



Living &  
working in

**Essex**



**A county with a perfect blend of city life and rural areas, home to Roman history, vibrant nightlife and plenty of activities and amenities.**

Live in a city centre, in a quaint town or village or by the sea.



Explore famous sightseeing spots, preserved Roman walls and sites, art galleries, shops and more across over 3,639 KM<sup>2</sup>.



## Fun Fact!

Colchester in Essex is Britain's oldest town, while Manningtree is Britain's smallest!





Over 400 nurseries in Essex with childcare an average monthly cost around £1,000.



Average 1 bed apartment cost: £833.33

Utilities: £183.70

Weekly grocery shop: £35



“TeacherActive is a great Agency. My experience working with them is top-notch. Not only do they encourage and guide their staff, but they also make sure I get the best working environment and deliver the standard services for which they are known for.”

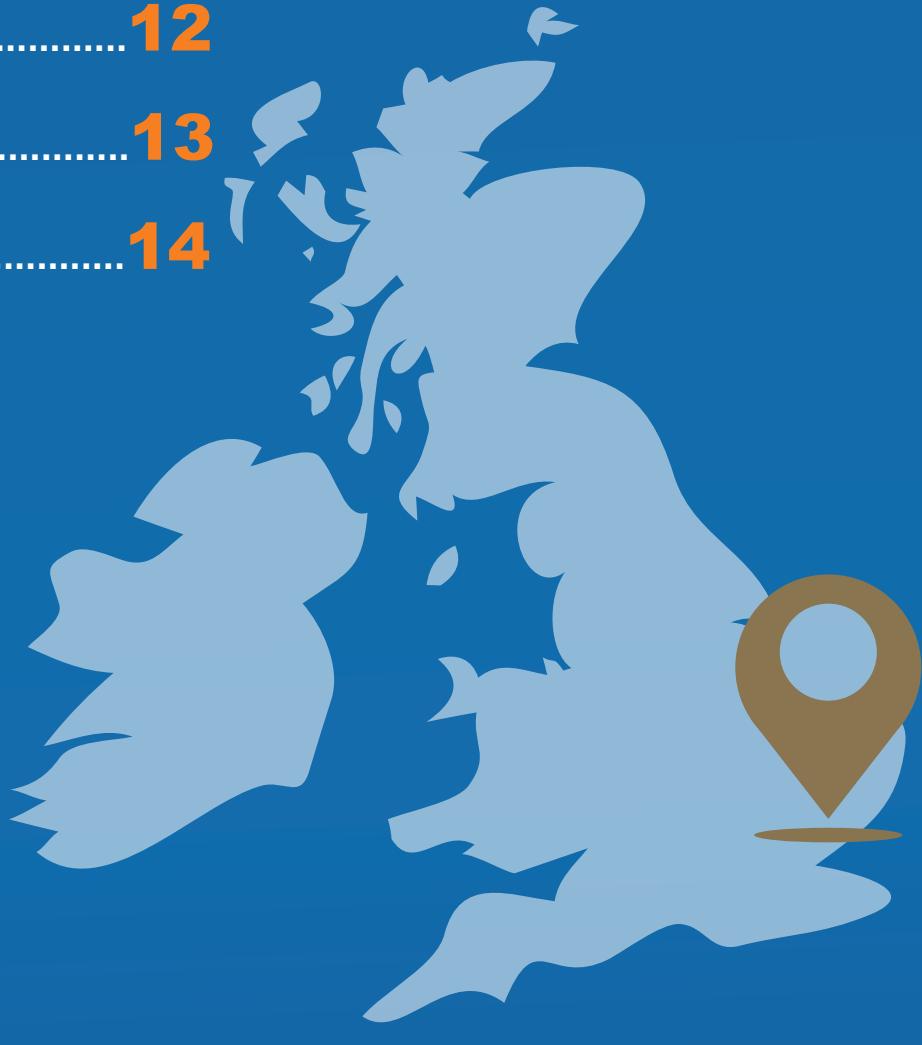
- Judith, Cover Supervisor

## Main modes of public transport



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# Why TeacherActive?



**Free flights to  
the UK\***

**Guaranteed  
pay schemes**



**Relocation  
support**

**Termly social  
events**

**Network of over  
3,600 schools**

**Free CPD  
resources**

TeacherActive has been supporting educators just like you since 2004. Our International team was created in 2018 and has since helped hundreds of international educators progress their careers in the UK. Our consultants take the time to learn your unique skills, qualities and preferences and match you to a setting that works for you. Gain experience in a variety of settings while working on supply, or secure that dream permanent job in Essex, while enjoying termly social events and support from our consultants every step of the way.

\*T&Cs apply.



# An introduction to Essex

Essex is located in the South East of England, a county containing seaside towns, idyllic countryside and bustling town centres and cities. A train ride from places like London and Cambridge, Essex is the perfect place to move to if you like a mix of sceneries while also being able to explore other major UK areas with ease.

The area is steeped in history, with Essex itself being one of the Kingdoms of Anglo-Saxon England and Colchester once being the capital of Roman Britain. A lot of this history has been preserved and you'll easily be able to find historical areas to explore in your downtime. Today, Essex is known as a vibrant hub, offering the perfect mix of seaside delights, quaint English towns and thriving nightlife.

This guide will give you a great introduction to living in Essex, from things to see and do to the average cost of living. We'll also explain the UK education system and how we, as your agency, can support you every step of the way on your journey. As one of the biggest education recruitment agencies in the UK, we have an extensive network of settings you can work in to gain experience, all led by a dedicated consultant whose main goal is to find you the perfect place for your skills to shine.



