

ROLE: RIDING and EXERCISING

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are looking for a competent, empathetic rider who enjoys riding well behaved ponies across beautiful countryside. Happy to work in all weathers and treat our ponies with kindness and respect. Reliability is ESSENTIAL.

PLACE OF WORK: The Exmoor Pony Centre and related sites

SALARY: Competitive, based on experience, above minimum wage

HOURS OF WORK: Fortnightly Rota: WK1 up to 12hrs across 3 or 4 days, WK2 up to 12hrs across 3 or 4 days AND Saturday 8.30-4.30. (Weekday hours to be set in discussion with successful candidate- flexibility available, RELIABILITY essential)

REPORTS TO: General Manager

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – ADDITIONAL CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT:

To protect the welfare of the ponies an approx. 9.5 stone/60kg weight restriction and height limit of 5'5" is in place for this role due to the nature of backing and riding ponies between 11.3hh – 13hh.

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE JOB:

To ensure delivery of riding and exercising activities including care, welfare and training provision to Exmoor ponies in the care of the Moorland Mousie Trust and assist in the smooth running of the Exmoor Pony Centre and Moorland Mousie Trust.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1) Training, exercising and handling of riding ponies including bringing on inexperienced ponies for ridden work.
- 2) Assist in ensuring tidiness of the yard and stable areas, keeping them clean and presentable for visitors including awareness of bio-security measures and other appropriate policies.
- 3) Leading riding sessions on the moor and around the lanes, of varied length, to include supervision of grooming and tacking up.
- 4) Assisting with management of the overall welfare of all ponies belonging to the Moorland Mousie Trust charity whether on site at the Exmoor Pony Centre or not.
- 5) Assisting with customer/visitor relations and where necessary, assisting in the retail shop
- 6) Working in a team to ensure preparation and smooth running of holiday activities and special events.
- 7) Understand and promote the charitable aims of The Moorland Mousie Trust.
- 8) To carry out duties other than listed when needed.

The above is not an exhaustive list of duties and you will be expected to perform different tasks as necessitated by your changing role within the organisation and the overall business objectives of the organisation.

Successful applicants will be required to have up to date First Aid, Safeguarding training and DBS check, undertaken by the employer, Moorland Mousie Trust.

- Successful applicants will be required to provide two references.

We are a committed employer, looking to develop and offer training for reliable and enthusiastic members of our team. This may include, equine first aid, human first aid, safeguarding training, manual handling and health & safety.

JOB SPECIFICATION

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENT	Essential/Desirable	EVIDENCE
Knowledge:		
• Knowledge of safe working practices	Essential	Application/Interview
• Knowledge of equine behaviour & handling	Essential	Application/Interview
• Knowledge of Exmoor and countryside	Desirable	Application/Interview
Skills and Abilities:		
• Confident and competent practical skills	Essential	Application/Interview
• Competent riding ability	Essential for riding role only	Application/Practical
• Customer care skills	Essential	Application/Interview
• Communication skills – written and verbal	Essential	Application/Interview
• Driving License	Essential	Application/Interview
• Towing License/Experience of Towing	Desirable	Application/Interview
Experience:		
• Experience of working within a busy tourism based destination	Desirable	Application/Interview
• Experience of working with volunteers	Desirable	Application/Interview
• Experience of working within a public-user environment	Desirable	Application/Interview
• Experience of handling cash and operating cash register and card payment machine	Desirable	Application/Interview
Personal Qualities:		
• Ability to work in all weathers in a physically demanding role	Essential	Application/Interview
• Ability to work as part of a team	Essential	Application/Interview
• Ability to work without supervision	Essential	Application/Interview
• An interest in equine related and countryside (particularly Exmoor) issues	Essential	Application/Interview
• Good communication and organisation skills	Essential	Application/Interview
• High standard of personal presentation	Essential	Application/Interview