

LEISURE, SPORT AND ENTERTAINMENT

From managing an entertainment venue to coaching sports, from directing ticket operations to becoming an entertainer, this sector is huge and diverse in terms of job roles. Leisure jobs would include culture and heritage (museums, galleries and heritage sites), betting and gambling (casinos and horseracing), and 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, sports development, facilities management, sport and leisure centre management outdoor activities, sports event management and disability sport.

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.

There are relatively few graduate schemes in the sector: [Merlin Entertainments](#), [British Horseracing Graduate Development Programme](#) and [Parkwood Leisure](#) are some examples.

Here in Reading we're fortunate to have some fantastic Leisure sector employers on our doorstep. We've previously advertised on [MyJobsOnline](#) roles from [Reading Football Club](#), [Newbury Racecourse](#), [Go Ape!](#), [Legoland Windsor](#), [Sony Music](#) and [Berkshire Youth](#).

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.

Key Resources

- [Prospects.ac.uk, search Leisure, Sports and Tourism sector briefing](#) (Includes an overview of the sector, graduate jobs and advice for those wanting to work in this sector).
- [Do-It.org](#) (Volunteering site with lots of entertainment and sports-related opportunities to gain experience).
- [Sportengland.org/careers](#) (Jobs, summer internships and sector news).
- [Careers-in-sport.co.uk/jobs](#) (Jobs board for the sports sector).

- [Leisurejobs.com/jobs](https://leisurejobs.com/jobs) (Jobs in venues, sports, hospitality and careers advice).
- [Workinentertainment.com](https://workinentertainment.com) (Entertainment jobs board – music, film, TV, radio, stage, digital. Includes the Entertainment Insider blog).
- [Festaff.co.uk](https://festaff.co.uk) (One of many sites offering paid work and volunteering at festivals).
- [Creative and Cultural Skills \(ccskills.org.uk/careers\)](https://ccskills.org.uk/careers) (Government-backed creative and cultural careers advice site, with jobs listings).
- [Musicalchairs.info/jobs](https://musicalchairs.info/jobs) (Huge job site for work in music, including for non-musicians).

You may also be interested in...

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