



VOLUNTEER GUIDE ROLE DESCRIPTION

Background

Tate gallery champions art and its value to society. Our Volunteer Guides offer a personal encounter with art to our visitors. The daily public guided tours at Tate Britain and Tate Modern are an important part of how we share our world-famous art collection. Our visitors tell us every day that Guides really help them connect to art.

Volunteer role

Tate Guide, Tate Modern

Why volunteer?

- Develop your interest in art and share what you learn with our visitors
- A chance to talk about art, learn from and inspire others
- Help our visitors enjoy their time at Tate and get to know our collection
- Support a national public institution and charity
- Be part of a world-famous gallery
- Learn more about Tate
- Meet new people and join a friendly team

Description

- Conduct 45-minute tours, guiding visitors through the displays in Tate Modern, making your tour engaging and accessible, and offering a hearing loop.
- Work as part of a team and be ready to cover a second tour.
- Offer visitors information on what to see and do, and how to get around.
- Help support Tate by promoting donations, catering, membership and retail offers.
- Find out what visitors think about Tate and our tours, through comment cards and social media.
- Work as part of a group to create the tour content, do your own research to personalise your tour and develop new tours as displays/exhibitions change.
- Attend regular Tate-organised training and meetings to create tours and to remain up-to-date on Tate's changing displays.
- Agree to have your tours reviewed.

Your Tate contacts

Volunteers Manager and when on shift also responsible to Visitor Experience Manager and Duty Manager at Tate Modern.

Time and content of preparation/training

We ask that Tate Guides commit to an initial training programme before starting. The training programme will last approximately 12 weeks, meeting once a week, usually during the evenings. Training will start in February 2016.

We expect volunteers to do their own research in order to build on the tour content created by the group, and keep their knowledge up to date. This allows each volunteer to share topics they are passionate about. We will provide a regular programme of training and access to our research facilities.

Time involved in ongoing volunteering

We ask that Tate Guides commit to the role for a minimum of one year and conduct a minimum of 3 tours a month – an approximate time commitment of 6 hours, three mornings or afternoons a month.

We also hope that Volunteer Guides will, when training is offered, add Tate Britain tours to their Tate Modern tours so that Guides can give tours at both sites.

Essential criteria needed for this role (some of these skills will be developed in training)

- Confident public speaker
- Sense of humour
- An interest in art, and ideally a good knowledge of art
- Ability to carry out independent research, including online research
- Ability to communicate ideas in an accessible way to a wide range of people
- Respect for people from all backgrounds
- Calm and professional under pressure in busy, crowded and often noisy galleries
- Friendly with ability to work as part of a team
- Reliability

Taster sessions

If you are interested, we strongly encourage you to attend a one-hour taster session and learn what it's like to guide at Tate. To register your interest in attending a future taster session, please email volunteer@tate.org.uk and let us know how you found out about this opportunity.

Application and selection process

If you believe you have the knowledge, skills, time and commitment needed to become a Volunteer Guide, please complete the relevant application form, paying special attention to the 'Supporting Information for Application'.

Closing date is 31 January 2016 by midnight.

We will invite applicants who we select to attend an informal interview, which includes giving a short presentation on a work of art we select, scheduled for February 2016.

Due to the high number of applications we are likely to receive for this role, and to make the best possible use of our resources, we will only contact people who we select for interview. If you have not heard within eight weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

Please send your application to:

**Volunteer Programme
Visitor Experience & Estates
Tate Modern
Bankside
London SE1 9TG**

Or email the application form to volunteer@tate.org.uk

Please let us know if you would like us to confirm that we have received your application.