

Meet Your iFrepes...

Hiya! I'm Nat, one of your '19/20 int'l officers - so excited to meet you all! I'm a Bio NatSci from Perth/Singapore and I know starting uni can be daunting - but I'm always happy to have a chat. Fun fact: I go through boxes of cookies like there's no tomorrow.



Hi guys, I'm Gauhrishi! I'm from India and study Land Economy. I know it can be difficult starting off somewhere new, so if you have any questions or worries, we're more than happy to help! Can't wait to meet you all soon!

Hi, I'm Maha! I'm from Pakistan and I study Law. Studying here was a big change for me, but Downing is filled with welcoming and helpful people. Feel free to reach out to us if you need anything and look forward to meeting you all!



Hi, I'm Zoe! Welcome to Downing - can't wait to meet you all. I'm from Berlin and study English Literature here. Fact about me: didn't realize a pickle was a cucumber until the ripe old age of 17.

If you have any particular queries or concerns, please feel free to

CONTACT US

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INTERNATIONAL FRESHERS GUIDE

Downing College





INFORMATION FOR FRESHERS (LINKS)

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO BEFORE ARRIVING/ON ARRIVAL:

[Action for Undergraduates Link](#)

[Quick Checklist for Undergraduates Link](#)

[Visa Advice Link](#)

FAQS LINK

READING LIST FOR UNDERGRADUATES LINK

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WEBSITE LINK

OTHER INFORMATION: Storage in college will be available for students before the official move-in date if you want to leave your bags in college on arrival, just contact any of the iFresher's reps (contact details on the back)

ADVICE

BANKING

- Make an appointment to open a bank account early.
- To open a bank account, you will need a letter from college - make sure you have this before going (contact freshers@dow.cam.ac.uk)
- bring ID (e.g. passport).
- A few banks in close proximity to Downing include: NatWest, Barclays, HSBC, Santander and Lloyds.
- A bank account is sometimes also a required to get a UK phone number

PHONE

- A phone number can be useful but with eduroam (the univeristy-wide wifi network) it is not always necessary
- Options for phones in the UK: 1) pay-as-you-go 2) contract. We advise looking into both and choosing the best option for you.

TRANSPORT

- A bike is highly recommended however some subjects (Bio NatSci, Geography) may not need one to get to lectures. Exams are a different story. We suggest buying a bike in Cambridge, look out for student deals and older years selling theirs - and make sure to get a lock!
- Most places in Cambridge are within walking distance and there is also the bus service and Uber if needed.

CLOTHING

- Along with casual clothing, dont forget to pack wintery items - a thick jacket is a must!
- Pack shoes for every occasion - a well worn set of trainers come in handy
- Don't forget formal wear

LAUNDRY

- As of this year, laundry in Downing is free!
- There are 3 laundry rooms:
 - *Griphon House* (only to be used by Griphon house residents), *behind I staircase* and *behind T staircase*
- The latter two are used by majority of college and so are usually all in use.

FOOD

- First year accommodation tends to have the best kitchens, great if you like cooking. The food in college is also pretty good.
- There are many restaurants around Downing, and a wide variety of food stalls can be found in market square!
- Food shopping can be done in: Mainsburys (the large Sainsburys), Slocals (the local Sainsburys), Tescos (better variety than sainsburys), Tesco express, M&S Food Hall or Aldi (far away but cheaper)
- Nanna Mexico (just across the street) has a £5 burrito-and-drink deal o Mondays

STUFF YOU MAY FORGET TO BUY/BRING:

- Extension leads and adapters
- Indoor slippers (recommended)
- Clothing hangers and a laundry bag