Mining Craft Apprentice
Big Pit: National Coal Museum

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One of the UK’s leading tourist attractions, Big Pit became part of Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales in February 2001. Big Pit is a real coal mine and one of Britain’s leading mining museums. It is unique in offering visitors underground tours of the mine led by former miners.

Big Pit is an integral part of the community of Blaenavon, awarded world heritage status by UNESCO in 2000 for its unique industrial heritage and contribution to the iron making and coal making industry.

What you'll do...

This Apprenticeship was developed specifically to ensure that Big Pit has the necessary technical skills to maintain public access to the historic underground workings of this iconic museum.

The Apprentices will learn the skills needed in the operation of Big Pit and to acquire knowledge about mining equipment, legislation, and techniques. The apprenticeships are an important part of the succession plan for Big Pit to ensure that the public can continue to enjoy the underground experience at the Museum and learn about the history of the mining industry in Wales. The apprenticeships are also part of Amgueddfa Cymru’s ongoing commitment to improving the skills base in traditional skills in Wales.

The apprenticeship will require vocational training and the completion of MPQC (Minerals Product Qualification Council) qualifications. Additionally, apprentices will gain hands-on experience working alongside members of the maintenance team on routine and major maintenance tasks and projects. Following an initial training period of six months, the Mining Craft Apprentice will become an Underground Guide, delivering underground tours to Museum visitors, and carrying out maintenance and health and safety procedures as required by law. Further career development opportunities may be possible following completion of the apprenticeship.

What you'll achieve...

- To develop the skills needed in the operation of Big Pit.
- To develop the knowledge of mining equipment, legislation and techniques and successful achievement of the MPQC and Mines Rescue qualifications.
• To successfully complete the apprenticeship programme within the designated timescales.

**How you'll achieve this...**

• Develop the technical skills in the operation of underground tasks under the guidance of museum staff.

• Train and assist in the routine underground operations of the mine, and statutory inspections in accordance with the Manager’s Planned Maintenance Scheme for the mine and any applicable procedures, statutes, Manager’s Rules and codes of conduct.

• Undertake academic and practical training and obtain the necessary qualifications and experience for the role.

• Assist as required by the Mining Department in other maintenance operations in capacities that are compatible with the apprentices’ skills, experience and training.

• Assist in the operation of the underground tours in various capacities compatible with the apprentices’ skills, experience and training.

• Cleaning and maintenance of all parts of the underground.

• Maintain Health and Safety and Security procedures and carry out Risk Assessments and other procedures/duties.

• Train to become a part-time member of the Mines Rescue team.

• Assist with the ongoing development of Big Pit as required.

**How you’ll support Amgueddfa Cymru’s corporate objectives...**

• To participate actively in supporting the principles and practice of equality of opportunity as laid down in Amgueddfa Cymru’s Equality & Diversity Policy.

• To support the department's compliance with Amgueddfa Cymru's policies on Sustainability and the Welsh language.

• To take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions and to comply with all health and safety legislation as appropriate.
• As a term of your employment you may be required to undertake such other duties and/or times of work as may reasonably be required of you, commensurate with your grade or general level of responsibility within the organisation.

We’re looking for people who...

• Enjoy working with people and with the ability to engage with and inspire a range of different audiences including school groups, families, adults and community groups.
• Have a flexible approach to work with the availability to work regularly at weekends and bank holidays.
• Comfortable in working in confined spaces and underground.
• Understand the principles of equality and diversity in relation to Amgueddfa Cymru’s work and the ability to apply these in practice.
• Have the attitudes and behaviour that are aligned with our values (collaborative, inclusive, inspire creativity, integrity and responsible)

The knowledge and qualifications you'll need...

• Knowledge of the mining industry in Wales and an interest in a career in the heritage sector.
• Willingness to develop knowledge and skills including traditional skills and methods of working.
• Commitment to working towards MPQC and Mines Rescue qualifications
• GCSE in English and Mathematics or equivalent.

The experience you’ll need...

• Working effectively as part of a team.
• Experience of Health and Safety in the workplace, good housekeeping and safe methods of working.

The skills you’ll need...

• Excellent communication skills, with the ability to engage visitors to the Museum.
• Excellent organisational skills including the ability to prioritise workloads and work with competing deadlines as well as excellent time management skills.
• The ability to communicate in Welsh is desirable. If necessary, successful candidates will be required to complete a 10 hour online
Welsh language training course in year one, with further training arranged for years two and three.

What we care about...

We encourage all our staff to demonstrate our organisational values in their day-to-day role. The successful candidate will need to demonstrate how they live these values in their current work and life.

- **Creativity**
  We inspire creativity through our museums, our collections and the skills of our staff and volunteers.

- **Responsibility**
  We are responsible towards each other, our visitors, the environment and the Welsh language, caring for each other’s well-being as well as the national collections.

- **Integrity**
  We act with integrity at all times, maintaining professional standards by being honest and trustworthy.

- **Equity**
  Our museums are inclusive, and we respect the diversity of both our staff and visitors.

- **Collaboration**
  We work collaboratively, with each other, with communities and with local, national and international partners.
# Terms and conditions...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Starting salary</strong></th>
<th>Appointment will normally be to the minimum of the salary scale for this grade.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contract length</strong></td>
<td>Permanent</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contract hours</strong></td>
<td>35 hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Annual leave</strong></td>
<td>27 days on appointment, rising to 32 days after 5 years’ service, plus one privilege day at Christmas and 8 bank holidays (for full-time staff). Pro rata for part-time staff.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Probation</strong></td>
<td>The post is subject to a probationary period of 6 months.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DBS Check</strong></td>
<td>Applicants for this post should note that successful candidates will be required to provide an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service.</td>
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All new appointments are subject to the receipt of satisfactory references, medical report and criminal conviction vetting clearance, plus proof of eligibility to work in the UK.
How to apply:
Applicants for the post should complete our on-line application form, which can be found on the Jobs page on our website at www.museum.wales. The form provides the opportunity to explain how your qualifications, experience and personal qualities make you a suitable candidate for the position.

Applications can be submitted in Welsh. Applications submitted in Welsh will be treated no less favourably than those submitted in English.

Completed forms should be returned by email to:
hr@museumwales.ac.uk

or posted to:
the Human Resources Department
Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NP
Telephone: (029) 2057 3306

Please note that all vacancies close at 5pm on the closing date. No applications will be accepted after this time.

We will need you to submit the Vetting and Equality Monitoring Forms before we can process your application.

Please use the section of the application form headed ‘Post applied for’ to state clearly whether you want to be considered for full-time or part-time jobs (or both).

Please do not send us your CV; we will only consider completed application forms.

Unfortunately, due to the number of applications we expect in respect of this post, it will not be possible to write personally to each unsuccessful applicant. However, interviews are normally arranged within three weeks of the closing date.

Please be aware that the cost of returning the completed application form and any attachments to the HR Department will be more than the price of a single first-class stamp.

Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales is an equal opportunities employer. Applications are welcome from all sections of the community.