

-An interview with a Beefeater-

By Konstantina Shakespeare, Anastasia Spencer, Theodora Watson

(b)LON(g)DONER: Hello everyone! Today, we are having with us an experienced Beefeater from the Tower of London.

Beefeater: Hello! I am very happy to be here with you!

(b)LON(g)DONER: Can you tell us about your background and how you decided to become a Beefeater?

Beefeater: I had served in the British Armed Forces for over 25 years. Then, I was selected to become a Yeoman Warder. I really liked the idea and I was very proud of myself. The selection is pretty competitive and it is necessary to have a good service record, along with a certain rank.

(b)LON(g)DONER: What is the origin of the name "Beefeater"?

Beefeater: There are plenty theories about the name "Beefeater." The most famous theory is that it derives from the daily ration of beef that Beefeaters used to receive as part of their payment.

(b)LON(g)DONER: Have you dealt with any challenges during your time in this role, and how did you overcome them?

Beefeater: One difficulty during high tourist seasons can be handling large groups of people while securing that everyone gets a delightful experience. We have learned to be adaptable and maintain enthusiasm, even during hectic times.

(b)LON(g)DONER: What personal qualities do you think are essential for someone in your position?

Beefeater: Strong communication skills, a passion for history, and a friendly demeanor are crucial. It is important to engage with diverse groups of people and make history accessible and exciting.

(b)LON(g)DONER: What do you see as the future of the Yeoman Warders and the Tower of London?

Beefeater: I hope that Beefeaters will continue to keep our roles as defenders, adapting to modern educational practices while preserving the traditions that define us.

(b)LON(g)DONER: That's a truly inspiring vision. Thank you so much for sharing your journey and insights with us today!

Beefeater: It was my pleasure. I hope more people will be inspired to explore history and maybe even consider this unique path. And of course—don't forget to visit the Tower!

