



Become a

National Trust Trustee



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Help us write the next chapter

The valleys. The coastlines. Historic town centres and urban city streets. This is our home and, as one of our Trustees, you'll help protect it for generations to come.

We're delighted to hear you're interested in joining our team. With passion, initiative and unique personal qualities, our Trustees help bring the National Trust strategy to life, spreading the word, inspiring meaningful action and getting hands-on to help us overcome a range of challenges. From London to Liverpool, the Giant's Causeway to the White Cliffs of Dover, this beautiful, diverse land belongs to all of us. Working together, we'll make sure it continues to thrive, for everyone.



Our responsibility

Europe's largest conservation charity, the National Trust looks after special places across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, ranging from historic Hackney homes to dramatic, sprawling woodlands and coastlines. With the support of our five-million members, we connect people to places that matter to them, and protect those places for future generations to enjoy. Forever, for everyone.

Our challenges

In response to the challenges of the 21st century, we created the [Playing Our Part](#) strategy. These are the key themes:

- 1 Looking after the special places in our care
- 2 Restoring a healthy, natural environment
- 3 Offering experiences that move, teach and inspire
- 4 Helping people look after where they live

We need to engage all our stakeholders including our 11,000 staff and 60,000 volunteers, as well as all our members, visitors and donors, and partners. We also need to generate income for our exciting future plans.



Your contribution

“We need outstanding Trustees who can help deliver the next phase of our history. We’re looking for people from a wide variety of backgrounds to join our Board, but especially people with skills and knowledge in countryside and land management, nature conservation, parks and gardens, learning and access, finance and business, and accountancy and investment. Above all, we’re looking for passion, fresh thinking and a hunger to make a difference. If you have these qualities, we would love you to join our cause.”

John Lyon,
Chair of the Nominations Committee



Who we're looking for

Real passion, experience of leading large organisations and the dynamic attitude needed to bring our efforts to life: if you have these qualities, you could be a National Trust Trustee, whatever your background.

Our Trustees are united by an enthusiasm for our work and a commitment to our cause. We're looking for individuals ready and able to represent the National Trust in public, confident with important decision-making and capable of working together with a wide range of people to promote our objectives and keep our special places safe forever, for everyone.

Expertise in the areas specified on the previous page is key, as is previous experience working on the boards of other organisations. Alongside this, you'll have the wisdom and curiosity needed to engage and inform debates and strategy, using your lived and professional experience to help us deliver our objectives and bring to life our ambitions.





Why our work is important

We all need to escape the everyday and enjoy some spiritual refreshment now and then. Extraordinary places do that. They open doors to exciting new experiences that refresh, renew and stimulate our minds, whether that's by seeing a breath-taking garden, enjoying a cliff-top walk or nosing around John Lennon's childhood home.

We have more than 20 million visits to our paid-entry properties every year, with many more visits to our open-access places. And because our work is affected by wider global issues, our interests extend far beyond just bricks, mortar, coastline and the land in our care. As Europe's largest conservation charity, we're an authority on big issues facing the coast, countryside and heritage, and we're always ready to act on the issues that matter. Because the places we protect belong to everyone, we want people to be able to continue to experience them for generations to come.

We thrive by involving as many people as possible in what we do, wanting our work to be at the heart of community life, for people from all ages, backgrounds and walks of life to enjoy.

Whether sharing conservation stories or bringing history to life for school children, delivering an incredible retail experience or a mouth watering plate of food, we want to inspire as many people as possible.

We want them to breathe in the fresh air. We want them to step out into the countryside. We want them to get out there, get their hands dirty and have an adventure.

If you'd like to know more about what we're doing and how we're doing it, please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

You can read more about how we're structured at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/how-we-are-run.



The role our Trustees play

The Board of Trustees take ultimate responsibility for the work we do, making sure we stay true to our vision and charitable purpose and ensuring our extensive ownership of property is cared for to the highest of standards. Whether ensuring we meet legal and regulatory requirements, shaping and implementing strategies or securing and managing funds, our Trustees empower us to fulfil our duties and deliver on our ambitions.

Trustees attend six meetings a year and participate in at least two annual trips to properties across the country. Alongside this, Trustees support working parties on strategy and related subjects, visit potential acquisitions and attend fundraising events from time to time.

As a Trustee, you'll be encouraged to join one of our three standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Senior Management Remuneration Committee, and the Investment Committee.

Our [Governance Handbook](#) provides more insight into the role of our Board and Trustees.



How much time will I commit?

The level of time you commit as a Trustee depends on how much you share responsibilities with other senior volunteers and staff.

We estimate it to be around 25 days a year, although some Trustees enjoy getting involved in activities outside Board and Committee meetings and so devote more time to the role.

As a Trustee, you won't be paid a salary but we will cover your expenses. You'll be appointed for an initial term of three years, with the option of serving a second three-year term. Yes, being a Trustee is hard work – but, for the right individuals, there's no deeper reward than preserving the special places that matter so much, to so many.





Apply to join our team

Believe that you would make a great Trustee?
We'd love to hear from you.

Applications can be made online at www.odgers.com/65772 via the 'apply' button at the foot of the page. We'll require a CV and cover letter outlining why you think you're suitable, a description of your achievements and full contact details.

The closing date for applications is 21st March. It's expected that final interviews will be held on the 8th, 23rd and 24th May in London.

If you are unable to complete an online application, please email your CV and cover letter to 65772@odgers.com. You can also post to: Stefanie Kohen, Odgers Berndtson, 20 Cannon Street, London, EC4M 6XD, quoting reference 65772.

Equal opportunities monitoring form: www.odgers.com/65772. This will not be disclosed to anyone involved in assessing your application.



Get in touch

For further information please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Lowndes Jones on 020 7529 3938 or sarah.lowndes_jones@odgersberndtson.com or Alex Hamilton-Baily on 020 7529 3994 or alex.hamilton-baily@odgersberndtson.com

“Working with the National Trust was a career highlight for me. The span of organisational brief, the complexity of operation, the breadth of influence and the depth of accreted institutional knowledge are utterly unique. And, as remarkable as its land, its buildings or its collections, are its truly exceptional people. I found Trust staff and volunteers committed, expert, unafraid of change yet undaunted by the responsibility that comes with safeguarding tradition. This is a very special organisation.”

Gus Casely-Hayford,
Former Trustee



Acknowledgements

A family visiting Ham House and Garden, Surrey.

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Walkers at Cwar Mawr Quarry in the Brecon Beacons National Park, Wales.

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A couple outside the north front of Wimpole Hall, Cambridgeshire.

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The Langdales in Cumbria are home to the majestic Langdale Pikes, world class rock climbing and stunning mountain tarns, this is a natural playground, with walks and activities to suit all abilities.

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Visitors exploring the parterre garden at Hanbury Hall and Gardens, Worcestershire.

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Bluebells at Blakes Wood, Essex, in spring.

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Close shot of the street sign Forthlin Road.

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Kayaking at Brancaster Activity Centre, Norfolk.

Brancaster offers a residential centre with a variety of outdoor and coastal-themed activities.

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A Silver Studded Blue male, in June at Great Orme, Clwyd. The Silver-studded Blue has a restricted distribution but occurs in large numbers in suitable heathland and coastal habitats.

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