

SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

Cathedral Guide Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help join our Cathedral Guides team. Volunteers will deliver amazing Cathedral tours including group visits, drop in tours and evening tours.

We are looking for people who are flexible and happy to help out wherever possible.

What is involved?

- Attending a training course and passing a written and practical exam (see the **how to apply** section below)
- Ideally be available to offer a morning or afternoon to take drop in tours
- Be available for group tours or evening tours
- Welcome and check in visitors for the tours
- Attend Guides' meetings and any necessary training
- Complete foundation safeguarding training



What are we looking for?

While no formal skills and qualifications are needed for this role, we do ask that volunteers have the following skills and personal qualities.

Essential

- An outgoing and welcoming personality
- Enjoy dealing with the general public
- Comfortable dealing with groups of 10 to 20 people
- An enthusiasm for storytelling
- A passion for heritage and history

Desirable

- Experience of working in a visitor attraction or church setting.
- Awareness of safeguarding procedures and best practice

What will you get out of it?

- Extensive and in-depth training
- The opportunity of supporting a historic London landmark
- Experience of volunteering in tourism
- Outings to archives and museums
- The opportunity to create new tours
- Improve your public engagement skills
- Experience using your language skills
- Discounts in the Cathedral shop and Refectory
- References for paid jobs and other voluntary roles will be offered to volunteers who commit to at least three months of volunteering

Support offered

Ongoing support will be offered by the Visitor Engagement Officer and the Cathedral Guides.

Other useful information

- We would like volunteers to commit to a minimum of one year's guiding at the Cathedral.
- Induction and training on health and safety and security procedures will be provided.
- Travel expenses will be reimbursed on condition of a receipt.

How to apply

- Potential volunteers are asked to complete a short application form via the volunteer portal Assemble (check the Southwark Cathedral volunteer page for Assemble link) or contact the Volunteers Officer for a physical copy of the application form at Cathedral.Volunteers@southwark.anglican.org.
- Applicants will be invited for interview during March and will be asked to prepare in advance a short presentation on a monument or window in the Cathedral which interests them.
- A recruitment decision will be made and if successful, two employment or character references will be requested.
- Trainee Guides will briefly shadow other volunteers doing similar roles.
- Trainee Guides will attend a training course over several months with sessions alternating between Wednesday evening and Saturdays starting on 26 April 2025 and ending with a written and practical exam.