

Cardiff University welcomes you to the Capital of Wales

Life as a Cardiff student offers many exciting opportunities, both on campus and in the city.



Location

In the heart of Cardiff, just 2 hours from London



Study options

Offering a variety of subjects across 24 Academic Schools



Accommodation

Accommodation support available – on campus and off campus



Safe and affordable

One of the safest and most affordable regions in the UK



Ranking

A Russell Group institution, ranked amongst the top 150 University Worldwide



Module based

Create your own programme with our flexible module structure



Lifestyle

A modern and vibrant capital city with plenty to see and do



Student life

A multi-cultural and inclusive community from over 140 countries

“Cardiff is one of Europe’s youngest capital cities – small enough to be friendly and big enough to offer the best of living in a major city.”

International exchange



We are

an ambitious and innovative **Russell Group** university with a bold strategic vision, located in the beautiful, historic and thriving capital city of Wales. With a student population of more than 31,500 including over 8,500 international students from more than 130 countries, we are the **12th largest university in the UK.**

Subjects: With 24 Academic Schools, Cardiff University offers a vast number of study options. Our **flexible modular system** means classes can be chosen from several different subjects including **art and humanities**, and **social, life and physical sciences**. This allows students to build study programmes which compliment their home degree.

Our community is **inclusive and welcoming** with a diverse, multicultural population of both staff and students. Absorb our unique **Welsh heritage and culture** to enrich your Study Abroad experience in the UK.

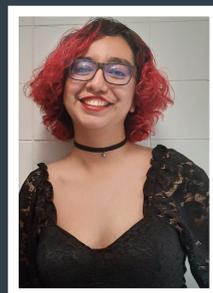


“If you’re considering studying in the UK, I highly recommend Cardiff. You’ll have the chance to explore Wales, which is like a hidden gem filled with culture, beauty, and kindness.”

- Meghan, USA

“A very student friendly city. People are kind and there is always something to do around the city with and outside the University. I loved it!”

- Melissa, Mexico





CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY



PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

Cardiff University

Fact sheet for international
exchange students and partners



ABOUT CARDIFF

- **Capital of Wales.**
- **Located 2 hours (by train) from London.**
- **Voted 2nd best Students' Union in the UK.***
- **Cardiff has been named the most affordable of all the UK's university cities.****
- **Is among the top 25 universities in the UK.*****



THE CITY

Cardiff is the capital and largest city in Wales and the tenth largest city in the UK. Its rich culture has a diverse range of influences from the Romans and Normans of antiquity to the industrial revolution and the coal industry – which transformed Cardiff from a small town into a thriving, international city.

Cardiff combines all the advantages of a compact, friendly and cost-effective location with the cultural and recreational facilities of a modern capital city. Cardiff University's campus sits within the city centre, with wide tree-lined avenues and elegant Portland stone buildings, it's an inspiring place to study.



THE UNIVERSITY

We are an ambitious and innovative university with a bold and strategic vision located in a beautiful and thriving capital city. Cardiff is a research-intensive university providing an educationally outstanding experience for our students. With more than 30,000 students and over 7,500 international students we are the 16th largest university in the UK in terms of student numbers.

Every student enrolled at Cardiff University is automatically a member of Cardiff Students' Union. Run by students for students, it offers an exciting programme of entertainment, diverse clubs and societies and a comprehensive range of welfare, advice and information services – all aspects of student life within a purpose-built complex. Students can take a look at our campus through our [Virtual Interactive Tour](#).

*What Uni's Student Choice Award 2023 and 2024
 **2022 NatWest Student Living Index
 ***QS World University Rankings 2024

UNIVERSITY FACTS AND FIGURES

- Cardiff University has a student population of 33,985.
- There are 7,530 international students from more than 138 countries at Cardiff University.
- Cardiff's Students' Union has over 200 sports clubs & societies to choose from.



CLIMATE

Cardiff's climate is characterised by mild weather. Temperatures in the winter months (December to February) are an average high of 8°C and low of 2°C. During the summer months, (June to August) temperatures can vary with an average high of 22°C and low of 11°C.



TRAVEL

Cardiff is easily accessible and conveniently located. The Central railway station is Wales' largest and most popular station within 2 hours reach from the heart of London and Birmingham.



