



Walk Leader

Bedgebury National Pinetum Centenary

About Us

Forestry England is a part of the government Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and is tasked with the sustainable management of the Public Forest Estate for timber, recreation and wildlife.

Bedgebury National Pinetum is home to a world-leading collection of conifers. It is unique in the UK and of global significance for the purposes of species conservation, scientific advancement and the understanding of conifers. It is also a rich and biodiverse site providing habitat to a wealth of flora and fauna.

The pinetum was established in 1925 by the Forestry Commission and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew to provide a safe haven for conifers.

Role Description

Would you like to be part of our celebrations to mark 100 years of the first tree plantings in the National Pinetum? We are looking to create a small team of dedicated volunteers to share this important milestone, guiding visitors around the pinetum and discovering the stories behind our centenary trees.

When?

- Walks will run twice weekly (weekdays and weekends) days to be agreed
- We are looking for a commitment of 3 walks per month

What's involved?

- Lead a one hour guided walk for the public acting as lead or walk support.
- Arrive an hour before the walk in order to undertake a walk recce.
- Follow a prewritten script to highlight this important milestone in Bedgebury's history and the trees that bring this story to life.
- Organise schedules with volunteer colleagues, liaising with visitor centre staff and volunteer supervisors.

Bedgebury National Pinetum

We'd like you to

- Enjoy the natural world and spending active time outdoors
- Have a passion and talent for sharing knowledge
- Enjoy working as part of a team - either as walk support or lead
- Have a friendly personality and enjoy meeting people
- Have good communication skills
- Be willing to follow guidelines on health and safety, including risk assessments
- Undertake training specific to this role and be willing to learn from Forestry England staff
- Wear suitable protective clothing for walking outdoors
- Be willing to share feedback regarding walks

We will provide

- A volunteer registration and induction prior to taking up the role
- Full training and support
- Forestry England volunteer uniform
- Free parking on your volunteer day
- A complimentary cup of tea or coffee from the café on your volunteer day
- An annual volunteer's membership for free admission to Bedgebury after 35 hours of regular volunteering
- A volunteers' newsletter
- An invitation to annual events such as the 'Thank you' BBQ and volunteer picnic

Who to contact?

If you would like to volunteer in this role, please register your expression of interest [here](#)

If you have specific queries regarding this role please email bedgebury@forestryengland.uk

For more information about volunteering at different Forestry England sites please visit our website www.forestryengland.uk/volunteering