



Work Experience and Short Term Residential Volunteering

What does the Centre for Alternative Technology do?

The Centre for Alternative Technology, or CAT as it is affectionately known, aims to inspire, inform and enable people to achieve practical solutions for sustainability and to equip people with the skills, knowledge and understanding to help our society make this change.

We work towards this goal through our graduate school, visitor centre containing interactive displays demonstrating a wide range of sustainable technology, short courses, school and university visits, information service and Zero Carbon Britain reports.

As a volunteer, you will be a crucial part of this organisation, no matter which department you work in how long you volunteer with us for.

How does short term residential volunteering work?

We can accept applications for short term residential volunteers, also known as work experience placements, at any time of year. However, we usually only have a single bedroom reserved for such placements, so availability can be limited. As a result, we ask that short term placements are either one or two full weeks in duration, though we can consider slightly longer ones if necessary.

All residential volunteers work full time, usually 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday, though some departments have slightly different arrangements (e.g. gardens work 9.30-5.30, and have a rota of short weekend tasks to be done weekly). There are morning and afternoon tea breaks at 11am and 4pm, and an hour for lunch at 1pm.

Short term volunteers live alongside long term volunteers in our dedicated volunteer accommodation on site, known as *Di's Diner*. *Di's diner* contains 5 small single rooms (of which you would have one) and 2 twin rooms, 2 shared bathrooms, a private balcony area, and a shared common room with sofas, computer, dining table, and kitchenette. All meals are catered for in our onsite, vegetarian Café.

Short term volunteers are required to pay £10 per night to cover the cost of food and board.

What does CAT provide?

- Initial and ongoing training as required.
- Support and direction from a Supervisor in your own department.
- An environment in which to learn new skills and gain valuable knowledge.
- The opportunity to meet new, like-minded people.
- Full food and board (described above)
- 10% discount on most products in our Shop.
- Discounted Short Courses: 1 free short course, and another at 50% discount (please note that this only applies to courses run by CAT, not courses that are run externally but hosted at CAT)
- A certificate of your contribution to CAT
- Free CAT membership for a year, including an invitation to the annual Members' Conference, and copies of CAT's quarterly magazine *Clean Slate*

Who are we looking for?

We're looking for people who:

- Are willing to make a full 6 month commitment to volunteering at CAT.
- Are enthusiastic and keen to get stuck-in with tasks, whether alone or in a team
- Are friendly, polite and amenable to others.
- Are reliable and trustworthy
- Will follow their Supervisors instructions and CAT's policies and procedures.
- Have knowledge, interest or a willingness to learn about sustainability and CAT's work.

Departments may also have other requirements, which will be detailed in the role description pages on our website.

To apply, please fill in our Volunteer Application Form

[Click here to apply](#)