

YHA Working Holidays

January - March 2017

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jobs.org.uk/volunteer
volunteers@yha.org.uk
01629 592 562

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Welcome to YHA Working Holidays

For over 80 years YHA has been inspiring all, especially young people, to broaden their horizons, gaining knowledge and independence, through new experiences of adventure and discovery.

YHA Working Holidays are a great way to try out volunteering, without any long term commitment.

You pick when, where and for how long you go.

Help in your own community, or travel somewhere new to give your time - all the choices are yours

Whether it is helping to tidy a garden, paint rooms or re-build a drystone wall - you can select an event that suits you. You don't need any special skills to take part - just a willingness to get stuck in!

YHA can offer help with travel expenses, and where available, free accommodation for volunteers.

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Benefits of volunteering

- Meet new people
- Learn new skills, or if you are already an experienced hand - share your skills with others
- Explore somewhere new
- Develop your independent travel skills
- Support the work of YHA
- Get some great team working and project experience on your CV
- Enjoy the feeling of making a positive difference to others by gifting your help and support
- Help us to care for the special locations in our network, and keep hostelling thriving for future generations

How it Works

STEP 1

Read through the events listed in the guide



STEP 2

Select which events you would like to go on



STEP 3

Get in touch with the contact listed to book on an event

Helpful Information

Age

You need to be 16 years or over to stay overnight at a YHA. If the event is local to you, and you don't need accommodation you can volunteer with YHA from 15 years upwards. There is no maximum age limit to volunteer with YHA.

Accommodation

Where indicated, accommodation will be available for free for volunteers during their volunteering. This accommodation will be provided without charge, and will be in same sex dormitory bedrooms.

Food

Where indicated volunteers can either self-cater and bring their own food, making use of the YHA self-catering kitchen to prepare meals, or purchase meals from the hostel at a discounted rate of £2 per course.

Travel Expenses

All volunteers taking part in an event can access help with travel costs, which varies according to how many days you volunteer.

- 1-day - you can claim up to £15
- 2-days - you can claim up to £30
- 3-days - you can claim up to £45
- 4-days or more days - you can claim up to £60

Reimbursement is claimed after the event, by completing a Volunteer Travel Expense claim form. Payment is made via BACS within 28-days of the form being received by YHA National Office.

Specific Needs

If you have any special needs please advise us on booking, so we can help to make your experience with us as enjoyable as possible.

YHA and Safeguarding

YHA as a charity is committed to creating a safe environment for everyone staying, working and volunteering with us, especially for children young people and vulnerable adults.

As part of this commitment, YHA will undertake any suitability checks needed when you apply to volunteer with us.

Free Time

In your free time, you will be able to explore the local area.

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DofE Gold Residential

Working Holidays are a great way to achieve your DofE Gold Award Residential section. YHA is an approved activity provider for DofE and will be able to complete your assessors report at the end of the event. In order for your event to qualify it must be 5 days (4 nights) long, and there must be a minimum of 5 people on your event. Please advise us on booking that you are intending to use the event to achieve your DofE Gold Award Residential section.

Enjoyable Volunteering

YHA is committed to ensuring that all necessary precautions are in place, to ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable volunteering experience. YHA representatives leading your event will explain safety on site, including the safe use of tools and equipment. YHA asks volunteers to please follow any instructions given, and to advise the site representative directly if you feel unwell at any point during the event.

Photographs

YHA representatives and other volunteers may wish to take photographs to remember their experience. These images could be uploaded on to social media, or to promote the work of YHA as a charity. If you would rather not have your image taken and possibly shared, we recommend that you step out of any photo opportunities to safeguard your privacy.

Overseas Volunteers

YHA is unable to organise work permits or visas for any overseas volunteers.

Cancellations

YHA politely request that if for any reason you are unable to attend a Working Holiday, that you advise us of this as soon as possible. YHA will only cancel a holiday due to unforeseen circumstances and when there is no other option available. If YHA has to cancel a Working Holiday, we will notify you immediately using the contact details you supplied to us when booking.

Packing list

These suggestions have been shared by other volunteers who have been on Working Holidays, and may be extra helpful for those new to volunteering with YHA.

- A refillable water bottle
- Clothes to volunteer in that you don't mind getting dirty, or damaged
- Ear plugs (as accommodation will be in shared dorms)
- Slippers
- A dressing gown to nip from your room to the bathroom and back
- A warm waterproof coat, gloves, hat and stout shoes with good grip
- Some comfy, warm casual clothes to relax in for the evening
- A towel and any toiletries that you need
- A small amount of cash is handy, as with rural locations there may not be a cash point nearby.

Top Tip: Internet signal if available at the hostel can be slow. So download any e-books or programmes that you would like to view on your device, before you travel.

