



ANIMAL PARK MANAGER

FULL-TIME – 12 month contract

Maru Koala and Animal Park

www.marukoalapark.com.au

Maru is a family run private business situated near the waterline in Grantville only 15 minutes from Phillip Island in southern Victoria and has been successfully operating for over 35 years. Maru includes the Animal Park, a mini-golf complex and the Homestead Bistro and caters to the domestic and school markets but also has a large international market. We house a range of native animals with interactive opportunities and a range of daily keeper presentations.

We have won many business awards and are seen as a leading tourism attraction in our region and can offer a friendly and supportive work environment where you will be working directly with the owners. We are an accredited ZAA member and Quality Tourism Accredited Business.

We are seeking a full-time Park Manager to shape and direct the future growth and enhancement of the Animal Park section of the business, as part of our overall continual growth business plan. As a key part of our management team we want to see you use your depth of knowledge and experience to really drive the animal park to meet future animal welfare, visitor and business expectations.

You will be expected to confidently lead our team of keepers and park volunteers and work closely with the owners to provide analysis, input and inspiration into further developing the business. The Park Manger will be responsible for both overseeing and actively participating as needed in the husbandry and welfare of all animals and the efficient and smooth operation of the animal park to a very high standard. Time will be spent on management, HR and project tasks in the office but still involve some active hands on work to enable the progression of the keeper team and to mentor our Head Keeper. We have funds allocated to improve all aspects of our business and you should be experienced working with a budget and meeting project deadlines. A fixed 12 month contract is being offered now but this may be reviewed and extended by mutual agreement if appropriate at the end of this contract period.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

The right applicant will be able to demonstrate proven experience and skills in the following areas:

- at least 5 years working in the zoo industry
- considerable management and team leading experience
- relevant study, qualifications and sound knowledge base



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- the confidence to lead, mentor and inspire our Head Keeper and team of keepers by maintaining a positive work environment and continual knowledge growth and improvement
- excellent time management and multi-tasking skills
- excellent verbal and written communication skills including the use of computers and online records using Microsoft Office applications
- public speaking and presentation skills and a genuine desire to enhance visitor engagement
- the ability to formulate, implement, analyse and update key policies and procedures
- an eye for detail and a professional attitude
- Drivers licence, First Aid certificate
- a confident, positive and outgoing nature

DESIRED EXPERIENCE and SKILLS:

- proven experience with a broad range of native animals, especially koala and reptile husbandry
- general Human Resource management experience including interviewing, training, creating rosters and conducting performance reviews
- a passion to continually further your own skills and knowledge by staying informed about current animal welfare, husbandry and conservation matters
- knowledge in creating and delivering educational programs for schools, keeper presentation and mobile displays that meet specific needs
- knowledge of current animal welfare and conservation laws, regulations, codes, best practises and an understanding of visitor expectations around animal welfare
- an understanding of the ZAA accreditation process and CPOS records
- strong industry contacts to assist in fulfilling the Curator role and acquiring new species and animals

We are seeking only strong, experienced applicants who have a depth of knowledge and passion that will assist us to strengthen and grow our business. We are offering a wage package for this position that will be negotiated to reflect the amount of experience and knowledge you can bring to Maru.

Apply in writing to

‘The Manager’ via vacancy@marukoalapark.com.au with your cover letter, full CV and references. Applications close 16th July 2023.

For any questions or further enquiries please contact General Manager Neroli Heffer via neroli@marukoalapark.com.au