ACADEMIC CALENDAR

	Autumn semester	Spring semester
Induction period	22 - 26 September 2025	19 - 23 January 2026
Classes begin	29 September 2025	26 January 2026
Class (exam) ends	23 January 2026*	12 June 2026

Full Academic Calendar: [Available online](#)

*There is the possibility of alternative assessments for autumn semester only students in some courses, meaning students can return home before the December break. At the enrolment stage, the Global Opportunities team can provide guidance on to which modules this applies.



ADMISSION

	Autumn semester	Spring semester
Nomination deadline	15 April 2025	1 October 2025
Application deadline	30 April 2025	15 October 2025

Academic requirements:

Students must be of good academic standing (2.8/4.0 US GPA or equivalent) and have completed 1 year of continuous study at their home institution.

Minimum Language Requirement:

[Visit our webpages for IELTS information.](#)

Please note, there are also requirements for first language English speakers depending on type of visa required for your programme.

How to apply:

Students will apply online, instructions can be found on our [How to Apply pages](#).

Application documents required to be submitted:

Academic transcript, academic reference, personal statement, online provisional module selection form and passport copy.

Duration of study at host university:

One semester or one academic year.



COURSES AND REGISTRATION

Level of study:
Undergraduate

Semester course load:
60 credits per semester

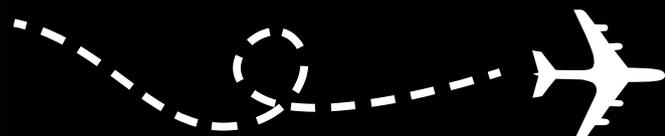
Online catalogue: [discover our online module catalogue here](#)

Transcripts:

Transcripts are released to partner Universities once available.

Restrictions:

- Exclusions: Dentistry, Healthcare Sciences, Medicine, Optometry, Pharmacy, Architecture, and Law.
- Very limited spaces in Psychology and reserved for applicants majoring in Psychology.
- Due to demand, priority for modules in some Academic Schools will be given to incoming students majoring in this discipline, especially with the Schools of Politics, History, Archaeology and Religion, and English, Communication and Philosophy.
- Biosciences – year-long study only.





ACCOMMODATION

On campus housing guaranteed?

Full-year students

Our Residences Office can guarantee an offer of a single occupancy place in university residences if you are studying with us for a full academic year providing you apply by the specified deadline.

One-semester

We endeavour to house students in university accommodation and will provide housing support to all incoming students.

Types and Fees:

On-campus single occupancy bedroom. Fees currently range from approximately £4700 - £7000 per year. [Visit our 2024/2025 summary of fees page for further details.](#) Fees are shown as full year. For single semester contracts, a pro-rata rate will be applied.

Housing Application Deadline:

Application deadlines can vary - July (Autumn/Full year), November (Spring).

Application Form:

Available online via students login to Cardiff University student portal system (SIMS). Students must have received (and accepted) a formal offer before applying for accommodation.

Further information: [Visit our Cardiff University Residences web pages](#)



VISA AND IMMIGRATION

Visa Requirements:

Full year students - Student Visa

Semester only students - Standard Visitor Route

Visa Procedure: Depends on visa and nationality. Some students must apply in advance. Full guidance will be provided after acceptance.

Eligibility to Work: Student Route visa - Yes (restrictions apply)
Visitor Visa - No

Medical Insurance: If coming to the UK for more than six months (Student Route visa holders): will pay health surcharge to access UK's National Health Service. If staying less than six months: insurance is not required but is strongly recommended. [Click here for further information about Insurance.](#)



We've put together a list of important websites that may be useful for you to learn more about Cardiff University and the city.

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD AND EXCHANGE WEBPAGE:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/study-abroad-in-cardiff>

COURSE INFORMATION - MODULE CATALOGUE:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/study-abroad-in-cardiff/modules>

STUDY ABROAD FEES AND LIVING COSTS:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/study-abroad-in-cardiff/fees-and-living-costs>

WHY STUDY AT CARDIFF - STUDENT BROCHURE:

[This is Cardiff \(student brochure\).pdf](#)

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY MAIN WEBPAGE:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/>

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY STUDENT LIFE:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/student-life>

CARDIFF STUDENTS' UNION:

<https://www.cardiffstudents.com/>

ACCOMMODATION:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/study-abroad-in-cardiff/your-time-in-cardiff>

VIDEOS ABOUT CARDIFF:

Click on the image to view the video:



[See you in Cardiff - 2.42 mins](#)



[Student campus tour - 1.38 mins](#)



[Cardiff - Capital of Wales - 1.35 mins](#)



[This is Cardiff - 1.46 mins](#)

“

If you're considering studying in the UK, I highly recommend Cardiff. You'll have the chance to explore Wales, which is like a hidden gem filled with culture, beauty, and kindness.

