

# Leisure, Sport And Entertainment

## **Overview**

## From managing an entertainment venue to coaching sports, from directing ticket operations to becoming an entertainer, this sector is hugely diverse in terms of job roles. With crossovers into many other professions, jobs in the leisure, sport, and entertainment industry can suit a variety of strengths and interests. Employers are often SMEs, but opportunities are also available in local authorities, and national governing bodies.

## **Roles**

### [Leisure jobs](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/browse-sector/leisure-sport-and-tourism) can include:

* Culture and heritage (museums, galleries and heritage sites)
* Betting and gambling (casinos and horseracing)
* Leisure and entertainment (cinemas, bowling alleys, arcades, holiday/summer camps and theme parks, tour operators, tourist information centres, attractions and adventure tourism)

### Roles within Sport are equally diverse:

* [Coaching and performance analysis](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/sports-coach)
* [Sports development](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/sports-development-officer)
* [Facilities management](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/fitness-centre-manager)
* [Outdoor activities](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/outdoor-activities-education-manager)
* Sports [event management](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/event-manager)

## **Building Experience**

The sector is also highly fragmented in terms of finding vacancies and opportunities – roles in sports and entertainment are advertised in very different places and there are lots of niche websites. You may also find that if you are interested in a niche area e.g. working as an entertainer, there are relatively few formal job adverts and you will need to use networking and speculative applications to create your own opportunities and make a name for yourself.

Here in Reading we’re fortunate to have some fantastic Leisure sector employers on our doorstep. We’ve previously advertised on [MyJobsOnline](https://reading.targetconnect.net/student/login.html?remote=true) roles from [Reading Football Club](https://www.readingfc.co.uk/club/vacancies/), [Newbury Racecourse](https://newburyracecourse.co.uk/join-us/), [Go Ape!](https://goape.co.uk/inside-go-ape/go-ape-jobs), [Legoland Windsor](https://www.legoland.co.uk/jobs/), [Sony Music](https://www.sonymusic.com/careers/) and [Berkshire Youth](http://www.berkshireyouth.co.uk/get-involved/job-vacancies). When you are considering a career in this rich and diverse sector, you will often find that possessing the right blend of transferable skills will be more highly prized by employers than academic qualifications.

Employers look for a customer-focused approach, commercial awareness and business acumen, excellent communication skills, the ability to motivate others, enthusiasm, problem-solving skills, flexibility, language skills, organisational skills and teamwork. Experience can be gained from lots of different routes. For example, working part-time would provide an opportunity to develop the transferable skills that are highly valued across roles in this sector.

## **Finding Opportunities**

Check [My Jobs Online](https://reading.targetconnect.net/student/login.html?remote=true) for vacancies and visit campus career fairs and employer presentations to find out more about which employers are advertising vacancies and coming onto campus.

### Industry Jobs

[Merlin Entertainments](https://www.merlincareers.com/en/working-for-us) | [British Horseracing Graduate Development Programme](https://www.careersinracing.com/career-paths/university-graduate/) | [Parkwood Leisure](https://hr.leisurecentre.com/jobs/list)

### Further Study/Research

[University of Reading](https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/study/postgraduate-study.aspx) | [Find a Masters](https://www.findamasters.com/) | [Find a PhD](https://www.findaphd.com/)

### Graduate Jobs

[prospects](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/).ac.uk | [targetjobs](https://targetjobs.co.uk/).co.uk | [milkround](https://www.milkround.com/).com | [ratemyplacement](https://www.ratemyplacement.co.uk/).co.uk | [gradcracker](https://www.gradcracker.com/search/civil-building/environment-and-sustainability-jobs).com

## **Exploring Further**

[Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/leisure-sport-and-tourism/overview-of-the-leisure-sport-and-tourism-sector-in-the-uk) – includes an overview of the sector, graduate jobs and advice for those wanting to work in this sector

[Do-It.org](https://do-it.org/) – volunteering site with lots of entertainment and sports-related opportunities to gain experience

[Sportengland.org/careers](https://www.sportengland.org/careers/) – jobs, summer internships and sector news

[Careers-in-sport.co.uk/jobs](https://careers-in-sport.co.uk/jobs/) – jobs board for the sports sector

[Leisurejobs.com/jobs](https://www.leisurejobs.com/jobs/) – jobs in venues, sports, hospitality and careers advice

[Festaff.co.uk](https://www.festaff.co.uk/) – one of many sites offering paid work and volunteering at festivals

[Creative and Cultural Skills](https://ccskills.org.uk/careers) (ccskills.org.uk/careers) – government-backed creative and cultural careers advice site, with jobs listings

[Musicalchairs.info/jobs](https://www.musicalchairs.info/jobs) – huge job site for work in music, including for non-musicians

The skills and knowledge you’ve developed in your degree will be valuable in a wide range of roles and sectors. If you’re thinking of looking further afield but aren’t sure where to start, why not [book an appointment](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Careers/Advice-and-development/MyJobsOnline) with one of our Careers Consultants? Remember, graduates can use the Careers Centre for up to two years after they graduate.

Explore our [Careers Blog](https://blogs.reading.ac.uk/careers/) for more industry guidance and useful careers advice!