

Reading

Family Stay (Full-Board) » Elementary to Advanced » Ages 13-19

The Town

Modern Reading is the county town of Royal Berkshire and a major commercial centre, capital of the Thames Valley economic region. An exciting, young, university town and one of the top 10 shopping centres in Europe, Reading is one of our most popular course centres for teenagers. Henley-on-Thames and delightful riverside villages such as Sonning are within easy reach. London is only 30 minutes away by train.

The Course Centre

Tuition takes place in Reading College, a modern purpose-built teaching centre with extensive playing fields and a sports centre. It is centrally located within easy reach of the main bus routes.

Activities

Sport plays an important part in the programme and includes swimming, tennis, football, badminton and table tennis. Other activities include pop quizzes, video shows, a visit to Henley-on-Thames and, for the more studious, extra English lessons. Teacher-accompanied full-day excursions may include Windsor, Oxford, Henley, Bath, Stratford and Warwick. London is of course always included at least once in every stay.

Accommodation

A large number of our host families have been hosting EJO students for many years and most live within a 30-minute bus ride from the college. Bus passes can be purchased on arrival and are a convenient way of making the most of the town and its facilities.



What's included in the price?

- ✓ Full-board family accommodation
- ✓ 20 lessons of 45 minutes per week (15 hours)
- ✓ Full-day teacher-accompanied excursions: 1 mid-week + 1 on Saturday (except departure Saturday)
- ✓ Activities per week: 3 + 1 evening

At extra cost: Airport transfers / Local transport / Optional extra activities & excursions outside the programme



The Elizabeth Johnson Organisation

HOW TO GET TO READING

From Heathrow: By coach (Rail-Air Link) to Reading Station. (50 mins).

From Gatwick: By train, hourly direct. (75 mins)

From London Victoria / Waterloo (Eurostar): By taxi or underground to London Paddington Station. Six hourly to Reading (20 - 30 mins)
By coach from Victoria Coach station (1 hr 15 mins)

EJO can provide students with discounted vouchers for coach travel to some centres. For further information, please contact the EJO sales team on +44 1428 751933 or sales@ejo.co.uk

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS ON FAMILY STAY COURSES

WELCOME TO ENGLAND!

We are happy to have you in our centre and we will do everything to make your stay enjoyable. On arrival at the centre you will be given a Course Programme with the name, address and telephone number of your Local Organiser. She is there to help you with any problems you may have. Do talk to her as she cannot help if she does not know what is wrong.

YOUR HOST FAMILY

• Living with an English family gives you an ideal opportunity to practise the language. If you make an effort to fit in with family life, you can improve your English very quickly! It may take a day or two for you to settle down, but with a little effort it can be a rewarding experience for everyone concerned. • Since most English people live in small houses with gardens, and not flats, towns are larger in area and distances may be greater than you are used to. It is therefore unavoidable that some of you will have a longer journey to your English lessons than others. Most of you will travel by public transport between your host family and the teaching centre. • Life in England is very different from life at home. There are cultural differences, which you may find strange and difficult to understand. However, it is important that you try to recognise these differences and accept them.

LAUNDRY

Families will be happy to do small amounts of washing for you, together with the family wash. Make sure your clothes are clearly marked with your name, and ask where and when you should place your dirty clothes so that your hostess can find them easily.

TELEPHONES

Always ask for permission before making telephone calls. Be aware of the time difference between your country and England and remember to pay your hostess for any calls you make.

YOUR ROOM

Try to keep your bedroom as tidy as possible and make your own bed

BATHROOMS

Remember that in most cases you will have to share the bathroom/toilet with other family members. They, too, have to get to work and school on time, so try to fit in with them. Don't spend too long in the shower so that everybody else is late and leave the bathroom as you would wish to find it.

MEAL TIMES

Be on time for all your meals and let your host family know if you are going to be late or if you will not require a meal which you would normally have. If you go out, you must let your family know where you are going and at what time you expect to be back. Remember that you are in somebody else's home, and you should respect them and their property at all times.