- Meghan, USA

”

“

Making friends and finding a community of students is very easy due to how friendly all the students are and how many social opportunities there are in the form of events and unique clubs.

- Aniko, Canada

”



Global Opportunities
Centre for Student Life,
Park Place,
Cardiff, UK
CF10 3BB

+44 (0)29 22 518 888 (ask for Global Opportunities)



cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/study-abroad-in-Cardiff



GO@cardiff.ac.uk



facebook.com/cardiffuni



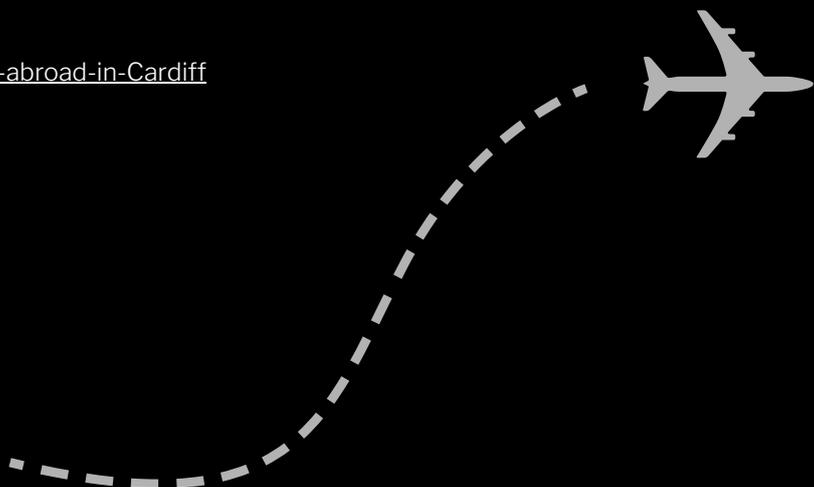
[@cardiffuni](https://twitter.com/@cardiffuni)



[@cardiffuni](https://instagram.com/@cardiffuni)



[Cardiff University](https://www.youtube.com/CardiffUniversity)



An aerial photograph of Cardiff, Wales, showing the city's urban landscape, the River Taff, and the Principality Stadium. The Cardiff University logo is overlaid in the top left corner.

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

This is Cardiff

Begin your Study Abroad journey
at Cardiff University

We are an ambitious and innovative Russell Group university with a bold strategic vision, located in the beautiful, historic and thriving capital city of Wales.

With a student population of more than 31,500 including over 7,500 international students, we are the 16th largest university in the UK, attracting students from across the globe.

Our community is inclusive and welcoming with a diverse, multicultural population of both staff and students. Absorb our unique Welsh heritage and culture to enrich your Study Abroad experience in the UK.

Why Cardiff?

**Ambition, Innovation, Quality,
Culture and Heritage.**



“ Cardiff is one of Europe’s youngest capital cities – small enough to be friendly and big enough to offer the best of living in a major city. ”

- The Complete University Guide 2017



Location

In the heart of Cardiff, the capital of Wales - just 2 hours from London.



Accommodation

Single occupancy rooms available on campus.



Safe & Affordable

One of the safest and most affordable regions of the UK.



Module based

Create your own programme with our flexible module structure.



Ranking

A Russell Group institution, ranked amongst the top 151 universities world-wide.



Lifestyle

A modern and vibrant capital city with plenty to see and do.



Student life

A multi-cultural and inclusive community from over 140 different countries.

Our campus is located in the heart of Cardiff's historic Civic Centre, alongside majestic architecture and the spacious 56-hectare Bute Park.

The majority of student housing and University residences are within short walking distance and there are also numerous bike hire stations around our campus, making it quick and easy to get around.

Wide tree-lined avenues, elegant Portland stone buildings and green parks and gardens provide the ideal spot for lunch or some down-time between classes.

