

Everyday life in Brighton and Eastbourne

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What we will be talking about...

- Transport: buses, trains, cycling.
- Shopping: major supermarkets, main shopping areas, specialist shops
- Student discounts
- Opening a UK bank account
- UK mobile phones: pay as you go, SIM only plans, handset contracts.



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Bus travel in Brighton

Student citySAVER: purchase through Brighton and Hove Buses App

1 day: £3.60

2 days: £6.80

3 days: 10.25

7 days: 15.50

Student travel - Brighton & Hove Buses

App also has journey planner and live bus times

You will need to wait until you have your unicond to purchase tickets with a student discount.

Until then you can either 'tap on tap off' using a contactless credit or debit card, purchase a the appropriate ticket on the mobile app, or on the bus. Please note – Brighton buses accept cash, but only give a voucher as change (to be used on future bus journeys)



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UB1 bus between Brighton based campuses

Free shuttle bus between Brighton campuses runs during term time – from 26th September 2022.

<https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/sustainability/travel/ub1/>

We will be using this bus for the Orientation programme to transport you to your halls of residence to move in on Tuesday 20th September. But for all other travel within Brighton that week you will need to use (and pay for) public transport.



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Bus travel in Eastbourne

Eastbourne StudentRider 2022-2023 - £480.00

Dayrider – one day’s travel within central Eastbourne -
£4.50 to buy on the bus or £3.10 on Stagecoach Bus
app

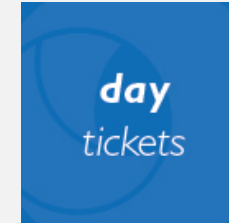
7 day megarider – 7 day’s travel - £17.10 on the
Stagecoach bus app or issued as credit on smart
card online.

4 week megarider – 28 day’s travel within central
Eastbourne - £58.50 – issued as credit on a smart
card online.

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/tickets>

You will need to wait until you have your unicond to
purchase tickets with a student discount.

Until then you can purchase a normal Dayrider of a
Single to your destination.



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Bus etiquette

Most buses are scheduled to stop at every bus stop in their route, but some express services do not – in Brighton this is mainly 25x and 28/29.

You will need to hail the bus before it gets to the bus stop or it may carry on driving!

You will need to ring the bell so the driver knows to stop and let you off.

Certain seats labelled as priority seats for people less able to stand. Fold up seats for wheelchair users and people with pushchairs. You can sit there if no-one needs them, but will need to move if needed (unless you are in the priority group yourself).

It is considered polite to say 'hello' to the driver as you get on, and 'thank you' as you get off the bus.



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Travelling by train?

Get a 16-25 Railcard and Unizone ticket

+ 16-25 Railcard can get you 33% off rail fares. It costs £30 for a year railcard, £70 for a 3 year card. **HOWEVER** you generally can't get a discount if you travel before 10am unless your journey costs at least £12... so while it's good for visiting places in the UK, it's not useful for early seminars/lectures.

<https://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>

+ ... but if you have a 16-25 Railcard you can get a Unizone ticket – cheaper travel between Worthing and Eastbourne. You have to buy it from a staffed train ticket office. Prices and details online.

<https://www.southernrailway.com/tickets/discounts-and-railcards/unizone>



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Other travel options

Think about whether it is possible for you to walk or cycle instead – it is a great way to stay fit, and to save money!

There is information on cycling here, including details of share bike hubs <https://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/sustainability/travel/cycling/>

If you are interested in taking part in a cycling confidence lesson with a professional email us at orientation@brighton.ac.uk



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Grocery Shopping

Supermarkets	Price Guide
	£
	£
The co-operative food	£ £
	£
 MORRISONS	£ £
	£ £ £
Sainsbury's	£ £
	£ £
Waitrose	£ £ £

A number of large supermarkets in Brighton and Eastbourne. Vary in price from cheaper to very expensive!

Large stores away from the centre of town, as well as smaller shops on the high street.

There is often a 'world food' aisle in most supermarkets, as well as a section for gluten free and dairy free food.

Various offers like 3 for 2 or buy one get one free. These are only a bargain if you need these items.

Many offer a loyalty card, collect points with each purchase, which can be redeemed against shopping at a later date.

Smaller/ independent food shops including international and specialist groceries.



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Nearest supermarkets to University of Brighton halls of residence

- Varley Park: **Asda**, Unit 1 Crowhurst Road, Off Carden Avenue, Brighton, BN1 8AS. Number 24 bus.
- Mithras and Moulsecoomb Place: **Aldi**, Unit 1 Pavilion Retail Park, Lewes Road, BN2 3QA. **Sainsburys**, 93 Lewes Rd, BN2 3QA. Walking distance or 24, 25, 48 or 49 bus.
- Phoenix Brewery: **Aldi**, 1-4 London Road, BN1 4JA. **Sainsburys**, 27 New England Street, BN1 4GQ. Walking distance.
- Paddock Field and Great Wilkins: **Coop**, University of Sussex Campus, Bramber House, BN1 9QU. 25 bus back to Falmer campus.
- Welkin: **Tesco Express**, 56-62 Medes Street, BN20 7RH. **Tesco Express**, Grove Road, BN21 4UJ.



