Student Life in London and the UK

Tips and useful websites for foreign students who want to study in the UK
Student life in London and the UK

Planning to live in a different city or country for a short or long period of time can be stressful. The information below will help you find out more about living and studying in the UK, and provide useful advice to plan your trip and manage your stay in London after you arrive.

Before you Arrive

Before you travel to the UK, visit the British Council website below for useful information about living and studying in the UK. The 'First Steps' guide in the publications section is particularly useful.

Please see British Council pre-departure information

Cost of Living

Do you want to know how much things cost in London?

Visit the Numbeo website to see average prices of restaurants, supermarkets, travel etc. in London.
Travel

Travel in London:

Transport for London ticket information:
www.tfl.gov.uk/tickets/default.aspx

On this website you will find information about Oyster cards and fares (prices) of travel in London. If you plan to travel a lot, you should buy a weekly or monthly travel card.

If you are studying on a full-time course for more than 14 weeks, you can apply for a student Oyster card and get a 30% discount.

TFL Journey Planner: journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk

Use this website to plan your journeys in London by Underground, trains, bus or walking.


Interactive London Map: www.mylondonmap.com

Travel around the UK:

The Train Line: www.thetrainline.com

Use this website to book train (not Underground) tickets around the UK.

National Express: www.nationalexpress.com or Megabus: uk.megabus.com

Use these websites to book coach tickets around the UK (coach tickets are usually cheaper than train tickets but the journeys are longer).
British Culture

British Culture and Manners: www.ukstudentlife.com

Project Britain: www.projectbritain.com

On this website you will find a lot of information about British culture, etiquette, daily life, unusual traditions, the royal family and much more!

The Weather

BBC Weather: www.bbc.co.uk/weather/

Met Office: www.metoffice.gov.uk

What's on in London

Time Out London: www.timeout.com/london

Visit London: www.visitlondon.com

View London: www.viewlondon.co.uk

Don't forget to also check Bloomsbury International's social programme!

We run a variety of interesting and fun trips every week.
Other Useful Websites

Visit Britain: www.visitbritain.com
– Official Tourist Office site with information about the UK

UK Visas: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk
– Information on visa requirements in the UK

UK Cisa: www.ukcisa.org.uk
– Advice for international students

BBC News: www.bbc.co.uk/news/
– News updates in the UK and around the world

NHS Direct: www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk
– Health and medical Care

Gumtree: www.gumtree.com
– A useful advertisement site for flatshares, jobs, buying/selling things, etc. in London

UK Student Life: www.ukstudentlife.com
– 800 pages of detailed and well organised information for students coming to study English in Britain

LLGS: www.llgs.org.uk
– National Gay and Lesbian switchboard