At Leicester you’ll have the chance to get involved in a variety of trips and social activities as part of your International Summer Programme!

Excursions to destinations across England enable you to experience the breadth of what the country has to offer, while there may also be further educational field trips each week depending on your programme of choice.

In addition to our busy social calendar, you’ll be given free time to explore the UK independently. You’ll be living in the heart of a thriving multicultural city, with the Cultural Quarter just a few minutes’ away. With theatres, bars, shops and much more right on your doorstep, it’s the perfect way to immerse yourself in British culture and improve your English - all in one of the most inclusive and vibrant cities in the UK!

From visits to cities like London and Oxford to evening socials like parties, dinners and a pub quiz, the ELTU social programme has something for everyone. It’s an excellent way to make the most of your time in England!
In previous years, a selection of the following trips were included on our social calendar:

**London**
You’ll have a full day to explore the sights and sounds of the UK capital. Experience iconic and world-famous landmarks like Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and Tower Bridge before diving into the depths of London’s cultural districts - the enclaves of Soho and Chinatown offer a valuable window into daily life in a city that never sleeps.

**Top things to do:**
- Take a trip on the London Eye: 135m high with views spanning 25 miles in every direction. Perfect for those Instagram highlights!
- Visit the Tower of London: a historical centrepiece, the White Tower was first built by William the Conqueror nearly a thousand years ago.
- London Museums: discover a vast collection of world artefacts within the British and Natural History Museums or experience spectacular interactive galleries in the Science Museum.

**Oxford**
Steeped in history, the town of Oxford dates back to the Saxon period more than a thousand years ago. You might visit the Ashmolean Museum (the oldest in the UK), or discover the locations used to film the Harry Potter movies! Most museums in Oxford will have an admission charge, and require groups of friends to book in advance.

**Top things to do:**
- Bodleian Library: visit one of the oldest libraries in Europe.
- University Parks: take a moment of calm in the 70 acres of parkland located next to Oxford centre.
- Christ Church: one of the most famous Oxford University colleges.

"It was an unforgettable time! The trips were excellent and helped me to get to know English culture better."

Jiajun Huo, Beijing Institute of Technology, Zhuhai
York
York is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful cities in the UK. Renowned for its medieval heritage and unique, vibrant atmosphere, this is a trip unlikely to disappoint.

Top things to do:
• York Minster: visit one of the world’s most magnificent cathedrals!
• National Railway Museum: home to over 100 trains, the Museum tells the story of 300 years of locomotive history that changed the landscape of travel.
• The Shambles: visit this historical shopping street with buildings dating back to the 1300s.

Stratford-upon-Avon
A medieval market town and the birthplace of Shakespeare, Stratford-upon-Avon is a picturesque haven located on the River Avon, and home to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

Top things to do:
• Shakespeare's Birthplace: see the timber-framed house where Shakespeare spent his early years.
• The River Avon: take a trip down the river in a traditional English boat, and see famous sites in Stratford from a whole new perspective!
• Holy Trinity Church: visit the site of Shakespeare’s burial in 1616.

““The social events were wonderful - the three weeks I spent in Leicester were among the best of my life!"”
Shota Hidaka, University of Nagano
Chatsworth House
Set in the beautiful Peak District in the English countryside, Chatsworth offers a rare glimpse into the life of the English aristocrats.

Top things to do:
• Visit the magnificent 17th century house and explore over 30 rooms with outstanding works of art, including pieces dating back to Roman and Egyptian times.
• Enjoy 105 acres of carefully maintained idyllic gardens, with water features dating back 300 years.
• Get lost in the Chatsworth Maze, featuring over 1200 English yew trees.

Coventry Transport Museum
The Transport Museum houses the world’s largest collection of British road transport, including the two fastest cars ever made!

Top things to do:
• Experience first-hand some of the most iconic British vehicles from both past and present.
• Enjoy a traditional cup of tea in the award-winning coffee shop.

Bradgate Park
With an area of over 800 acres, Bradgate Park has been a staple of the Leicestershire countryside for almost nine centuries and has some of the oldest rocks in England!

Top things to do:
• Visit the ruins of Bradgate House, dating back to 1520.
• Climb the highest hill in the Park, Old John, and see Old John Tower.
• When you’ve finished exploring, enjoy a well-deserved rest and some lunch at the Bradgate Pub!
Our programme of social events provides a great opportunity to relax at the end of each day and meet people from all around the world in a welcoming and friendly environment.

The events are specially designed by the ELTU to enable you to experience the highlights of traditional British culture. You’ll make lifelong memories in the course of just a few weeks! The programme of events will differ from course to course, but some of the highlights of recent years have included:

**Welcome Meal**
Enjoy food and music while you meet your coursemates for the first time. A night not to be missed!

**Skittles Night**
Try your hand at Skittles in an English pub located in serene Leicestershire countryside, followed by a traditional British dinner.

**Cricket**
Join local cricket fans to watch a game of T20 cricket at the Leicestershire County Ground.

**BBQ and Karaoke**
Enjoy a summer barbecue at a vintage British pub before singing your heart out at our Karoke night!

**Pub Quiz**
Team up and test your knowledge at a traditional British pub quiz, with prizes up for grabs for the winning team!
Farewell Party
Our Farewell Party is a fitting way to celebrate the end of your course and say goodbye to all your new friends.

"I had an amazing time in Leicester! I’d definitely recommend the summer school to my German friends."

Moritz Engl, Freie Universität Berlin

The University of Leicester English Language Teaching Unit includes the cost of all our social events in your programme price. However, additional charges may apply for drinks at social events and optional activities not advertised as part of the social itinerary, such as entrance to tourist attractions. Whilst the ELTU makes every effort to provide a varied and enjoyable social programme, excursions and activities mentioned in this document are intended only as a guide and are subject to change. Each summer course is tailored based on students’ needs and as such some activities, such as academic visits and evening trips, are only included with specific programmes.