RULES

• English law protects young people under the age of 18 very carefully. Although your own family may allow you out at night, while you are in this country we are responsible for you. The following rules are for your own protection. Please read them carefully. • Students under 13 years of age cannot go anywhere unaccompanied, except to go to school or on programmes that are accompanied by our staff. • 13 - 16 year olds may only go out unaccompanied if we have written permission from their parents. • Students of 13 - 14 years must be home by 21.00 hours and 15 - 16 year olds by 22.00 hours, unless attending functions supervised by the organisation or out with their host families. • 17 year olds may go out in the evening until 23.00 hours, but should remember that most buses do not run after 22.30 hours. • Students of 18 years or over are free to go out when they wish, but should make suitable arrangements in order not to inconvenience their hostesses. • When going out, all students, whatever the age, must inform the host families where they are going and at what time they expect to return. Student cards must be

carried at all time. • No student under the age of 18 years of age may spend a night away from home without prior WRITTEN permission from his parents or guardian.

MEDICAL CARE

If you become ill while in England and need medical treatment your host family will ensure that you see a doctor. • EEA (European Economic Area) nationals carrying form E128 are entitled to free NHS treatment for all conditions, on the same basis as UK residents. Students from the EEC countries with reciprocal agreements are no longer entitled to free treatment under our National Health Service, unless they are carrying form E128. • Students from non-EEC countries have to pay for NHS treatment. We therefore strongly advise students to take out adequate insurance before coming to England. EJOI can arrange this for you if you require. Please ask your agent when you book. Dental and optical treatment is not covered on the NHS and students will be expected to pay for any treatment. Be sure to inform your hostess of any special medication your doctor has asked you to follow during your stay here or restrictions your doctor has placed on you. If you come to England with an existing disability or illness, treatment must be paid for. Emergency/hospital treatment will be provided free of charge, regardless of nationality, although follow-up visits and medication may be charged for. Students with known pre-existing conditions (e.g. diabetes, epilepsy) may obtain routine treatment free of charge, provided they are carrying form E112, issued by their home country. All students under 19 and still in full time education, may obtain prescriptions for medication free of charge. Students over 19 years of age will pay for prescriptions at the current rate, (approximately £6-7.00 per item).

CLOTHING

English summers can be unpredictable, and you may need a few items of warm clothing and rainwear. The following may also be useful: swimsuit, towel and sport shoes for the sports centre.

POCKET MONEY

Each week, you will need £15 - £20 for bus tickets to and from the teaching centre. We will help you to buy passes or season tickets if they are available in your centre. You will also want some extra money for shopping. But we advise you to give any sum of money over £25 to your hostess or group leader to avoid the possibility of loss or theft. You can always ask for this when you need it.

DAMAGE

You must pay for any damage you cause to your hostess family's property, even if it is an accident. We therefore advise you to take out adequate insurance before coming to England.

SMOKING

In England, young people of 16 years of age and under are not allowed to buy cigarettes, nor smoke in public places. Smoking is prohibited in cinemas, food shops, and many other places. If you are staying with a non-smoking host family and you wish to smoke, please do so only in the garden, unless your hostess gives you permission otherwise. Do not smoke in your bedroom as this may be irritant to your room-mate.

SECURITY

Sadly theft is on the increase everywhere. Take responsibility for your property and do not leave valuable items such as mobile phones, cameras, Walkmans, CD's, computer games, jewellery, money, keys etc. lying around. Keep your mobile on you at all times, unless it is locked in your suitcase or locker while you are at the Sports Centre. Keep other valuables locked in your suitcase and entrust large amounts of money and passports to your Group Leader or Hostess.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

Electrical sockets in England may be different from those in your country so you may require a special international adaptor to enable you to charge your mobile phone, use your hairdryer, electric shaver, etc. If you forget to buy one before you leave home, they are inexpensive and readily available in most airport shops.

Accredited by the



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the best you can be