

Welcome to Portsmouth

Gunwharf Quays and Spinnaker Tower

Gunwharf Quays is the perfect place to relax after a hard day of studying! It's filled with over 90 designer shopping outlets, bowling alleys, a multi-screen cinema, more than 30 bars, cafés and restaurants such as Jamie Oliver's, as well as popular student nightclubs. All of this is overlooked by the iconic Spinnaker Tower where, from the viewing deck, you can enjoy views across the whole city and the sunset across the sea.



Old Portsmouth

This is the oldest part of the city, known as 'Spice Island', where spices and tobacco first arrived from the New World. This is now the ideal place to try traditional fish and chips while watching ships pass through the harbour. It is also home to the Historic Dockyard, where you can learn all about Portsmouth's rich naval history and visit its three historic ships: HMS Victory, HMS Warrior and the Mary Rose.



Isle of Wight

Best known for music festivals and stunning coastline, the Isle of Wight is just 10 minutes away by hovercraft. This island with beautiful beaches and traditional, unspoilt countryside should not be missed.



Southsea

Southsea is the cultural and social hub of Portsmouth and is where most of our homestay families are located. Southsea Common, a huge park by the sea, is perfect for playing football, enjoying barbecues with friends, walking or jogging by the seaside and is also home to our popular skate park. Southsea also has a 500-year old castle, with a café and restaurant inside, which hosts lots of parties and events throughout the year. Southsea is a unique place, full of cool cafés, independent shops and alternative nightlife.





Entertainment

Portsmouth is a vibrant university city, home to some incredible music festivals and events throughout the year. From free live music throughout summer at the Victorian Bandstand, to Victorious Festival held every August right next to the seaside, there's always something happening here. The nightlife is great in Portsmouth, and with a student population of over 20,000, there are plenty of lively cafés, pubs and nightclubs for you to enjoy. If you prefer something more cultural, there are several concert halls, theatres and a contemporary art gallery, with interesting events all year round.

Seaside and Sunshine

Southsea has miles of pebble beaches and Portsmouth is one of the sunniest places in the UK, so the summer months here are a great time to walk, cycle, run or sit and relax by the seaside and enjoy some sunshine. Many of our students also swim in the sea each summer too!



Location and exploring the UK

Portsmouth is also well-situated to visit London, which is just 90 minutes away by train. Brighton, Bournemouth, Stonehenge, The New Forest and Eastbourne are all easy day trips from here too.

Literary Tradition

Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote his first Sherlock Holmes stories here - come and expand your knowledge of them in one of the city's many museums!

Social Life at LSI

The School's Social Programme

- Full and varied programme the whole year, organised by our dedicated Social Programme Organiser
- The perfect way to make friends, have fun, see interesting places and enjoy yourself
- At least one after-school activity every weekday
- An excursion every weekend to places of cultural and historical interest, such as:

London Oxford
Brighton Stonehenge and Salisbury
Cambridge Bath

- A weekly football match every Monday
- A FREE weekly Conversation Club where students get to practise their conversational English skills in a relaxed, friendly environment.

University Union Clubs and Societies

We are very lucky that, for a small fee, our students can join the University of Portsmouth union's clubs and societies (www.upsu.net), a great way to make friends with British and overseas students while enjoying your hobbies and interests. Some popular clubs and societies include:

- Hockey – men's and women's clubs
- Football
- HipHop and Drum and Bass societies
- Cinema society
- Surf club

Our students can also join the university gym, use the university union café and bar and join the university social programme and trips.



Typical fortnightly programme (with approximate costs):

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Week 1	Football with the teachers £3	Conversation Club Free And/or Meal Out Approx. £10	Badminton £3 And/or Salsa £4	Visit to Spinnaker Tower £8 And/or Karaoke Free	Art Club Free And/or Italian Lunch Club Approx. £10	Excursion to Stonehenge & Salisbury Approx. £30
Week 2	Football with the teachers £3	Conversation Club Free And/or Cinema Night Approx. £8	Table Tennis Tournament Free And/or Salsa £4	Ladies' Afternoon Tea Free And/or VIP Party £5	Volleyball Free And/or Laser Quest £7	Excursion to London Approx. £20

Working in Portsmouth

The LSI Job Club



We organise a free Job Club 'Clinic' on Friday afternoons to help you find work, improve your CV, practise your interview techniques, learn the relevant legal information and look at our updated list of recent jobs in Portsmouth*. There will be a teacher there to help you – you just have to sign your name on the Job Board in the Student Lounge to participate.

Towards the end of her 13-week course, Beatriz from Spain found a job with G! Boutique Hotel. She continued working towards her IELTS exam while working and living at the hotel. Beatriz loved being part of the team at the hotel and not only improved her English but also gained valuable experience for her CV.

Work Experience Opportunities

LSI Portsmouth offers work experience for students who are interested in gaining administrative and marketing experience in an international environment. We offer a free course option, where you work for half a day, and then receive free classes for the other half of the day. Alternatively, if you work full-time for us we offer a weekly contribution to your food and/or transport costs. Please email info@lsi-portsmouth.co.uk if you are interested in this opportunity or would like to find out more.

*Please note that only students from the EU, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland are permitted to work in the UK (some exceptions may apply; work rights will be stated on your visa stamp).