

Private Household Staff Salary Guide 2025/26

This guide compares live-in and live-out salaries for private household staff across the UK, Middle East, Europe, and USA. Figures represent typical ranges for high-net-worth (HNW) and ultra-high-net-worth (UHNW) households as of 2025/26. Actual salaries vary based on duties, experience, hours, and included benefits (accommodation, meals, flights, insurance).

UK Salary Comparison (London, Home Counties, Cotswolds)

Role	London (live-in)	London (live-out)	Home Counties (live-in)	Home Counties (live-out)	Cotswolds (live-in)	Cotswolds (live-out)
Housekeeper	£35,000–£50,000	£40,000–£60,000	£30,000–£45,000	£35,000–£50,000	£30,000–£45,000	£34,000–£50,000
Butler	£45,000–£70,000	£55,000–£85,000	£40,000–£65,000	£45,000–£75,000	£40,000–£60,000	£45,000–£70,000
Estate/House Manager	£80,000–£150,000+	£90,000–£160,000+	£60,000–£95,000	£65,000–£110,000	£60,000–£95,000	£65,000–£110,000
Private Chef	£55,000–£95,000	£60,000–£110,000	£50,000–£80,000	£55,000–£90,000	£48,000–£75,000	£50,000–£80,000
Nanny/Governess	£32,000–£60,000	£40,000–£70,000	£30,000–£55,000	£35,000–£60,000	£30,000–£50,000	£34,000–£55,000

International Salary Comparison (Middle East, Europe, USA)

Role	Middle East (live-in)	Middle East (live-out)	Europe (live-in)	Europe (live-out)	USA (live-in)	USA (live-out)
Housekeeper	AED 12k–20k/month + accom (~£30k–£50k eqv.)	AED 18k–25k/month (~£45k–£63k)	€35,000–€60,000	€40,000–€70,000	US\$45,000–\$80,000	US\$55,000–\$100,000
Butler	AED 20k–35k/month + accom (~£55k–£90k eqv.)	AED 30k–40k/month (~£75k–£100k)	€40,000–€85,000	€45,000–€100,000	US\$70,000–\$150,000	US\$80,000–\$180,000
Estate/House Manager	AED 300k–450k p.a. tax-free + housing	AED 350k–500k p.a.	€70,000–€150,000	€80,000–€180,000	US\$130,000–\$300,000	US\$150,000–\$350,000+
Private Chef	AED 25k–40k/month + accom	AED 35k–45k/month	€45,000–€90,000	€50,000–€100,000	US\$90,000–\$200,000	US\$100,000–\$250,000
Nanny/Governess	AED 8k–20k/month + accom (~£20k–£50k eqv.)	AED 12k–25k/month (~£30k–£60k)	€30,000–€60,000	€35,000–€70,000	US\$50,000–\$100,000	US\$60,000–\$120,000

Summary and Observations

- Live-in roles usually include accommodation, meals, and utilities (estimated value £10,000–£30,000 per annum depending on quality and location).
- Live-out salaries are higher in cash terms to offset personal housing costs.
- In the Middle East, salaries are often tax-free with generous benefits (housing, flights, insurance).
- In Europe, salaries vary by country; Switzerland and Monaco command the highest levels due to cost of living.

- In the USA, total compensation can include healthcare, bonuses, and 401(k) matching for senior roles.