



University
of Exeter

Making the most of your accommodation

Starting at university is an exciting time and we realise the importance of finding the right place to live. Being in university residences enables you make friends straight away. You will meet a diverse range of people from different backgrounds and cultures, studying a variety of degrees.

All of our residences adhere to the Student Accommodation Code developed by Universities UK and GuildHE, so wherever you live, you know that we are committed to offering you safe, good value accommodation.

We have a variety of self-catered and catered accommodation available at our Exeter campuses and self-catered accommodation at our Penryn Campus suitable for a range of budgets.

Take a look at our [website](#) to find out more about the types of accommodation available at the University of Exeter.

Typically you would live in university owned halls on campus in first year then move out into a flat/house outside of the campus in second year.

Top tips on what to bring

Focus on the essentials

Deciding what to pack for university can be challenging. Think about what you already have at home that you can bring. Check out a list of suggested items [here](#) to get you started.

Coordinating with flatmates

Resist the urge to pack every kitchen appliance, wait and see what your flatmates have and then you can work out what you are missing as a group. This reduces waste and can save you money.

Personalise your space

Bring personal touches like photographs to make your room feel more homely.

Consider second-hand items

Second-hand shops can be a sustainable and cost-effective source of good-quality items.

Visit local shops

And remember, Exeter and Penryn have lots of shops where you can buy anything you have forgotten. Exploring the town is a great way to get familiar with the surrounding areas.

Independent Living

Living independently can be both exciting and daunting. You may find it helpful to familiarise yourself with a few practical life skills before arriving at university. Examples include:

- Using a washing machine
- Cleaning shared spaces such as kitchens and bathrooms
- Ironing clothes, if needed
- Contributing to household shopping
- Preparing a few simple meals
- Carrying out small clothing repairs, such as sewing on a button (which can also help reduce waste)
- Managing a basic budget and keeping track of finances
- Deciding how often you want to keep in touch with family and friends. Setting realistic expectations can help with finding a balance that works for everyone
- Navigating around a new city. Use good maps to find out to know where all local attractions are (e.g., campus buildings, high street shops, beaches, museums, cinema, bars, and restaurants)

Start thinking about these tasks over the summer for an easier transition once you move in?

Week one

Meeting new people can be both exciting and nerve wracking. The best thing to do is get out there straight away and talk to your house mates within the first 5 minutes, it will take away any awkwardness you may have and make you feel relaxed that everyone is in the same boat! Remember you picked the same accommodation and university for a reason so you may have a few things in common!

Stay informed

Follow the [Facebook page](#) and read the [student blog](#) to find top tips and receive regular updates on the accommodation:

Many accommodation residences also have individual Facebook groups for new arrivals, try and find yours to see the other people in your flat/block.

We recommend reading the following webpages for more information:

- Find out about accommodation for students living on the [Penryn Campus](#).
- To find out about accommodation in Exeter take a look at the options for [catered](#) and [self-catered](#).
- There is a range of frequently asked questions, that you can take a look at to support you before you move in; for [Exeter](#) and [Penryn](#).



Living away from home can be very daunting. However, I really benefited from the independence and now feel much more ready for the world. The part I was most nervous about was living with people I didn't know but I have ended up making friends for life and they feel like family to me, its amazing how close you can get so quickly.

Laura, Marine Biology.



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