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Main shopping areas



- + Churchill Square is the main shopping centre/mall in Brighton.
- + Western Road and East Street are shopping streets, with many large chain shops.
- + The Lanes and North Laine are also filled with shops, many of which are independent and more unique.
- + You can find useful homeware items (duvets, pillows, cutlery and crockery) in stores like Home Sense , Primark, and Marks and Spencer's which are all located in the Churchill Square area.



- + The Beacon is the main shopping centre/mall in Eastbourne.
- + The town centre, from the station to the pier, also has a lot of shops.
- + There is an area, south west of the station, known as 'Little Chelsea' which has independent and exclusive shops and galleries.
- + You can also find useful homeware items in the Beacon and surrounding areas.



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Other shops in the UK

+ 'Corner shops'

Sometimes referred to as 'newsagents' these small local shops which sell a small range of food and drink, confectionary, news papers (usually) and cigarettes. Some also have an 'off-licence' to sell alcohol. They are likely to be much more expensive than a larger shop so it is best to save them for small purchases!

For more detailed information on shopping in Brighton and Eastbourne see our guide here: [Shopping Guide | \(brighton.ac.uk\)](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/shopping-guide)

+ Charity shops

Very popular in the UK. People donate items they no longer want or need and the store sells them on, giving the proceeds to charity. You can buy clothes, books and more, often at a **cheap price** as they are **second-hand**.

+ Poundland

You will see these on UK main shopping areas. Sell a range of household items, some food, toiletries, and over the counter medicines. Some things are much cheaper, but some are not!



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Bedding and household items

When you arrive at your accommodation, you will want to take some time to buy the household items you will need.

Brighton

Asda Hollingbury has an excellent range of inexpensive duvets, pillows, bed linen, towels, crockery, cutler, and other household items. The number 24 bus goes directly to Asda along the Lewes Road and runs every half an hour. You can check the bus times on the [Brighton and Hove Buses website](#).

You can also buy these items from the main shopping area in Brighton – Churchill Square and shops along Western Road. Primark is the least expensive shop. Marks and Spencer's is more expensive, but is excellent quality.

Eastbourne

The Beacon shopping centre has a Primark and a Marks and Spencer's. there is an Asda at Sovereign Harbour (5A bus).



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TOTUM cards and student discounts

- + Discount card from National Union of Students (NUS)
- + £14.99 per year.
- + Discounts across range of shops, restaurants, cafes, take aways, cinemas, etc.
- + 10% off shopping in the Coop.
- + Check when you are out and about if they offer a student discount!



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Opening a UK Bank Account

We recommend opening a UK bank account if you will be studying in the UK for more than 6 months.

To open an account you need to:

- Decide which bank you wish to open an account with, and check their requirements for identity documents.
- In most cases will need a letter from the University of Brighton address to the bank, confirming your address and enrolment.
- These letters can be issued from the date your course starts – in most cases 26th September. You will need to be 'fully enrolled' so have enrolled online and taken your passport and visa (if you have one) to be scanned at an document verification session.



Our bank guide

Information on university webpages on how to request a letter from the university:

[Opening a bank account \(brighton.ac.uk\)](https://www.brighton.ac.uk)

Our guide to different bank account options:

[Opening a UK Bank Account | \(brighton.ac.uk\)](https://www.brighton.ac.uk)

‘Basic’ bank account.

- Debit card

- Direct debits/ standing orders

- No credit/ overdraft

Very similar, check rates for payments from outside the UK, and any restrictions.



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Timeframes and back up plans

You will be able to request a bank letter to be issued by the University of Brighton from 26th September.

It can take several weeks to open a UK bank account. Banks are particularly busy at the start of the academic year opening student accounts.

Cash is accepted in most shops in the UK, but University of Brighton campus outlets are all cashless.

Please make sure you have access to a credit or debit card for use in the UK while you are waiting to open a UK account.



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UK mobile phone options

+ SIM only pay as you go

Can use your existing handset and only add credit when you need it; can cancel at any point. Calls and data costs usually more expensive than monthly deals.

+ SIM only deals

Can use your existing handset; range of deal lengths, attracts better deals in terms of cost of calls and data. Credit agreement – you must keep up with payments.

+ Handset contract

Useful if you need/ want a new phone; some contracts include perks like access to streaming services. You will be locked into the deal for the length of the contract, and will be higher monthly cost. Credit agreement – you must keep up with payments.



• UK networks

+ The main UK network providers are:

+ EE

+ O2

+ Three

+ Vodafone

+ They also support many of the smaller mobile networks who 'piggyback' on their wider network. All four have 99% 4G coverage across the UK. Before you commit to a network you can use the [Ofcom mobile coverage checker](#) to make sure it will give you the access you need.

+ For more information on the different mobile providers see this guide from [Compare the Market](#).

+ See our full guide: [Mobile Phone Guide 2022 | \(brighton.ac.uk\)](#)



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Questions about life in the UK?

internationaladvice@brighton.ac.uk

Our webpages have information on living in the UK: [Living in the UK \(brighton.ac.uk\)](#)

Our

