Your accommodation in London

Living in London is exciting but can be hard to organise from abroad if you do not have relatives or friends here.
South Thames College does not have its own hostels or residences. However, the College offers an accommodation service with its cooperation partners to ease your move to the UK. You will find details of the accommodation options in this information leaflet.
Once you have decided which accommodation you prefer, send your accommodation booking form to the college with the necessary payment and the acceptance documents for your course.
When you book your accommodation you can also arrange air-port pick up to start your first day in the UK trouble-free.

If you want to arrange accommodation yourself, you can check here:

www.host-guest.co.uk

www.britanniatravel.com

www.london-hostels.co.uk

www.gumtree.co.uk

www.spareroom.co.uk

www.intolondon.com/room-to-rent

http://uk.easyroommate.com/

Good to know

- Accommodation arranged via one of the college's partners is convenient for travel to the College, usually 30 - 45 minutes by bus, train, underground or on foot, but up to 1 hour is possible
- Minimum booking period is four weeks (in summer: three weeks)
- A booking fee of £50 plus two weeks rent deposit and the first four weeks of rent have to be paid in advance before we can confirm your accommodation
- We will only book and confirm the details of your accommodation for you when you confirm to us that you have got your student visa and the details of your arrival in London. This should be at least five working days before you fly to London.
- Prices include "utilities" – electricity, gas, water and local (council) tax – and cover heating & hot water.
- Please refer to our accommodation terms & conditions for further details

Homestay

A great way to learn about the culture of the UK is to stay in a private home. Our home stay providers are all carefully selected and checked by our partner agency and are English-speakers, but they include a range of backgrounds and cultures and ages. Normally you will have a key to the front door.

Facilities & Cleaning

You will have a single room in a property with the home stay provider. Most home stay providers do not allow smoking in the home. Your room will be cleaned and your bed linen and towels changed once a week. Laundry / clothes washing facilities will be usually available at least weekly. Bathroom facilities will be available daily.

Meals

Home stay is usually Bed & Breakfast but Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal is sometimes possible. Most home stay provides a modern-style uncooked breakfast; some offer a cooked "English" breakfast. The evening meal is a cooked meal and typically consists of meat or fish, vegetables and pasta or rice. The meals are usually eaten with the host. You can use the kitchen to make hot drinks or reheat simple snacks.

Home stay weekly prices 2011

Bed & Breakfast, single room	£128 per person
Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal, single room	£158 per person
Summer supplement	add extra £15 per person per week
Christmas / New Year Supplement	add extra £30 per person per week
Private Bathroom Supplement	add extra £45 per person per week

Flat share

In the UK, the word "flat" is generally used for apartment. You will have your own key to the property and you need to bring towels and bed linen.

Our independent flat share option is for mature students. Residents are fully independent and rooms are simply furnished. You will share the kitchen, lounge and bathroom with other students.

Supervised flat share/ Student house

Our supervised flat share is a good alternative to expensive London hostels or homestay. The landlord lives either with you in the same property or nearby. You will share the kitchen, lounge and bathroom with other students.

Facilities & cleaning

All rooms have shared kitchen and bathroom and are non-smoking. Apartments are simply furnished, have timed central heating and constant hot water and normally a washing machine. Students are responsible for keeping their bedroom and the apartment clean and tidy.

Bedding and towels are provided in the Supervised Flat Share and will be changed weekly.
You will have to bring your own bedding and towels if you book an Independent Budget Flat Share.

Meals

You will cook your own meals – all utensils and equipment are provided.

Flat Share Weekly Prices 2011

Independent Budget Flat Share - single room	£90 per person
Independent Budget Flat Share - twin room (only available for couples)	£70 per person
Supervised Flat Share – single room*	£143 per person
Supervised Flat Share – twin room (only available for couples)*	£115 per person
*Summer supplement	add extra £15 per person per week
*Christmas / New Year Supplement	add extra £30 per person per week

Airport pick-up

We can arrange for a driver and car to meet you at one of London's international airports. You can book your air-port pick up with the accommodation booking. Payment and booking is due at least 5 working days prior to your arrival.

Cost

- £70 for Heathrow
- £90 for Gatwick
- £95 for Stansted

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