A photograph of three students sitting on a grassy lawn. In the background, there is a large, historic building with a prominent clock tower. The sky is clear and blue. The students are smiling and appear to be in a relaxed, social setting.

Learn.

An inspiring university environment.



Enjoy flexible learning and on-campus accommodation.



Study for a semester or full academic year as part of your degree, building the programme of your choice with flexible modules and courses available across a wide range of Academic Schools.

Semesters run from September – December and January – June.

Single-occupancy university accommodation is available on-campus, with Study Abroad and International Exchange students being offered priority allocation as long as you apply by the accommodation deadline.

www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences



**Be part of one of the
biggest and best students'
unions in the UK.**

Experience the best of Cardiff and meet new friends along the way with over 200 student societies and 60 sports clubs to choose from.

There is something for everyone in our Students' Union and all Study Abroad and International Exchange students are automatically made members, to ensure that you are able to fully participate in Cardiff student life.



Cardiff is a modern capital city located just two hours from London by train, offering everything you would expect from a major UK city.

Regularly cited as one of the UK's best cities for students, with its affordable living costs, excellent transport links and our campus at its heart.

Landmarks such as Cardiff Castle, the Principality Stadium, Cardiff Bay waterfront and the Wales Millennium Centre put Cardiff on the map as a hub for culture, heritage and entertainment.

Our vibrant city centre offers an abundance of shopping, international dining opportunities, world-class sport and music venues, in addition to over 330 parks and gardens which make Cardiff one of the UK's greenest cities.

Live.

A cosmopolitan, vibrant capital city without the price tag.

Cardiff by night - music, sports, theatre and film.

Home to world-class venues attracting global performances and events, you don't have to go far to experience international sports, music and entertainment!

The city's Principality Stadium, with its 73,000 capacity, hosts major events including the Rugby World Cup, Six Nations Rugby, the UEFA Champions League, music concerts and more, while the Wales Millennium Centre attracts the best of theatre, dance and entertainment to the city.

Cardiff also hosts a number of other significant events throughout the year in exciting locations, including an open-air cinema in the castle grounds, an open-air theatre festival in Sophia Gardens, an international food festival in Cardiff Bay and the Sŵn Welsh Music festival spanning across multiple venues in the city.

Discover.

The weekend...

Lights, camera, action!

With an array of stunning locations, Wales is the perfect choice for many a film-set backdrop, but is also the setting for TV and film productions within its city locations.

The BBC recently moved their BBC Wales studios in the heart of Cardiff Bay where they bring Dr Who, Sherlock and other hit TV shows to life.

With a wealth of beautiful and interesting buildings, Cardiff University hasn't been left out of the drama. Many of the buildings can be spotted in various guises, if you know where to look...



