

Why work in the Scottish food and drink industry?



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SCOTLAND
FOOD & DRINK
PARTNERSHIP

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There are many exciting reasons to work in food and drink. For a start, there's a huge choice of career paths.

Whether you're a scientist or ideas person, great at fixing things or better at selling or planning, a career in food and drink lets you **be whatever you want to be**. Particularly since the sector is changing fast, and new opportunities are always opening up.

Even if you're not quite sure what you want to be yet, we can help you find the right thing, teach you skills and offer you experience.

You can work close to home or travel the world. Find a job straight from school, college or uni, or come to us for a career change. Work outdoors or build a business empire.

You can also **be part of something great**.

That's because when it comes to food and drink, Scotland cooks up a feast. Food and drink is one of our best-performing sectors and we export our whisky, seafood, meat, baking and other produce to over 105 countries.

We're also doing world-class work around food and drink ideas and innovation, and new trends, how we manage the environment, health and wellbeing, and convenience. That's something to be proud of and it's also leading to great career and progression opportunities.

With a career in food and drink, you can also **feel good about your future**.

Whatever the uncertainties about the years ahead, people will always want to eat and drink – and to eat and drink well. There'll always be careers to get your teeth into.

And there'll be career progression too, because you'll have opportunities to train and learn new skills (including great apprenticeship schemes). In addition, change in the sector is increasing the need for skilled people.

Which means that whatever level you start at, you'll be able to **go further**. Just take a look at our case studies, job descriptions and info about apprenticeships and progression routes.

There's one more reason why food and drink careers are the pick of the crop. You can **enjoy yourself**.

Sure, it's hard work. It's a busy, creative sector which doesn't sit still. But that keeps things rewarding. There's always space for people with cracking ideas, and we like to have a good time.

Like we said at the start, there are so many reasons to work in food and drink.

Want to know more? Read on...

Why work in the Scottish food and drink industry?

We all interact with food and drink every day and it's a huge part of all of our lives. But we don't always give it much thought as we take it for granted and expect to have safe and nutritious food whenever we want it.

Do you know how important food and drink is to Scotland and to the people who live here? We have put together a few fascinating facts to let you see how vast and diverse the Scottish food and drink industry is and how many potential careers and opportunities it offers.

Be whatever you want to be

- The Scotland food and drink sector needs around **41,900 new recruits by 2029**, spread across a huge range of different jobs.
- You could help design the factory of the future, or invent a best-selling snack. Work with animals or aim for the boardroom. Take a look at our food and drink jobs map to find out the different places you could work and jobs you could do.

Be part of something great

Anywhere you go in the world, people are likely to rate Scottish seafood, whisky and other drinks, meat, shortbread, soft fruits or other produce. That's really something to be proud of.

- Did you know Scotch whisky exports earned **£139 every second** in 2017?
- Scotch Whisky is the **UK's top** food and drink export.
- Scotland has over 160 brewers and over 100 gin brands.

Feel good about your future

- Did you know food and drink is Scotland's largest manufacturing sector?
- There's a plan in place to **double** the value of Scottish food and drink turnover to **£30bn by 2030**.
- Scotland's food and drink sector is firmly focused on the future. We're doing world-class research in food security, biodiversity, climate change and healthier food choices.
- Trends in food and drink like digital technology, health and wellbeing and the rise of people living alone are opening up fantastic job opportunities. New product development, like development of healthy convenience food for single households, digital marketing and robotics are all in high demand as is the need for higher level skills.

Go further

- Many parts of food and drink, from brewing to seafood, have launched their own strategies for growth. These will open up new opportunities for skills development and job progression.