



SENIOR HORTICULTURIST

Horticulture Department

Introduction

The National Botanic Garden of Wales has an opportunity for an experienced horticulturist to join our skilled and committed team. The Senior Horticulturist will be tasked with maintaining and developing the plant collections in a series of garden areas, including the Broadwalk and Japanese Garden. The successful applicant will have a good knowledge of herbaceous perennials, the experience of working in public gardens and a passion for the Botanic Garden's mission.

The National Botanic Garden of Wales

NBG Wales is accredited by Botanic Garden Conservation International and delivers world-class research, conservation, education and horticulture on behalf of Wales. The 568-acre estate features diverse plant collections grown in a range of environments, including the largest single-span glasshouse in the world, *the Great Glasshouse*. A series of themed areas exhibit the diversity of plants to visitors, including the *Wallace*, *Boulder* and *Apothecary* gardens. The formal garden is encompassed by *Waun Las National Nature Reserve*. The Reserve is a mixed landscape including certified organic farmland, woodlands and parkland.

To learn more about the NBG Wales' mission and current projects, visit botanicgarden.wales.

Post title	Senior Horticulturist
Department	Horticulture
Reports to	Horticulture Supervisor
Line management	Horticulturists
Responsible for	Apprentices, interns, and volunteers

Key responsibilities

The Senior Horticulturist will work with the Horticulture Supervisor to maintain and develop the plant collections in their assigned areas, including the Broadwalk and Japanese Garden.

1. Assist the Horticulture Supervisor with the maintenance and development of the plant collections and the advancement of horticulture at NBG Wales
2. Present assigned areas to the highest possible standards of horticulture
3. Document the plant collections by maintaining records, labels, and interpretation
4. Supervise team members, ensuring that they are supported and clearly understand their tasks and responsibilities
5. Participate in horticultural projects, contributing relevant skills, knowledge and expertise
6. Implement safe working practices and follow protocols, ensuring compliance with health and safety standards
7. Supervise apprentices, interns and volunteers, promoting learning and engagement
8. Participate in events, public outreach and educational activities
9. Work to the best of their ability with the resources available
10. Undertake any other reasonable duties required

Person specification

Specified below are the criteria considered necessary to fulfil the role. The information is made openly available to applicants and will form the basis for the recruitment and selection process. Only those applicants who adequately meet the essential criteria will be considered.

Criteria candidates are expected to evidence:	
Essential criteria	
1.	A level two qualification in horticulture or a related subject
2.	A minimum of three years experience working in public gardens
3.	The ability to maintain accurate plant records, labels and maps using a collection management system
4.	An awareness of health and safety at work practices and regulations
5.	Good communication skills – written, oral and interpersonal
6.	Strong organisational skills, including planning and record-keeping
7.	The ability to work as a team member, as a subordinate and supervisor, and positively contribute to effective communication and collaboration within the Department
8.	A commitment to and understanding of the mission of NBG Wales
Desirable criteria	
9.	Experience of working in a botanic garden
10.	Experience in using botanical collections management software (i.e. Iris BG or BG-BASE)
11.	Current and valid UK driving licence
12.	Proficiency in written and spoken Welsh

Position details

This is a permanent position starting from the soonest date that can be arranged. Hours of work are 37.5 per week, typically working from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm. Weekend work is expected on a rota basis. The salary is £22,000.00 per annum.

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be directed to Will Ritchie (Curator) at will.ritchie@gardenofwales.org.uk.

How to apply

Applications consisting of a current CV and cover letter, clearly explaining how you meet the essential criteria and what benefits you could bring to NBG Wales, together with the **full contact details of two referees**, should be sent to Will Ritchie - will.ritchie@gardenofwales.org.uk.

The closing date for applications is Friday 8 October.