

ARRIVAL/ORIENTATION INSTRUCTIONS for UC CENTER LONDON FALL

There are NO group flights.

Arrival Date: Students **MUST** arrive at 19B Bedford Place in London (the housing property management office) on the “EAP Official Start Date” of Wednesday, August 21. The best time to arrive is between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. If delayed, this office is open 24/7. Do **NOT** go to the UCEAP Study Center office at 9 Bedford Place or to the ACCENT office at 12 Bedford Place.

Upon arrival at 19B Bedford Place, students will receive a welcome pack including keys to their apartments. You will then walk to your nearby housing to drop off your luggage. Guided walking tours begin on the hour at 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00 in front of the apartments.

Please note that the official housing check-in time begins at 2:00 pm on the Official Start Date. However, if apartments are available before 2:00 pm you will be able to move in before this time.

Transportation Information

Below is a list of different means of local transportation from London’s major airports to the ACCENT office. Please see the note about luggage if using the tube. *Prices will be slightly higher than noted below.*

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 £16.50. You may book online at www.heathrowexpress.com or at the station at the airport. On arrival at Paddington, take a taxi to the ACCENT Office for approximately £12-£15. Alternatively, students could take the Bakerloo underground line southbound from Paddington to Oxford Circus, then change and take the Central line eastbound to Tottenham Court Road. The tube fare would be £4.50. Then follow the directions below to the ACCENT office from the Tottenham Court Road station.

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 £4.50. Take the Piccadilly line eastbound to Leicester Square. Change at Leicester Square to the Northern line northbound and go one stop to Tottenham Court Road. Follow the directions below to the ACCENT office from Tottenham Court Road station. Alternatively, you can take the Piccadilly line eastbound directly to Holborn station and then take a taxi to the ACCENT office. The ride is short and costs approximately £10.

From Heathrow Airport by Mini-cab

A very convenient, but much more expensive 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 minutes or more depending on the time of day. The following service is recommended: Expressways: (+44) 8456 121212 or online 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 - approximately £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). The one-way is £16.90 and the journey takes 35 minutes. Trains depart every 15 minutes during the day until 12.35 am. From Victoria station, you can either take a taxi or take the tube to Tottenham Court Road station. A taxi from Victoria station will cost approximately £10-£15. If you decide to take the tube, follow the signs in the station to the 'Underground'. Take the Victoria line, northbound to Oxford Circus station. Change at Oxford Circus to the eastbound Central line and go one stop to Tottenham Court Road. Follow the directions below to the ACCENT office from the Tottenham Court Road station.

FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE ALREADY IN EUROPE

STANSTEAD

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 £20. From Liverpool Street take the Central tube line to Tottenham Court Road tube station. Follow the directions below to the ACCENT office from Tottenham Court Road station.

From Stansted Airport by Coach (Bus)

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

For all transport options please visit the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/4ddn73>

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 5 am and midnight. Rail passengers will be able to purchase tickets to London Luton Airport. Passengers arriving at the airport or at the station without purchasing a rail ticket will pay a bus fare of £1.50 single. From Airport parkway take the train to London St Pancras. Single fare is £12.50. From London St Pancras take the Victoria line to Euston and then change onto the Northern line to Tottenham Court Road. Follow the directions below to the ACCENT office from Tottenham Court Road station.

<http://www.london-luton.co.uk/en/content/2/122/by-rail.html>

From Paris by Eurostar

The Eurostar terminates at London St Pancras International Station. From London St Pancras take the Victoria line to Euston and then change onto the Northern line to Tottenham Court Road. Follow the directions below to the ACCENT office from the Tottenham Court Road station.

www.eurostar.com

LUGGAGE

Every year many students seem surprised at how far and how many times they have to move and carry their suitcases. The housing and ACCENT Study Center do not have elevators so it is advisable to travel as lightly as possible.

Students should be prepared to carry their luggage up several flights of stairs. Although suitcases with wheels work well on the smooth surfaces of a shopping mall, on the uneven surfaces of London streets (and elsewhere) they are often a hindrance. Students should expect to have to lift and carry their bags if using the underground (tube) too. Lifts and escalators are not always available at each stop. It is also worth noting that many students do tell us that they wished they'd brought FEWER belongings with them, and that they buy more clothes and belongings than they expected to while on their semester abroad (bargains are available here if you look hard enough, contrary to belief). If you do not want to buy clothing or other items while you are here in the UK, you will just need to be selective when packing.

Please also note the apartments have limited wardrobe space.

Mandatory Orientation Note:

Please note that all parts of the orientation as listed below are mandatory. A Welcome Reception will take place on Wednesday, August 21 at 6:00 pm. Other events on August 22 and 23 include practical and important information on living in London, class enrollment, Cream Tea at the British Museum, coach (bus) tour of the city, and other events.

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. We will send you a series of newsletters about housing, academics, budgets, etc. from June onwards which we hope will help you with your planning.

We look forward to welcoming you in August!

ACCENT International
12 Bedford Place
London WC1B 3JA
UK
Website www.accentintl.com
Email ukcontact@accentintl.com

Print this document and carry it in your hand-luggage.