



STAFFING YOUR SUMMER ESTATE

The Hamptons Employment Agency Helps

The right domestic staff can make all the difference for your summer in Hamptons, and those in the know look to the Hamptons Employment Agency (HEA). With offices in Manhattan, Southampton and Boca Raton, HEA is widely regarded as a leader in pairing domestic professionals with discriminating employers.

AVENUE magazine recently sat down with Aleksandra Kardwell, founder and president of the Hamptons Employment Agency, to learn more about what it takes to staff an active Hamptons summer estate most successfully.

Tell us about how you have helped clients with large residences meet their summer staffing needs.

I'd be happy to. To give a specific example, one of our largest clients is a highly social business leader who likes providing an amazing experience for his guests at his summer residence in the Hamptons. Each week, from Thursday through Monday, we provide a staff of approximately 30 domestic professionals. Throughout the summer, we work closely with the house manager to make staff adjustments for holiday weekends and other special events.

Tell us more about the type of staff required, service needed and entertainment provided.

For the client I just mentioned, the staff includes chefs, servers and bartenders, housemen, housekeepers and others. All staff members wear daytime as well as evening uniforms. Service on a par with that of a five-star hotel is required. Weekly entertainment, some of which we provide as well, includes comedians, magicians, and a Michelin-starred guest chef.

What advice would you give to someone with a Hamptons residence who is looking to hire a team of domestics for the summer?

For all domestic employers, it is important to think through which and how many professionals are required, and this is something that we often help our clients do. In addition, the most critical aspect of any placement is that the right match occurs. It's great when a client is specific in describing what they are seeking, as we are then best able to identify the right candidates for that client's particular needs and preferences. I would also recommend to any client—and particularly one with a large estate—to start the search for domestic help early, perhaps at the beginning of February, since many great professionals commit to positions early in the summer season. ♦

For more information, call the Hamptons Employment Agency at 631.204.1100, 212.521.4373 or 561.962.4188, or visit their website at hamptonsemployment.com.