



CHOOSING YOUR ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMODATION



There are several types of accommodation available to you throughout your time at university –we will start with the main categories, then take a look at the specifics of the large category that is halls of residence.

UNIVERSITY-OWNED HALLS OF RESIDENCE



This accommodation is owned by the university or course provider - they usually accommodate a large number of students. There will typically be a shared kitchen facility, with individual rooms located along a corridor. Bathrooms can be en-suite or shared, depending on the individual halls of residence. This is a popular option for first-year students, as it provides a great opportunity to meet new people. You will need to apply for this type of accommodation via the university website –you will usually need to rank your preferred halls due to the high demand.

PRIVATE HALLS OF RESIDENCE



If your university is located within a town or city, there are likely to be private halls of residence available. These are typically similar in structure to university-owned halls, except they are owned by private companies who have set up a chain of accommodation, such as Liberty Living or Unite. If there is more than one university located in the town or city, it is likely that you will be sharing facilities with students from different institutions. It is worth noting that individual blocks within all halls can cater from three students up to fourteen.

SHARED HOUSE OR FLAT



If halls of residence do not appeal to you, there are often a wide range of shared student houses or flats available: these are sometimes owned by the university. This would mean you share facilities within a house or flat, so the number of students you are likely to encounter is considerably less than if you were staying in halls of residence. This is an option which is popular with students in their second or third year, so bear in mind you might be sharing with students in a different year of study to you.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT ACCOMMODATION FOR YOU



CATERED OR SELF-CATERED

Some halls of residence provide dinner and sometimes breakfast as part of the overall cost. There will be a dining hall or canteen within the accommodation block, or one nearby which serves the halls of residence. Bear in mind, these are usually more expensive than a self-catered halls of residence, where kitchen facilities are provided for you to prepare your own meals.



CHOOSE THE RIGHT FACILITIES FOR YOU



EN-SUITE OR SHARED?

It is most likely in the UK that you will have your own room and not be required to share this: however, some halls will offer en-suite accommodation, whereas others will have shared bathroom facilities. This really depends on how much you value your privacy: if having your own bathroom facilities appeals to you, be prepared to pay slightly extra for this privilege.



CHOOSE THE RIGHT LOCATION FOR YOU



CAMPUS OR CITY

If you prefer to have all your amenities close to you and perhaps prefer a quieter environment, halls of residence on a university campus might be ideal for you. However, if you like to be at the heart of the buzz a city or town offers, you may prefer to look for accommodation within the metropolis. It is well worth doing your research so you know what type of facilities and amenities are nearby before you apply for your accommodation.