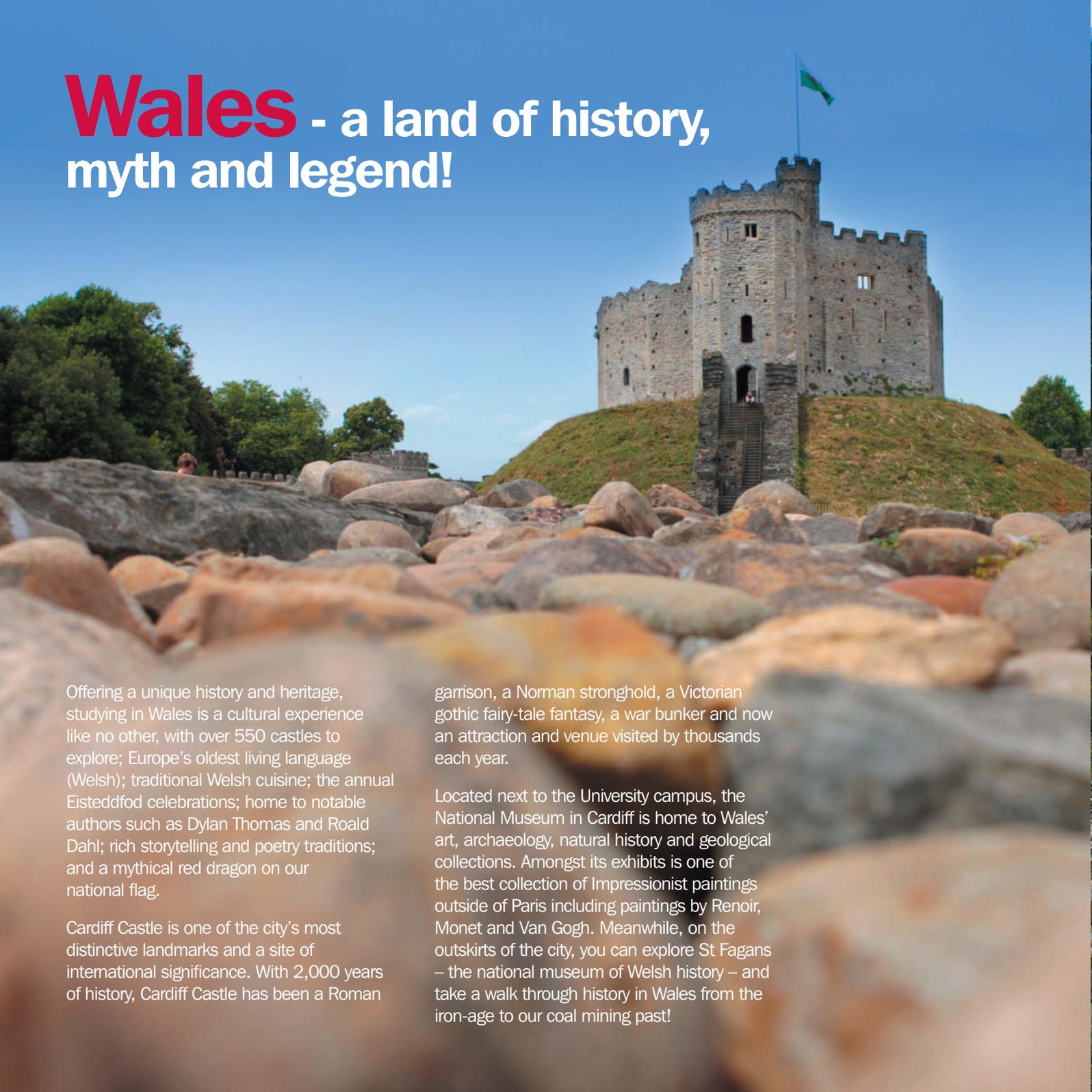
Wales - a land of history, myth and legend!

Offering a unique history and heritage, studying in Wales is a cultural experience like no other, with over 550 castles to explore; Europe's oldest living language (Welsh); traditional Welsh cuisine; the annual Eisteddfod celebrations; home to notable authors such as Dylan Thomas and Roald Dahl; rich storytelling and poetry traditions; and a mythical red dragon on our national flag.

Cardiff Castle is one of the city's most distinctive landmarks and a site of international significance. With 2,000 years of history, Cardiff Castle has been a Roman

garrison, a Norman stronghold, a Victorian gothic fairy-tale fantasy, a war bunker and now an attraction and venue visited by thousands each year.

Located next to the University campus, the National Museum in Cardiff is home to Wales' art, archaeology, natural history and geological collections. Amongst its exhibits is one of the best collection of Impressionist paintings outside of Paris including paintings by Renoir, Monet and Van Gogh. Meanwhile, on the outskirts of the city, you can explore St Fagans – the national museum of Welsh history – and take a walk through history in Wales from the iron-age to our coal mining past!



Explore our mountains and coasts, the rest of the UK and beyond.

If travel is on the agenda, Cardiff's central train station connects to every major city in the UK. Cardiff also has its own international airport and is also within 90 minutes of Bristol airport, which hosts budget airlines who fly across Europe.

Travel an hour north of Cardiff and find yourself immersed amongst the mountains and hills of the Brecon Beacons National Park, a hiker's and cyclist's dream; or travel west to the rugged Pembrokeshire coastline to explore some of the finest beaches in Europe.

With three national parks and a 750 mile coastal path, you will never be short of new places to discover. Perhaps most popular with explorers is the National Park of Snowdonia – home to Snowdon, Wales' highest mountain standing at 3,560 ft.





**To start your
journey,
contact us...**

This is Cardiff.

Learn. Live. Discover.

**Begin your Study Abroad journey
at Cardiff University**

Global Opportunities
Centre for Student Life,
Park Place,
Cardiff, UK
CF10 3BB
+44 (0)29 22 518 888
(Ask for Global Opportunities)

go@cardiff.ac.uk
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international/study-abroad-in-cardiff