



Senior Vessels Skipper with General Maintenance Duties

Job Description and Person Specification

Profile	
Job title	Senior Vessels Skipper with General Maintenance
Organisation	Sanctuary of St Patrick, Lough Derg
Location	Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co Donegal, Ireland
Reports to	Operations Manager
Work patterns/hours	40 hours per week, 5 out of 7 days
Closing date for application	12noon on Friday 18 th Nov 2022

About the Sanctuary of Saint Patrick

The Sanctuary of Saint Patrick is a pilgrimage centre situated on Station Island in Lough Derg, near Pettigo, Co Donegal. People have been coming to pray here for over 1500 years. At present, the pilgrimage season runs from mid-March until end of September, during which over 7,000 people visit the island on retreat/pilgrimage. A range of residential and non-residential retreats/pilgrimages are offered including Confirmation class, School leavers, One Day Retreat, Three Day Pilgrimage, short residential retreats, and walking pilgrimages along the pilgrim path on the lake shore. Residential pilgrims are accommodated in hostel style accommodation; some retreats entail provision of full board whilst three-day pilgrims receive only one very basic meal per day.

There is a permanent staff team of nine people: this increases to approximately fifty at the busiest part of the season.

See attached document for a statement of Lough Derg's Mission, Vision, and Values

About the role

Lough Derg seeks to recruit a Skipper with senior level Vessel skippering expertise combined with general maintenance capabilities.

You will be a key player on a team delivering the Mission, Vision, and Values of Lough Derg.

Your main duties will be the safe and courteous transportation of pilgrims and staff to and from the island, along with the maintenance of the Lough Derg fleet of steel-built commercial passenger Vessels: MV St Columba (90 passengers), MV St Davog (60 passengers), MV St Brigid (12 passengers).

You will take pride in the appearance and maintenance of the Vessels, Station Island and its associated facilities, and you will lead and motivate Vessel staff in a supervisory role.

You will also, on a regular basis, assist in the general upkeep and maintenance of grounds and buildings.

In certain circumstances, for the right candidate, Lough Derg may consider appointing a person on a seasonal and/or part-time basis.

Key Responsibilities

Vessels and Facilities

- Skippering & piloting Vessels safely
- Vessels maintenance, servicing, and cleanliness
- Assist with procurement of maintenance supplies within systems and budgets
- Training and development of junior and seasonal Vessel staff
- Ensuring compliance with Dept. of Marine requirements
- Ensuring compliance with current Health & Safety policies
- First Aid
- Vessels shutdown including dry docking, annual maintenance and relaunch
- Maintaining of relevant and accessible records
- Ensuring correct transportation, recording, and storing of supplies

General Maintenance

- Upkeep of island, lake shore and High Street office facilities and grounds
- Assisting with occasional building and repair work
- Ensuring safe waste disposal in line with best environmental protection practices.

Vessels Staff

- Supervise Vessels staff
- Assist with the recruitment and rostering of Vessels staff
- Vessels staff Induction, Training & Development
- Support Vessels staff regarding the core values of Lough Derg
- Ensure Vessels staff follow Lough Derg policy procedures and etiquette
- Approach interspersal relationships in a manner that promotes a healthy working environment and avoids conflict

Pilgrimages and Retreats

- Courteous and professional interaction with pilgrims
- Liaise with Operations Manager & Head of Pastoral Programmes to ensure smooth running of events, including set-up
- Bell ringing to call pilgrims to prayer
- Assist with First Aid as necessary

Resilience and Composure

- Respond effectively and quickly in an emergency
- Deal with unexpected situations or crisis in a flexible and fluent manner

Policies and Procedures

Compliance with all relevant policies and procedures including:

- Dept. of Marine Regulations
- Health and Safety
- Fire Safety
- Safeguarding

NB: This profile is not exhaustive and may change reasonably over time. Ad hoc tasks and other project work may be required as determined by the Operations Manager.

Key Relationships	
Internal	Prior, Operations Manager, Head of Pastoral Programmes, Staff team
External	Pilgrims and Suppliers

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

- Qualification/Certification equivalent to Commercial Endorsement, with Crowd Control and Fire Fighting
- Mastery of boating skills with at least 5 years' experience of skippering and piloting Vessels, maintaining and repairing vessel systems, in at least 2 of the following areas: dry docking, electrics, electronics, bilges and bilge pumps, hydraulics, engine servicing, gearboxes, shafting, propellers and rudders, firefighting equipment, lifesaving appliances
- Extensive experience in general maintenance including at least two of: grounds maintenance, plumbing, carpentry, painting, electrics, and networks, plastering, welding
- Adaptable and flexible in workdays and hours given the nature of Lough Derg
- Excellent team-working, organisational and communication skills, both written and oral
- Positive and proactive in approach to solving problems and taking on new challenges
- Can-do mind-set and self-motivation

Desirable criteria:

- Understanding of Domestic Safety Management (DSM)
- Ability to work at heights

Further information for applicants

Salary:

Full time Salary €35,000 - €38,000 per annum, commensurate with experience

Hours of work/Flexibility:

3-year contract, with potential for renewal. During the pilgrimage season: 40 hours per week, 5 out of 7 days, including some overnight stays.

Many pilgrimages and retreats take place at weekends and on public holidays therefore the successful candidate will need to be flexible to accommodate the Lough Derg programmes calendar.

During the off-season hours are full time, Monday – Friday, 8am to 4pm.

On-call availability may be required during the Pilgrimage Season.

Lough Derg aims to support a healthy work/life balance and offers flexible working hours where possible.

Where additional hours are required for some pilgrimages/events, these can be reclaimed as time off in lieu.

Garda Vetting:

Lough Derg is committed to safeguarding every young person and vulnerable adult on the staff or those who attend pilgrimages and retreats. A satisfactory Garda vetting check will be mandatory once a conditional offer of employment is made and before employment commences.

Benefits:

Annual leave - 20 days per annum plus 10 Public Holidays (where pilgrimages/retreats take place on public holidays, these can be taken back as time in lieu)

Group Retirement (PRSA) – 10% total contribution, of which employer pays 5%

All meals are provided while working on the Island with accommodation as necessary

Application Process

Please complete the Application Form contained in the Application Pack and return

By email to: admin@loughderg.org

Or post to: Human Resources, Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co Donegal, F94 PC60

Shortlisted candidates will have the option to visit Station Island prior to interview.

Interview process will take place during early December 2022 and will include a practical vessel skills element.

Closing date for applications is 12noon on Friday 18th November 2022