travelled on the ship, encouraging visitors to engage with the different interactives, sharing information about the immersive spaces on board the ship and in our new museum, object-handling and more. Every day will be varied and different.

What the SS Great Britain can offer you:

- The opportunity to gain experience at an award-winning heritage site
- The chance to work with original items and artefacts
- A varied and interesting volunteering experience which will give you behind-the-scenes insight
- The chance to learn the fascinating history of the ship and the work and life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel



- The opportunity to be part of a friendly, supportive team with staff support and supervision
- Suitable training to equip you with skills and knowledge needed for the role

About you:

No prior experience is necessary, we will provide you with all the training and information that you need. We are looking for people who:

- Are friendly, approachable, and confident in a public-facing environment
- Are interested in gaining experience in the heritage, museum or arts sector
- Have an enthusiasm for engaging visitors of all ages and backgrounds
- Can volunteer for at least 10 days during October half term (Saturday 19th October to Sunday 3rd November 2019). Please note that support would be particularly welcome on the three Saturdays, and that the Brunel Institute is closed on Sundays and Mondays.
- Are willing to undertake training related to the role

You will be supervised by the Head of Volunteering, and will also be supported by our Collections Officer and Visitor Experience Operations Officers. Volunteers are an important part of the organisation and play a vital role in enhancing the work of the Trust. We are committed to providing volunteering opportunities of a high standard.

Interested?

If you would like to join our crew at October half-term or have any questions please get in touch by completing an enquiry form, available at <http://www.ssgreatbritain.org/support-us/volunteer>

Potential volunteers will be invited to a recruitment event or a telephone interview to discuss the role further and to ensure that it is right for you. This will give you the chance to learn more and to meet the staff and volunteers you would be supporting.

You can contact our Volunteer Administrator on Volunteering@ssgreatbritain.org or telephoning 0117 374 4502. We look forward to hearing from you.