



Travel Guide and Activities



Useful Information

Climate

Bristol experiences a temperate maritime climate, characterised by mild winters and cool summers. Rainfall is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, so it is wise to carry an umbrella no matter the season.

Money

The currency used in Bristol, as in the rest of the United Kingdom, is the British Pound Sterling (£). You can change money and traveller's cheques at the post office or banks in Broadmead. There are several banks (Lloyds, HSBC, NatWest and Barclays) where they can withdraw money from as well as ATMs (cashpoint machines) in local supermarkets close to the school.

Telephone Country Code

The telephone country code for the United Kingdom, including Bristol, is +44.

Electricity

230 V; 50Hz – 3-pin plug Travel adaptors can be purchased at the school reception.

Tap water

Tap water in Bristol is generally safe to drink, unless there's a sign to the contrary (eg on trains), as it meets all health standards set by UK regulations.

Bristol

Must-See Sights and Travel Essentials

Bristol is a vibrant city known for its rich maritime history, architecture, and lively arts scene. Known as the birthplace of famous engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Bristol boasts iconic structures such as the Clifton Suspension Bridge and the SS Great Britain. The city is also celebrated for its diverse cultural offerings, including street art by Banksy, a thriving music scene, and numerous festivals throughout the year.

[Check out the Monthly Activities Calendar](#)

5 Things to Do

- Visit the iconic Clifton Suspension Bridge
- Explore the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery
- Take a walking tour of street art
- Relax at Brandon Hill Park
- Take a harbour boat tour



Transportation Bus Service

Transportation in Bristol includes an extensive network of buses, trains, and cycling routes.

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Bristol has several roads with cycle lanes and many people cycle to work regularly. Should you wish to hire or even purchase a bike there are several cycle shops in Bristol. If you do hire or purchase a bike then make sure that you secure it with a bicycle lock. Also make sure you have lights on your bike as it is a finable offence if you are caught by the police cycling without lights. We also advise that you cycle with a helmet and reflective straps on your arms and legs for your safety.

Public Transport Info

Bristol boasts an efficient and extensive bus service network. Some routes also operate night buses. Tickets for buses may be purchased from the bus drivers on boarding the bus or you may wish to purchase a pass in advance. Bus passes are available from Reception. Bus tickets are as follows:

Single tickets: £1.50 – £2.00 (on the app or on the bus).

Day tickets: £4.50 – £6.00 for unlimited journeys for one day (on the app or on the bus).

Weekly bus pass: Bristol Zone £17.70 – £23.50 (on the app or from EC).

Monthly bus pass: Bristol Zone £62.90 – £83.80.

* With an EC Student ID Card. Please note that these rates are subject to changes and not applicable to night buses so please consult reception on arrival. Bus route maps are available from reception and there are various bus routes passing close to the school. If in doubt ask the bus driver to tell you when the bus is about to arrive at the bus stop you wish to get off at. We recommend using www.travelinesw.com for bus timetables and directions. There is also a downloadable app for smartphones.

[You may download the FirstBus App here.](#)

Useful Links

[What's On](#)

[Events](#)

[Leisure Centre](#)

[Weather in Bristol](#)

Legal Driving Age

The legal driving age in the UK is 17 years old. Most car hire companies require that you be at least 21 years old and have an international or European driving licence.

Alcohol Age

The legal age for purchasing alcohol in the UK is 18. Proof of age may be required, so it's advisable to carry an identification card if you plan to buy alcoholic beverages.

Smoking Laws

Smoking is prohibited in enclosed public spaces and workplaces in the UK. This

British Public Holidays

Public holidays falling on a weekday

2026: 01 Jan, 03 Apr, 06 Apr, 04 May, 25 May, 31 Aug, 25 Dec, 28 Dec

Visa Requirements

Students must have adequate health, accident and travel insurance while attending any of our programmes.

[Visa Requirements](#)

Cost of Living

Bottle of water / soda (0.33 litre)
£0.50-£1.00

Coffee/Cappuccino (Starbucks)
£2.40 – £3.30

Fast-Food combo meal
£3.15-£5.15

Meal, inexpensive restaurant
£8.00 – £15.00

Fitness club (monthly, 1 adult)
£17.00-£50.00

Public transport (local transport)
A single ticket in Bristol is currently
£1.50 (student) to £2.00 (adult)
Public transport (monthly pass)
£62.90 – £83.80

includes restaurants, bars, and public transport.

Insurance

Students must have adequate health, accident and travel insurance while attending any of our programmes.

