

the BookCellar

Come for the books, stay for the wine

BOOKSELLER

Job Description

About The Role

There's nothing better than a good book with a good glass of wine. At the BookCellar, we're building a space where that simple pleasure is at the heart of everything we do. Our booksellers are central to making that happen—creating an environment where customers want to spend time, discover new titles, and enjoy that pairing of books and wine together.

the BookCellar is an independent bookshop in Stokes Croft, Bristol — a culturally vibrant neighbourhood — where you'll work across the shop floor, serving customers, managing stock, preparing and serving food and drink, and helping to create the hospitable, community-led environment we're building. This is a retail role with real substance: you'll encounter a diverse range of people, contribute to our curation, and grow with the business if you're interested in doing so.

Day-to-Day Responsibilities

- Work on the shop floor, welcoming customers and creating a warm, engaging atmosphere
- Help customers find the right books and make recommendations based on their interests
- Manage stock, including receiving, shelving, and stock-taking
- Operate the till and handle payments
- Prepare and serve food and drink — coffee, wine, and light food — as part of our hospitality offer
- Support the book and wine pairing concept, engaging confidently with customers about matches and recommendations
- Contribute to housekeeping and maintaining a clean, well-presented shop
- Support events when needed, including book clubs, author events, and venue hire
- Fulfil online orders and support our ecommerce operation

What We're Looking For

- Genuine passion for books and knowledge across both fiction and non-fiction genres
- Comfort and confidence working in retail and hospitality environments
- Strong customer service skills and the ability to engage warmly with diverse customers
- Willingness to learn about wine, food, and the book and wine pairing concept
- Reliability and the ability to muck in with whatever needs doing
- Interest in being part of a team building something new, not just working shifts

- Food hygiene awareness or willingness to obtain a Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate

Development and Growth

We'll train you on licensing requirements, food safety, and our systems. But beyond that, if you're interested, there are real opportunities to develop: deepening your knowledge of the book trade and our suppliers, contributing to curation, supporting specific categories, getting involved in our book clubs and subscriptions, or helping with events. We're looking for people who see this as a career move and want to grow with the BookCellar as we expand. Everyone — from the owners through the team — mucks in and contributes. There's no snobbery here, and there's no hierarchy in terms of who does what needs doing on the day.

Terms and Benefits

This is an hourly role paid at the Real Living Wage. We welcome both part-time and full-time applicants. While contracts are variable hours, in practice we aim to provide regular, predictable schedules that work for you and the shop and we're open to finding the right arrangement for the right person.

- Pay: Real Living Wage per hour
- Holiday pay: 12.07% of hours worked, accrued and paid separately
- Hours: variable hours contract — part-time and full-time applicants welcome
- Pension: statutory auto-enrolment
- Staff discount: 40% on books, food, and drink

How to Apply

To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter to contact@bookcellar.uk by 3rd April 2026. We will be reviewing applications as they arrive and reserve the right to close the window early, so we'd encourage you to apply promptly.

In your cover letter, please include a recommendation for a book you have read and loved recently, not just the title, but why it moved you, stayed with you, or why you'd press it into someone's hands and, if you're feeling brave, what drink you would pair it with.