

Holiday Centre Worker

A holiday centre worker works in a number of areas such as reception, catering or entertainment on a holiday park, camping and caravan site or activity centre.

The Work

You could be:

- welcoming new arrivals to the holiday centre and checking them in
- working in the catering area preparing and serving food and drink
- cleaning accommodation and communal areas
- arranging a programme of games and activities for adults and children
- encouraging holidaymakers to join in the activities
- organising and leading games, arts and crafts and competitions for children
- sometimes singing, dancing or acting in shows
- answering enquiries and solving problems
- carrying out specialised duties, such as fitness instruction, cooking, childminding, swimming pool supervision, administration and reception work.

Pay

The figures below are only a guide. Actual pay rates vary a lot, depending on the specific type of job you do at the holiday centre and whether live-in accommodation is available.

Starting pay is often based on the National Minimum Wage (NMW) or the National Living Wage (NLW).

As of 1 April 2026 the National Minimum Wage is £8.00 an hour for workers under 18, £10.85 an hour for workers aged 18 to 20. The National Living Wage for those aged 21 and over is £12.71 an hour. With experience or moving into a supervisory position, you could earn around £7.50 an hour.

If the job comes with live-in accommodation an amount may be deducted from the hourly rate to cover the cost.

Conditions

- You work long hours usually over six days a week, including mornings, evenings, nights and weekends.
- You might work split shifts, where you work part of the day then have a few hours off and work again in the evening.
- Work is seasonal, generally mainly available in spring, summer and early autumn.
- You might live-in at the park or centre for the whole season, sharing accommodation with other workers.
- You may be away from home a few months at a time, with no personal holidays during this time.
- Holiday centres can be on the coast, in rural areas or near towns.
- You might work both indoors and outdoors.
- There might be lifting, carrying and running about.
- You usually wear a company uniform.

Getting In

- A good general education is useful.
- Musical or sports ability is useful if you want to work in the entertainment department.
- Experience in play schemes or youth clubs is useful. It also helps to have experience of dealing with the public and handling money.
- You usually need professional childcare qualifications to work with younger children. You may also need a first aid certificate.
- It helps to have IT skills and maths skills for doing office work and dealing with money.
- You may require a satisfactory criminal record check from Disclosure Scotland to show that you are suitable for this type of work. Contact [Disclosure Scotland](#) for details on the type you would need.
- If you are in live-in accommodation, you must be over 18.
- A driving licence may be useful.

Vacancies appear on trade websites such as [Travel Weekly](#). You can also check websites of large companies such as Bourne Leisure. The main recruitment drive is usually between October and April.

What Does It Take

You need:

- enthusiasm and stamina
- a friendly and helpful personality
- a smart appearance
- good spoken and written communication skills
- initiative.

You should have:

- good organisational skills
- a sense of humour
- patience
- a caring approach if working with children
- the ability to deal with emergencies and remain calm under pressure.

Training

- Training would mostly be on the job.
- You would complete in-house training covering things like company policies and health and safety.

Getting On

- Some people work in this field for only a few seasons and then move on to a second career.
- If you work for a large firm you might get promotion to a senior position, such as entertainment or restaurant manager or head receptionist.

- Some companies also operate parks and centres abroad, so you may have the opportunity to work in another country.
- You may want to move to other areas of travel and tourism such as tourist information centres, travel agencies or the hotel industry.

Contacts

Springboard

Email: info@springboarduk.org.uk

Website: careerscope.uk.net

Website (2): springboard.uk.net

X: [@CareerScope_](https://twitter.com/CareerScope_)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpringboardUKCharity

Statistics

Employment Status : Not available this career.

Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

Predicted Employment Statistics : Not available this career.