



We're hiring!



Position: Head Gardener (80-100%)

Onboarding from March/April 2021 to ensure smooth handover from current head gardeners Michel & Sina. You'll be in charge from 1st May 2021 onwards!

Which?Garden (www.whichgarden.org) is located in the park of Château de Fougerette, which is home to the #TransitionCastle (www.transitioncastle.org) initiative.

We grow organic & happy vegetables both for sale and for the castle team and castle events (with guest numbers ranging from 30 to 500+ people). The garden runs a veggie shop, delivers to local organic supermarkets, participates in selected local markets, and offers customers the option of ordering a weekly veggie box.

Type of garden:

- 0.6 ha of organic permaculture market garden which applies the principles of agroforestry and syntropic agriculture;
- The garden includes a tunnel (serre), medicinal plants and some fruit trees;
- In 2021, we will add a plant & tree nursery to the mix (run independently by an experienced professional) and focus on better composting. Barbara who is already signed on as a gardener for 2021 will be taking the compost project under her wing.



Aerial view dating from 2018, which shows the garden's cell structure.

Job Description:

An experienced permaculture market gardener with good planning & management skills who is familiar with the challenges of running a project of that size. As head gardener your tasks include, but are not limited to:

- crop planning;
- planting & harvesting;
- supervision of & involvement in daily garden care – we need you to be hands on!;
- shop management and vegetable sales (incl. pricing, deliveries, veggie box subscriptions & product development in cooperation with the castle kitchen);
- team management;
- garden tours for interested groups (only with prior booking).



What we're looking for:

An open-minded, mature personality with a sense of humour and good communication skills. We aim to inspire customers & visitors to think about their choices, not lecturing them (hence the name "Which?" garden ☺). The team includes 1-2 other gardeners who are permanently on site as well as 1-2 trainees (usually staying for 2-4 weeks). You will also closely collaborate with the castle kitchen for menu planning and product development (herb salt, preserves, dips etc.).

Language skills:

Fluency in French and English, both written and spoken. Additional language skills e.g.

Dutch or German would be beneficial but are not required.

We offer you:

- The opportunity to
 - shape Which?Garden as part of the #TransitionCastle initiative
 - engage the local community and visitors in an ongoing dialogue about transition
 - implement #climatefarming & contribute towards the efforts to mitigate climate change;
- Be part of a fun team with a diverse background where everyone supports and learns from each other;
- The freedom to also experiment – while the garden has to make money it is not a 100% commercial project;
- Beautiful surroundings in a 20ha park full of majestic old oak trees!



Terms:

- Full-time position from **1st March to 31st October 2021** (100% penum = 38 hours per week). Seasonal contract **to be renewed in 2022** as we aim to build a long-time work relationship.
- Employment & paycheck via CESU <https://www.cesu.urssaf.fr/>; the salary corresponds to local French conditions.
- Possibility to rent a room at Château de Fougerette and join castle community life around the clock.
- Position includes free annual membership with Fou de Fougerette, association loi 1901 for additional basic insurance cover.

Applications:

If you are a seasoned permaculture market gardener, fluent in French & English and have managed a comparable project, we very much look forward to hearing from you!

Please send your application including references to:

Monika Siegenthaler
contact@fougerette.org



Part of the 2020 team in front of the tool shed:
Michel, Vika, Sina (with Rowan), Brigitte, Arjen & Bush (Sina & Mish's dog)