Making your pick

You can use the symbols below to help find the experience that is right for you!

 includes painting and decorating tasks	 is close to the coast	 accommodation for volunteers is provided
 includes gardening and outdoor tasks	 includes giving areas of the hostel a good spring clean	 help with event stewarding and other event tasks is required
 in a very rural location, perfect for people who like to be away from it all!	 suitable for anyone wishing to achieve their DofE Gold Award Residential section	 you can purchase meals from the hostel at a discounted rate
 in a city location	 great for public transport users!	 offers volunteers a special thank you
 in a countryside location	 self-catering	

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Map Key

-  YHA Youth Hostel
-  YHA Affiliate*
-  National Parks



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Working Holidays

JANUARY 2017

Hawes Spruce Up

YHA Hawes (Yorkshire)

Volunteers will be helping to paint and spruce up this much loved rural hostel, to get it ship shape for the coming Spring.

Start Date

30 January

End Date

3 February

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Camp Ready at Windermere

YHA Windermere (Cumbria)

Volunteers will be helping to paint the outside of the new camping facilities, to help them look good and sympathetic to the natural surroundings. There will also be the chance to get involved in some painting inside the hostel, deep cleaning and depending on the weather a garden tidy!

As a thank you volunteers can stay the Friday night for free (checking out on Sat 4 Feb by 10am), there will also be a celebratory group meal and a bonfire.

Start Date

30 January

End Date

3 February

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



FEBRUARY

Outdoor Jobs and Dry Stone Walling

YHA Eskdale (Cumbria)

A mix of outdoor and indoor jobs are available including helping (and learning) to build a dry stone wall, varnishing outdoor tables and weeding/tidying garden areas. To thank volunteers there will be a celebratory meal of pizzas cooked in the outdoor clay oven.

Start Date

6 February

End Date

10 February

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Riverside Painting Opportunity

YHA Wye Valley

On the banks of the river Wye with stunning views this hostel is seeking help to paint internal and external areas. As a thank you a traditional 'fish and chip' supper will be provided on the Wednesday evening. Don't worry - you don't have to catch your own fish!

Start Date

19 February

End Date

23 February

For details please email wyevalleymanager@yha.org.uk or call **01594 8603002**



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Hostel Tidy at Grinton

YHA Grinton Lodge (Yorkshire)

Join us at the old shooting lodge set in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales for some painting, gardening and general tidying up.

Start Date

20 February

End Date

24 February

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Portland Garden Tidy

YHA Portland (Dorset)

Join us for the full week or a few days at this lovely hostel with spectacular views over the Dorset coast. Tasks will involve helping with gardening and decorating and there will be a thank you meal on the final night (or a complimentary overnight stay can be arranged if you are not volunteering on the final day.)

Start Date

22 February

End Date

1 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Wasdale Hall Spruce Up

YHA Wasdale (Cumbria)

Come and help us care for this 200 year old country manor with some painting, gardening and cleaning.

Start Date

27 February

End Date

3 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Hostel Spruce Up

YHA Langdon Beck (Durham)

Come and discover a hidden gem in the heart of Upper Teesdale. Help us with some painting and gardening, weather permitting of course!

Start Date

27 February

End Date

3 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Boggle Adventures

YHA Boggle Hole (Yorkshire)

Volunteers will be helping to keep the approach to the hostel and surrounding grounds neat and tidy. Cutting back vegetation, weeding, litter picking and varnishing outdoor furniture are also on offer. There is a bus service to Robin Hoods bay from Scarborough or Whitby, the hostel is a 2 mile easy walk over Cliffs. To thank volunteers for their help, there will be plenty of cake on offer! Please bring a packed lunch with you on the day. Please be aware there is no accommodation available for this event.

Start Date

27 February

End Date

3 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



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MARCH

Painting with Mountain Views

YHA Ennerdale & Black Sail (Cumbria)

Volunteers will be helping to tidy up the grounds, including the area around the camping barn. Some indoor painting tasks can also be made available. Help can also be given to YHA Back Sail (transport will be provided between hostels).

Start Date

6 March

End Date

10 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Gardening on the edge of England!

YHA Lands End (Cornwall)

Join us to tidy up our gardens with some grounds clearance, weeding, pruning and painting the outdoor furniture.

Start Date

12 March

End Date

17 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



Re-boot the boot room!

YHA Dartmoor (Devon)

This lovely hostel surrounded by open moorland is a popular location for walkers. With so much use the boot room is looking a little worse for wear! Come and help us give it a fresh coat of paint and a mini makeover!

Start Date

19 March

End Date

24 March

To book a place please email volunteers@yha.org.uk or call **01629 592562**



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