TANERA

MARINE SKIPPER

Job Description

REPORTS TO	Marine Operations & Compliance Lead
LOCATION	Tanera Mòr and the Summer Isles, Northwest Scotland (remote island operation)

ROLE PURPOSE

The Marine Skipper is responsible for the safe operation and presentation of company vessels, delivering a professional, safe and reliable service in a remote and exposed island environment. The role delivers:

Passenger transport · crew transfers · cargo transfers · fuel transfers · logistics operations · guest transfers · island support operations.

Marine Skippers operate a mixed fleet of small commercial vessels and are central to keeping a safe, professional and dependable service running every day.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Tanera Project is a large-scale restoration and regeneration project off the coast of the Northwest Highlands. Our enduring charitable purpose is to provide respite and short breaks for people in high-stress public service roles. We host up to 1,000 charitable guests per year, run various research projects with associated academic institutions, and have a broad and varied volunteer programme.

The marine fleet is the lifeline of The Tanera Project, providing essential connectivity between the mainland and the island and supporting day-to-day operations, project delivery, research activity and events. It is a multi-vessel, multi-class commercial operation involving passenger transport, cargo movements and fuel transfers year-round, including night operations, in a remote and exposed environment within a Marine Protected Area.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Vessel operations:** safely operate company vessels across passenger, crew, cargo and logistics movements, and fuel-transfer operations where authorised.
- **Navigation and seamanship:** voyage planning, weather assessment, local and limited-visibility navigation, tidal awareness, sound decision-making and good seamanship practice.
- **Passenger and guest experience:** professional guest interaction; safe embarkation and disembarkation; customer service and guest care; represent the organisation well.
- **Vessel care and presentation:** maintain cleanliness, presentation and readiness; carry out daily readiness checks; uphold operational standards.
- **Safety and emergency preparedness:** emergency response and passenger safety; pollution prevention and spill response; incident reporting.
- **Lugger operations:** skipper and manage the Luggers for guest, passenger and operational use, ensuring safe handling, crew coordination, daily readiness, good presentation and compliance with operating procedures.

ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCE

Candidates should demonstrate previous experience in one or more of the following:

- Commercial vessel operations.
- Passenger vessel operations.
- Crew transfer operations.
- Logistics and vessel operations.
- Commercial workboat operations.
- Landing craft operations.
- Fuel transfer operations.
- Proven track record in traditional sail handling.
- Operating vessels independently in exposed coastal waters.
- Safe passenger management.
- Weather-based operational decision making.
- Remote or challenging operational environments.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

Strong working knowledge of boat handling, seamanship, weather interpretation, tidal planning, passenger safety, marine safety and vessel care.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE

Local area knowledge · fuel-handling operations · marine logistics · commercial marine operations · guest operations · hospitality experience.

Experience conducting fuel transfer operations and handling fuel movements in accordance with company procedures is highly desirable.

QUALIFICATIONS

Essential

- RYA Advanced Powerboat.
- Commercial Endorsement.
- ML5 Medical (or equivalent commercial medical).
- VHF / SRC.
- Sea Survival.
- Elementary First Aid.
- Basic Fire Fighting.
- Demonstrable commercial experience.

Desirable

- Small Ships Navigation & Radar.
- Higher commercial qualifications.
- Passenger operations experience.

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- Remote operations experience.
- Hospitality exposure.

IDEAL CANDIDATE PROFILE

A safe, reliable and professional commercial skipper - practical, calm under pressure and service-orientated, comfortable working independently. At ease operating in challenging weather, and well suited to living and working in a remote island environment.

LOCATION AND CONDITIONS

- Northwest Scotland, remote island operation (Tanera Mòr / Summer Isles).
- Shared accommodation environment; full driving licence required, vehicle ownership advantageous.
- Year-round operations, including weekend and evening operations.

SALARY AND PACKAGE

Salary: Competitive - commensurate with experience and capability.

Accommodation may be available for the right candidate.

For enquiries about the role, please email **recruitment@taneraproject.org**

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