

Join Our Team as a Seasonal Assistant Warden!

Position: Spurn Bird Observatory Assistant Warden

Location: Spurn Bird Observatory, Kilnsea, East Yorkshire, UK

Type: Full-time, Seasonal (1st April - 15th November 2025), 37.5 hours/week

About Us:

Spurn Bird Observatory is seeking a dedicated, passionate, proactive, and hands-on individual to join our team as an Assistant Warden. The successful candidate will be the face of the Observatory, working closely with the Observatory Manager, Warden, Little Tern Head Warden, and other team members to support the Observatory's daily operations. They will also manage the team of residential volunteers.

The role will primarily focus on land management (involving manual labour in the field), estate maintenance, visitor liaison and some bird surveying. Additionally, this role includes assisting with conservation efforts and contributing to the success of our research and conservation initiatives. There may be opportunities to take part in bird ringing activities outside of the working day with the Warden.

What You'll Be Doing:

- **Leading & Supporting Volunteers**
Lead and support our seasonal volunteers as they assist with surveys and conservation work. You'll guide their work, help with scheduling, and make sure everyone's safe, supported and motivated.
- **Keeping the Observatory Running Smoothly**
Oversee the Observatory's accommodation by changing bedding, maintaining cleanliness, taking bookings and helping keep our visitor spaces welcoming.
- **Maintaining Equipment & Grounds**
Pitch in with the land management and facility upkeep, working on repairs, equipment maintenance, and habitat management to keep the observatory safe and in top shape.
- **Helping with Records & Outreach**
Assist with record-keeping, social media updates, and the Observatory's newsletter. You'll help keep our community informed and engaged with the latest sightings and events.
- **Supporting Events**
Join the team in the running of the Spurn Info Hub and helping with events like Global Bird Fair and Spurn Migration Festival.
- **Surveying Birds & Engaging Visitors**
Conduct bird surveys, log daily sightings, and share your knowledge with visitors through guided walks, helping us inspire and educate others about conservation.

What We're Looking For:

Experience & Passion for Conservation

We're looking for someone with experience in wildlife monitoring, a good understanding of UK bird species, and a genuine love for nature and conservation.

Friendly & Communicative

You'll be engaging with visitors, volunteers, and fellow team members, so excellent communication skills and a warm, welcoming approach are key.

Independent & Reliable

Our Assistant Warden needs to be able to work independently and handle a variety of tasks in a remote, outdoor environment.

Skills & Flexibility

Experience in practical habitat management and ecological data collection and. You'll also need to be flexible with working hours, as nature doesn't keep a 9-to-5 schedule!

Extra Experience That's a Bonus:

- Volunteer management experience
- Familiarity with brushcutters, hedge trimmers, or pesticide application

What We Offer:

- **Salary:** £19,500 to £23,809.50 per annum (pro-rata)
- **Leave:** 28 days of annual leave, including bank holidays (pro-rata)
- **Hands-on Conservation Experience:** Work closely with nature in a unique setting, gaining practical skills in bird monitoring, land management and volunteer management.
- **A Welcoming Community:** Join a friendly, vibrant network of birders and conservationists
- **Training & Development:** Grow your skills in ornithology and conservation

Ready to Apply?

If this sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you! Please send your CV and a cover letter outlining why you're interested in the role and your relevant experience to Rob Hunton, Observatory Manager, at info@spurnbirdobservatory.co.uk.

Application Deadline: 23:59 on Sunday, 19th January 2025

Interviews: Scheduled for the week of 27th January 2025 at Spurn Bird Observatory.

For questions, feel free to contact us at info@spurnbirdobservatory.co.uk.

A dark blue banner with a blurred background of a lighthouse and a bird in flight. The text is white and blue. The Spurn bird observatory logo is in the top right corner. The banner includes the job title, a list of duties, and a link for more information.

WE'RE HIRING!
ASSISTANT WARDEN

DUTIES INCLUDE: Observatory maintenance | Volunteer management | Habitat management | Bird monitoring | Guided walks | Welcoming guests & visitors

FIND OUT MORE: spurnbirdobservatory.co.uk/news