



JOB DESCRIPTION

Bar Assistant - FRINGE 2026

JOB TITLE:	Bar Assistant
REPORTS TO:	Bar Supervisors, Bar Managers
RESPONSIBLE FOR:	N/A
LOCATION(S):	GB Fringe Venues in Edinburgh
CONTRACT:	PAYE
ENGAGEMENT PERIOD:	3 August - 31 August
RATE OF PAY:	£12.71 per hour



CONTEXT

Gilded Balloon is one of Scotland's leading producers of live comedy and entertainment. The company started in 1986 and has been producing shows and operating venues at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and year-round in Edinburgh ever since. In 2026 we will return to the festival to operate four main venue hubs: Teviot, which hosts 9 performance spaces & several bars, Patter House, which hosts 9 performance spaces alongside a bar and events space, the Auditorium in the world-renowned National Museum of Scotland, with its own bar and outdoor seating area and The Gilded Saloon, hosting 1 venue in the Gilded Saloon Basement and 1 bar upstairs. Each year our programme highlights the very best in comedy, theatre, music, drag and more attracting audiences from all over the world.

ABOUT THE ROLE

If you're a whizz behind the bar and love the arts and comedy then this is the job for you! Ideally you'll have experience working in a busy bar environment with a flair for customer service. You must be an active and enthusiastic communicator as you'll be expected to promote shows as well as offer advice and guidance on the bar menus. A big plus if you've also got your personal licence, cocktail making or barista experience! This fast-paced, public-facing position requires stamina, multitasking skills, and the ability to retain large amounts of information. As the face of the venue, excellent communication skills and a friendly demeanour are essential for interacting with the thousands of people you'll encounter daily. While capable of working independently, being a team player is a top priority.

Gilded Balloon are an equal opportunity employer and welcome applications from all sectors of the community. We expect employees to support these commitments and to assist in their realisation. If you require any assistance with your application or need the form in a different format, please contact operations@gildeballoon.co.uk.

DUTIES INCLUDE:

- The bar team are on hand to service customer's needs before and after shows – serving a variety of food and drink including cocktails and coffee
- Ensuring bars and public areas are kept clean and safe for staff and public
- Ensuring bars are fully stocked
- Adhere to health and safety guidance, as directed by supervisors
- Cash/payment handling
- Taking the initiative to anticipate audience needs and facilitating the best and safest experience
- Welcoming visitors in a polite and enthusiastic manner, always paying attention to their needs
- Supporting the day to day running of the venue, keeping areas clean and tidy, reporting any activities that may risk the safety of visitors to the supervisor team
- Helping any visitors who have specific access requirements
- Working closely with the rest of the team to support each other and create the best possible experience for artists and customers
- Engage actively with the Gilded Balloon programme, watching shows and supporting GB artists



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR...

- be enthusiastic, motivated and hardworking with a passion for the arts
- Able to work well under pressure
- Good communicator
- Excellent timekeeping skills.
- Interest in providing an excellent level of customer service
- Experience of working well in a team environment

In addition to the above, it would be nice to have...

- Experience in a customer service role at a festival or arts organisation
- Experience of waiting on tables or working behind a bar
- Demonstrated interest in the creative industries
- And of course, a sense of humour...

HOW TO APPLY...

To apply for this role, please fill out [this](#) form and select 'Bar Assistant' when asked what role you are interested in. In addition to your application, please also complete our Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form [here](#).

GENERAL RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

- All post holders will be issued a contract/agreement to sign prior to beginning work with us.
- Applicants must be 18+ and have legal right to work in the UK
- All post holders will be given training and inductions relevant to their role.
- We expect a high volume of applications for this role and advise applicants to apply sooner rather than later.
- All applicants must be free to work from 30th July-25th (depending on roles, the days prior may also be required for training)
- Interviews will take place on Zoom. We will contact you by email or phone if you are selected for an interview. Due to the high volume of applications we will unfortunately only be able to contact those selected to attend an interview.
- Interviews will be conducted online throughout May and June.
- We are unable to contribute to accommodation, living and travel expenses.
- Gilded Balloon is an equal opportunities provider and encourages applicants from diverse backgrounds. Please get in touch if you would like a copy of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.
- Hours will vary depending on the project period - usual working weeks in the annual cycle will require 35 hours per week and during the Festival Fringe build & event period it is expected that hours required will increase although not extend beyond 48 hours on average.

JOB PERKS

- Staff pass giving access to all Gilded Balloon shows free of charge (availability dependent)
- Staff parties and events
- Discounts at Gilded Balloon bars & food concessions