

Living & working in Exeter





One of the oldest cities in the UK, in the county of Devon along the quay.

Live in a traditional cottage or house in the suburbs or a flat along the quay.



Explore the city's 2,000-year history, including Roman walls, across 47 km².



Fun Fact!



Charles Dickens' parents lived in Exeter and Charles wrote the first few chapters of Nicholas Nickleby from their cottage.







Over 40 nurseries in Exeter, costing on average £875 per month



Average one bed apartment cost

p/m: £1033

Utilities p/m: £355

Weekly grocery shop: £35



After moving to Exeter, I immediately joined TeacherActive and it has been a great experience. From the moment I joined, I had 5 days a week to work in Secondary schools across Devon. This has now resulted in a full-time role in a school. I am very grateful for all the hard work from the team that made this possible.

Marianne - Teacher

Main modes of public transport







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An introduction to Exeter

One of the oldest cities in the UK, Exeter is a city in the Southwest of England nestled into the county of Devon. One survey dubbed Exeter as the UK's friendliest city, but that's not all they have going for them. Arts, culture, history, food and shopping are plentiful here, one day you can be enjoying the summer sun along the quays or strolling in one of Exeter's many green spaces. The next, you'll be soaking up the history encased in Exeter's Roman walls or be at the centre of arts, entertainment and culture.

This guide gives you everything you need to know about living in Exeter, 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 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 Exeter

The River Exe runs right along this vibrant and cultural city with plenty to explore on your doorstep. Whether you live in a traditional English cottage or a modern house or apartment, you're sure to feel right at home. Blending the city hustle and bustle to the calm of living by the seaside, you can get the best of both worlds living in Exeter.

Some well-known areas in Exeter include:

- Exeter Quay
- Heavitree
- Topsham
- Pinhoe
- Alphington



Cost of living

The cost of renting or owning a place will vary depending on location, as with any major city, living in the outskirts will see cheaper house prices than closer to the city centre. The following costs are averages across Exeter.

Single public transport ticket £2.00

Monthly public transport pass £64.78

Monthly rent of one bedroom city centre apartment £1033

Monthly rent of one bedroom apartment outside of city centre £733.33

One month of basic utilities (electricity, water, heating) £355

One month childcare at nursery or pre-school £875

Three course meal for two at a mid-range restaurant £65

One month gym membership £32.75

Weekly grocery shop £35

Prices are correct at time of publishing (December 2024)



Public transport in Exeter

By bus, train & taxi 🚇 🗀 🧀









Exeter has two mainline stations that link out to most major UK cities, with Exeter Central station only a five-minute walk away from the main high street. Buses are regular across the city, allowing you to get to almost anywhere. Stagecoach manages the buses across Exeter, you can plan your journey and buy tickets from the Stagecoach website.

National rail, air and coaches

You can easily travel to London or across the country by rail from Exeter's train stations. Less than a 15-minute walk away is Exeter Coach Station, where you can hop on a coach to travel across the country on a budget. Six miles out of the city centre is Exeter's International Airport, which has flights to Edinburgh, Dublin, Lanzarote, Rhodes, Crete and many more.

Exeter to London

in 2 hours 23 minutes

Exeter to Bristol

in 55 minutes

Exeter to Cardiff

in 1 hour 50 minutes

Exeter to Dublin 🛏

in 50 minutes



Did you know?

There's a 14th-century house in Exeter that is known as "the house that moved". In the 1960s while building new roads, the city decided to move the house on rollers to a new location instead of demolishing it.



Whether you're a thrill seeker paddleboarding on the Quay and heading to a theme park, or someone who likes to take a stroll through cobbled streets and interesting museums, there's something for everyone. In water or on dry land, shopping until you drop or scoping out the rich Roman and Medieval history, you'll never get bored in Exeter.

To sightsee

- Exeter Cathedral
- Powderham Castle
- Crealy Theme Park & Resort
- Exeter's Underground Passages
- South Devon Railway
- Killerton House and Gardens
- St. Martin's Church

For shopping, food and drinks

- Exeter Street Food Night Market
- · Princess Hay Shopping Centre
- Guildhall Shopping Centre
- · West Quarter weekly farmer's market
- Fore Street Flea Market (events throughout the year)
- Brisville Market
- Castle Quarter for bars and clubs

Music, sport and culture

- Exeter Pheonix Art Centre
- Royal Albery Memorial Museum and Art Gallery
- Exeter Corn Exchange
- · Westpoint Exeter Arena
- Exmouth Pavillion
- Exeter Cavern music venue
- St James Park sports stadium

Hidden gems

- · St. Nicholas Priory
- The Real McCoy retro shopping
- Gandy Street alleged inspiration for Harry Potter's Diagon Alley
- Parliament Street the narrowest street in the country
- Exe Estuary

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

12 months before

- Reach out to your TeacherActive specialist
- Discover what opportunities are available to work in schools
- Read this guide!

6 months before

- Apply for police checks
- Research and apply for your visa
- Ensure that you have sent all required documents
- Apply for your QTS if you're a qualified teacher

3 months before

- Follow our Facebook and Instagram
- Research and find accommodation in your area
- Book your flights*
- Book your in-person registration meeting
- Learn more about UK education through My-Progression and achieve your International CPD certificate

On arrival

- Collect a UK SIM for your phone
- Visit us in office and register
- Open a UK bank account

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		
5-6	1	Key stage 1	
6-7	2		
7-8	3	Key stage 2	Primary
8-9	4		school
9-10	5		
10-11	6		
11-12	7	Key stage 3	
12-13	8		Constructions:
13-14	9		Secondary school
14-15	10	Key stage 4	<u> </u>
15-16	11		
16-17	12	Key stage 5	Sixth form
17-18	13		Sixtii Ioiiii

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 GOVUK 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.

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 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.



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 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 discover 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 Exeter while enjoying termly social events and support from our consultants every step of the way.

Start your new adventure in education

If you have any questions get in touch.

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