

TRAINEE ASSISTANT GARDENER - Little Sparta

The Trustees of the Little Sparta Trust, which manages the garden created by the artist Ian Hamilton Finlay at Dunsyre in South Lanarkshire, are seeking to recruit a full-time Trainee Assistant Gardener, to work under the supervision of our Head Gardener, George Gilliland.

Little Sparta is a unique environment, and a place of significant artistic as well as horticultural importance. The role will involve helping to manage and maintain the garden and its collection of more than 270 artworks.

Created over a period of 30 years by Ian Hamilton Finlay, Little Sparta has been described by Sir Roy Strong as 'the most important garden created in Britain since the second world war.' The grounds extend to approximately seven acres of gardens, waterways and woodland. More details can be found at www.littlesparta.org.uk

The ideal applicant will be a highly motivated individual with a knowledge of horticulture and a love of gardening, who is meticulous, loyal, hardworking, with high attention to detail and excellent workmanship.

They will hold at least a Level 2 Horticultural Qualification or have a minimum of three years of practical experience, with a keen understanding of excellent garden management and planning, and a clear understanding of seasonal priorities, pruning, propagation, pest and disease management.

The successful candidate will have direct responsibility for the day to day maintenance of the garden and should also be competent with the operation and basic maintenance of garden tools and machinery.

Key responsibilities

- Lawn care and maintenance.
- Weeding and soil cultivation.
- Herbaceous border maintenance.
- Terrace and path maintenance.
- Pond care and maintenance.
- General irrigation maintenance
- Orchard tree maintenance

The opportunity also exists for the ideal candidate to take full responsibility to manage the planting, development and maintenance of one key area of the garden.

The post will commence in Spring 2018, and will be based initially on a rolling year-long programme.

A full driving licence and own transport is essential.

Salary Range £18,600 - £19,900

Applications should address the person specification and full job description, and be sent to: contact@littlesparta.co.uk

Deadline for applications Friday 1st March 2018 with interviews planned for Friday 23rd March 2018.