# Living in Essex

Whether you're a young professional looking to meet new people or a family looking for somewhere with great schools and activities, Essex has it all. Essex may be home to Britain's oldest recorded town in Colchester, but those cobbled streets are full to the brim with great amenities, gastro delights, pleasant parks and vibrant nightlife which will rival the hustle and bustle of nearby London life.

Outside of Colchester, some areas in Essex to relocate to include:

- **Chelmsford – a popular city with the River Can running through**
- **Brentwood – known for lush parks, hills and forests**
- **Wivenhoe – metropolitan river town where you can enjoy life on the waterfront**
- **Saffron-Walden – a picturesque medieval market town**



# Cost of living

The cost of renting or owning a place will vary depending on location, with smaller towns costing less on average than cities in Essex. The following costs are for Colchester and taken as an average.

**Single public transport ticket £2**

**Monthly rent of one bedroom apartment in city centre £833.33**

**Monthly rent of one bedroom apartment outside of city centre £783.33**

**One month of basic utilities (electricity, water, heating) £183.70**

**One month childcare at nursery or pre-school £1,000**

**Three course meal for two at a mid-range restaurant £70**

**One month gym membership £37.50**

**Weekly grocery shop £35**

**Prices are correct at time of publishing (October 2024)**



# Public transport in Essex

**By bus, train and taxi** 

Different towns and cities have different bus providers, however PLUSBUS passes can be purchased to use on buses and trains across Essex. There is also a Colchester Borough card for unlimited bus travel across Colchester.

[View more information visit the Travel Essex website.](#)

## Tip!

[Download the Travel Essex app for travel options throughout Essex.](#)

# National Rail, air and coaches

There are 80 train stations across Essex, meaning a trip to the beach, the countryside or even the capital of London is easily accessible. Be sure to purchase your ticket in advance either at a ticket machine or online/on app ahead of boarding the train.

The closest airport to Essex is London Stanstead airport (14.4m/23km away) which is easily accessible by train.

## Essex to London

in 1 hour



## Essex to Cambridge

in 1 hours 50 minutes



## Essex to Birmingham

in 2 hours 40 minutes



## London Stanstead to Dublin



in 1 hour 30 minutes



## Did you know?

Essex has the largest coastline in the United Kingdom, stretching over 350 miles (563 km)!

# Things to do in the area



With such a variety of towns, cities and coastal areas, you'll never be short of things to do in Essex! A well-known UK TV show, 'The Only Way is Essex' has popularised the area for it's nightlife, but Essex has the perfect blend of idyllic countryside and nature walks, historical attractions and modern day activities for you to explore.

## To sightsee

- Audley End House & Gardens
- Southend-on-Sea pier and Adventure Island theme park
- Colchester Castle
- Wyvernwood
- Princes Theatre
- Bridge End Garden
- Epping Forest
- Clacton Pier

## For shopping, food and drinks

- Braintree Village shopping outlet
- Chelmsford – for pubs, bars and clubs
- Bond Street shopping centre

## Music, sport and culture

- Saffron Hall
- Melbourne Football Stadium
- Essex County Cricket Club
- First Site – art and culture gallery

## Hidden gems

- Green Island Gardens
- Dedham Vale
- Burnham-on-Crouch
- Tollesbury Marshes
- Maldon – home of the Maldon Sea Salt!

# What should I do and when?



Preparation is key to getting the most out of your time in the UK. Once you know your arrival date, it's time to get planning! Below is our recommended roadmap to success, which you should start around 12 months before your arrival.

## Roadmap



TeacherActive offers reimbursement on standard flights up to a specified limit once you have worked 20 days or more with us. T&Cs apply.



# The UK Education System

## The school years:

Age	Year	Stage	School
3-4	Pre-school	Foundation	Pre-school
4-5	reception		Primary school
5-6	1		
6-7	2		
7-8	3		
8-9	4		
9-10	5		
10-11	6		
11-12	7		
12-13	8	Key stage 3	Secondary school
13-14	9		
14-15	10		
15-16	11		
16-17	12	Key stage 4	Sixth form
17-18	13		

Each term in an education setting is usually 13 weeks long, with a week off halfway through, called half term.

You can expect around two weeks off at the end of term one and term two, for Christmas and Easter respectively. When the school year ends, you can expect six weeks off for the summer holidays.

Each region of the UK varies with its exact term dates, so please see this as a rough guide. You'll often find Year 11s and Year 13s may finish earlier, depending on where their last exams fall. For more detailed curriculum information, head to [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or check your local council's website for specific term dates.

The UK curriculum will, of course, be different from what you are used to. But you'll be surprised at how many similarities there are with your home country's curriculum. Here's a handy guide for you to reference, for more information visit the [UK Government's website](https://www.gov.uk).

For more information on the UK education system, register with us to receive your free living and working in the UK brochure.

# Keep your career in motion

We have created a free CPD (Continuing Professional Development) platform designed to accelerate your career in education called My-Progression.

You can find new videos every week on My-Progression's YouTube channel, offering training and advice on education and residential care.

From breaking down the UK education system to managing challenging behaviour in the classroom, planning your lessons or marking your papers, My-Progression is designed to give you knowledge, advice and support in bite-sized videos, all for free!

Once you're done, you can head to [www.my-progression.com](http://www.my-progression.com) to collect your CPD certificates, including our specific international certificate, which can be used to evidence your learning and boost your CV.

Click the images below to get started, and don't forget to subscribe on YouTube.



**KEY STAGES IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS**  
ENGLISH EDUCATION SYSTEM #1

**ALL ABOUT EMERGENCY BOOKINGS**

**TYPES OF ENGLISH SCHOOLS**  
ENGLISH EDUCATION SYSTEM #2

# Start your new adventure in education

If you have any questions get in touch.

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