

## **ARRIVAL - LONDON Spring 2014**

### **Quarter and Semester Students**

There are no group flights.

Students arriving between **9am and 5pm** on **26<sup>th</sup> March** should check in at the ACCENT London Study Center, 12 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JA.

ACCENT staff will be waiting to welcome students and direct them to their housing.

Students arriving **after 5pm** should collect their keys and welcome packet from the Acorn office at **19 Bedford Place**, London, WC1B 5JA.

Please note that the official check-in into housing is at 2pm so you may not be able to access your apartment before this time.

## **Transportation Information**

### **HEATHROW:**

#### **From Heathrow Airport by Train (The Heathrow Express)**

The quickest route into London is on the Heathrow Express. It departs every 15 minutes from the airport (after you exit customs, follow signs to the Heathrow Express), and the journey into Paddington Station takes only 15 minutes. The first train is at 5:12 am and the last train is at 11:48 pm. A one-way ticket costs £20. After arrival at Paddington a taxi to your housing will be around £20.

#### **From Heathrow Airport by Underground (Tube)**

Follow the signs to the 'Underground'. You must purchase your ticket before you get on the train, and the one-way fare is £5.50. Take the Piccadilly line eastbound to Russell Square which is a 5 minute walk to the ACCENT London Study Centre

#### **From Heathrow Airport by Mini-cab**

A very convenient option is to take a pre-booked mini-cab from the airport. This is a good option if you are travelling with at least one other person. You can book mini-cabs in advance, or you can call after clearing customs. If you call from the airport, you may have to wait 30 mins or more depending on the time of day. The following service is recommended: Expressways: (+44) 8456 121212 or online [expressways.co.uk](http://expressways.co.uk). Ask for a car to pick you up at the terminal (you will need to know the terminal number). Be sure to confirm the fare before you get into the cab, as the fare is fixed. Expressways will charge approximately £40-60 for 1-4 passengers and £55-80 for a van for 5 or more passengers (the fare can be more if your flight is delayed or you take more than normal time to go through immigration and customs).

#### **Black Cabs**

Black cab taxis are very expensive from the airport, from around £70 depending on traffic. You should **not** use other cab companies that try to obtain your business at the airport. The only cab, which can be hailed on the street, is the black cab.

## **GATWICK:**

### **From Gatwick Airport by Train**

After you exit customs, look for signs to the 'Trains'. Purchase a ticket for the Gatwick Express to Victoria station (online: [gatwickexpress.com](http://gatwickexpress.com)). The journey takes 35 minutes and costs £19.90. Trains depart every 15 minutes during the day until 12.35am. A taxi from Victoria station will cost approximately £20.

## ***FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE ALREADY IN EUROPE***

## **STANSTED:**

### **From Stansted Airport by Train**

The Stansted Airport rail station is directly below the terminal building. Tickets can be bought in advance or at the station. The Stansted Express runs every 15 minutes and reaches London Liverpool Street in 45 minutes. A single fare is £23.40. From Liverpool Street a taxi is £20.

### **From Stansted Airport by Coach:**

A number of inexpensive coach services also operate to and from the airport.

For all transport options please visit the following link:  
[www.stanstedairport.com](http://www.stanstedairport.com)

## **LUTON:**

### **From Luton Airport by Train**

A shuttle bus service connects the Airport to Luton Airport Parkway Station. The service runs every ten minutes between 05:00 and midnight. From Luton Parkway take the train to London St Pancras. Single fare is £13.  
[www.london-luton.co.uk](http://www.london-luton.co.uk)

### **From Paris by Eurostar**

The Eurostar terminates at London St Pancras International Station.

## **Luggage**

Every year many students seem surprised at how far and how many times they have to move and carry their suitcases.

Students should expect to have to lift and carry their bags, especially if using the underground (tube) where lifts and escalators are not always available. You must be able to carry all of your luggage up and down stairs.

## **London Orientation Agenda**

Please note that all parts of the orientation as listed below are **mandatory**.

**26<sup>th</sup> March**

Arrive and settle into your flats, at 5pm ACCENT staff will take you on a walking tour of the local area to include transport and food shopping.

**27<sup>th</sup> March**

- 10.00am Meet ACCENT staff outside your flats and travel to the ACCENT study centre.
- 10.30am Orientation, a practical introduction to London
- 12.00am Academic Orientation
- 3.00pm Welcome Reception with ACCENT staff

We hope you will find the above information useful. Should you need more information about preparing for your time in the UK, or if you have any further questions about the orientation program, please do not hesitate to contact us directly by email at [ukcontact@accentintl.com](mailto:ukcontact@accentintl.com).

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