



Peterborough Cathedral Guides' Course 2025

A training course for people wanting to become a ground floor highlights tour guide

The 2025 guides' course will begin on Saturday 8th Feb 2025. If you are interested in becoming a guide, please read the following information.

Guides lead a variety of formal and informal tours of the Cathedral. If you pass the course, you will be expected to become part of the team to share information and lead tours. This will primarily be for weekends during our busiest days.

By the end of the course, you will have been taught the knowledge required to lead a Highlights Tour of the Cathedral. The course will be informative and fun. It will help you shape an exciting and engaging tour of the Cathedral that will enthuse and entertain visitors.

To pass this course, you must attend all the sessions listed below – to discuss this, please contact us: volunteer.coordinator@peterborough-cathedral.uk

Please register your interest by completing this form by 5pm 2nd January 2025:

<https://form.jotform.com/243322586340049>

Course information

Register of interest application form closes: 5pm 2nd January 2025

Interview date: 13th Jan 2025 or 14th Jan 2025 depending on availability. This can be done in the evening and/or via Teams if required. Existing volunteers who wish to become guides will also be required to be interviewed to secure a place on the course.

Course dates

The course dates will run at the following times in person at the Cathedral:

Saturday 8th Feb 2026 10am-12noon

Wednesday 12th Feb 7-9pm

Wednesday 19th Feb 7-9pm

Wednesday 5th March 7-9pm

Wednesday 12th March 7-9pm

Wednesday 19th March 7-9pm

Wednesday 26th March 7-9pm (trainee presentations and written test)

Saturday 5th April 10-12noon (themed tours)

Once the course is complete, trainees will work with their mentors (an experienced guide) 1:1 to practice delivering highlights tours. Mentors will complete the training task sheet and will indicate when their mentee is ready for their final observation. You will also be supported by the Head of Learning and Engagement and the Vice Dean.

What we are looking for:

- People who can commit to the above dates and times, and have good availability at weekends to lead tours*
- People who are enthusiastic about the Cathedral and its story
- People who tell interesting stories
- People who will demonstrate the Cathedral's values of joy, generosity, inclusivity and hospitality

*contact volunteer.coordinator@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk if you need to discuss this

Assessment period

Assessment will involve delivering a presentation to the group, and a written paper. At the end of the mentoring period there will be a formal observation of you leading a highlights tour and assessed on the following:

- Was the tour factually accurate?
- Did the tour hold my interest?
- Was the guide friendly and welcoming?
- Was the guide able to answer my questions in an appropriate way?

We encourage and welcome expressions of interest from anyone who feels they could help tell the Cathedral's story to visitors. Successful guides who are not existing volunteers, will be required to complete a full application including references, and then undertake basic awareness safeguarding training.