

What is a Room Guide?

Room Guides have a vital role to play in bringing National Trust places to life, for inspiring our visitors and helping them to learn more about their place in an interesting and enjoyable way. Room Guides also play a valuable part in safeguarding our interiors and collections.

What's in it for you?

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
- Meeting people from all walks of life and making new friends
- Improving your communication skills
- Enjoying new experiences and learning something new every day

What's involved?

- Providing a warm, friendly welcome to all visitors as the public face of the National Trust
- Learning about Oxburgh Hall as a whole
- Helping visitors to discover more by answering questions, giving short talks, helping with children's quizzes, trails, handling collections etc
- Being responsible for the evacuation of visitors in an emergency
- Helping to protect interiors and collections from damage during open hours
- Following security procedures to prevent theft or damage
- Becoming familiar with and then following the National Trust's Health and Safety Policy at all times
- Giving any other appropriate assistance in relation to Room Guiding as may be reasonably requested
- May be asked to conduct house tours and architectural tours, including external tours, i.e. viewing the House from the outside.

This role is purely voluntary and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract

This role will suit people who... have an enthusiastic and friendly manner, enjoy meeting people, like operating as part of a team and who are keen to learn.

Extra information

Your place Oxburgh Hall

Time commitment Once a week, or more if you wish.

Volunteer Manager Lynsey Coombs, House Manager
Email Email- lynsey.coombs@nationaltrust.org.uk
Phone 01366 327247

Expenses Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering place will be paid, and other reasonable expenses agreed in advance

About the National Trust

The National Trust is a registered charity and is completely independent of Government. We rely for income on membership fees, donations and legacies, and money raised from our commercial operations. We are supported by 3.8 million members and 61,000 volunteers without whom we simply could not manage. We protect and open to the public over 300 historic houses and gardens and 49 industrial monuments and mills. But it doesn't stop there. We also look after forests, woods, fens, beaches, farmland, downs, moorland, islands, archaeological remains, castles, nature reserves, villages – for places, for ever, for everyone.

About Oxburgh Hall

Oxburgh was completed in 1482 for the Bedingfeld family, who have lived here ever since. The house has had many transformations throughout the years. The Tudor gatehouse is the least altered part of the house, though many of the architectural flourishes that you see today, as well as the gardens and interiors were added during the Victorian era under the 6th Baronet, to celebrate the history of the family, and are highly influenced by the Gothic revival movement. Key rooms in the house are the King's Room and Priest Hole which reflect both the rise and fall of the family. The most striking area outdoors is the French Parterre, designed in the 19th Century, however the wider estate includes woodland and additional gardens.

Oxburgh Hall was given to The National Trust by Sybil, Dowager Lady Bedingfeld, Mrs Greathead (Lady Sybil's daughter) and Violet Hartcup (Lady Sybil's niece). The hall had been sold at auction but was saved from being demolished by the efforts of these three ladies. The women of Oxburgh Hall have had a huge impact on its fortunes throughout its history. The current Baronet is Sir Henry (10th Baronet) who still resides in the south-east corner of the Hall.

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