

SUMMER A TERM 2006

Cultural Activities Calendar & Information



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SUMMER A PRE-BOOKABLE TRIP

- Jun 24th—25th:
Overnight in Bruges
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What is Cultural Activities?

Dear All Summer A Term Students,

Hello and welcome from the American InterContinental University London's Cultural Activities and Sports Department!

The Cultural Activities team in London comprises Alice Gilkes, Sports & Cultural Activities Coordinator and Tony Skitt, Director of International Programmes. Each term we organize a series of events designed to give students an understanding of British and European culture by visiting many wonderful places and attending special events.

Inside you will see that we have plenty of exciting activities for you to enjoy, including trips to the theatre, sporting fixtures, walking tours, day trips around Britain and a weekend trip to beautiful Bruges in Belgium.

How can I get involved?

As you will read in the Calendar, on the first Tuesday of term (Tuesday June 6th) we have a Sign-Up day. This is when you sign up for most of the activities listed in this pamphlet. Further details about our Summer A term Sign-Up will be provided upon your arrival in London.

However, if you are interested in participating on the Overnight in Bruges then we strongly encourage you to sign up in advance of your arrival in London!

Signing up in advance is simple:

1. Mark your preferred trips on page one of the attached Pre-Booking form.
2. Fill in your credit card details on page two of the form.
3. Fax or mail the form to the number/address provided on page two of the form.

We will then sign you up on the trips you are interested in and send you a confirmation email! Most weekend trips sell out before the start of term, so book early in order not to miss out!



Above: The Roman Baths, Bath

Left and Right: The picturesque Belgian city of Bruges

TUESDAY 6 JUNE

Cultural Activities Sign-Up:

Tickets for all activities can be purchased from 8.00 AM in Student Affairs. Please note, it is possible to sign-up for the Overnight Trip to Bruges in advance of your arrival. **Please see the trip's entry within this pamphlet, and the accompanying Pre-Booking form for details of this pre-booking procedure.**

WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE

FREE! Along the Thames Walking Tour:

Enjoy a great British tradition, a pub walk. This professionally guided walk follows a classic route along the Thames which will take us to London's last remaining galleried coaching inn, its best riverside walkway, its oldest market, the finest art nouveau pub in England, the reconstruction of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London's best skyline panorama and many more points of interest. The cost of this tour is free to AIU-London students. Students need only to pay for their own drinks and return tube fare.

THURSDAY 8 JUNE

Summer Softball Tournament at Regent's Park:

In the summer months Regent's Park comes alive with softball mania as the football pitches are cleared away and the softball fields are marked out. AIU-London is hosting its own tournament of teams made up from students and staff alike. If you are interested in taking part then please register at Orientation or during the first week of term. You will then be forwarded further information closer to the event. The tournament will take place from 6.00 PM in Regent's Park and refreshments will be provided.

TUESDAY 13 JUNE

Midsummer Night's Dream at the Open Air Theatre:

The Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park is most definitely a London summer highlight. The Theatre stages Shakespearean classics in an outdoor theatre that provides a wonderful atmosphere against a background of rustling leaves from the magnificent trees that surround the theatre. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is one of Shakespeare's most popular and widely performed plays. It is a quintessential comedy, between mix and match couples in a wood near Athens. What results is a delightful confusion of misguided affection. Tickets cost £17.00 each.

THURSDAY 15 JUNE

AIU-London Summer Boat Cruise:

Join us on our annual summer boat cruise, considered by our students to be the highlight of the AIU calendar! We have chartered a boat that will take us up and down the River Thames, passing all of London's famous monuments, which will be illuminated against the night's sky. The boat features an observation deck, dance-floor complete with DJ and a cash bar, which will make for a top night on the river! Tickets for the boat cruise cost £10.00 each.

SATURDAY 17 JUNE

Day Trip to Bath and Stonehenge:

Spend a day visiting two of Britain's most popular tourist destinations; the stunning city of Bath and the Prehistoric monument at Stonehenge. Bath is a great place to begin an exploration of British culture, as it was a city built by the Romans (on Celtic foundations) and each subsequent period of British history has touched the city in some way. Today its most visible era is the 18th-century, from which we are left the world's finest collection of Georgian buildings. Jane Austen knew Bath well; she lived in the city and used it as a source of inspiration for many of her novels. Bath is not all sightseeing though; it was Princess Diana's favourite shopping city and it is also a vibrant university town. The cost includes a visit to the world-famous Roman baths where bubbling hot springs and a bathing complex were built by the Romans when Bath was known as Aquae Sulis. On the way to Bath, we will explore prehistoric Britain by visiting Europe's most famous ancient site, Stonehenge. Magical and mystical, Stonehenge is the world-famous stone circle erected around 3,000 BC. Why Stonehenge was constructed is still a matter of some debate; was it built as a place of ritual sacrifice or as a giant astronomical calculator for time-reading? The cost of the trip is £39.00 and includes return bus transportation and entrance into Stonehenge and the Roman Baths.

MONDAY 19 JUNE

Curry Night in Brick Lane: English cuisine has sometimes been cruelly berated over the decades, but things began to change for the better following the immigration into this country of people from other parts of the British Commonwealth, most especially from the Indian sub-continent. Indian food is wonderfully flavourful and aromatic. It is usually spiced to taste from gentle and creamy korma dishes through to explosive phall and vindaloo dishes for lovers of heavily spiced and hot food. Indian cuisine has now become a firmly established favourite with the

British, and it seems a little ironic that some of the world's best Indian cuisine can be found in London, and London's best Indian cuisine can be found in Brick Lane. So if you fancy trying something completely different and enjoying one of those most pleasing multi-cultural experiences in London, come along! The meal costs £10.00 and includes a poppadom starter dish, followed by a main course curry of your choice.

WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE

Jack the Ripper Haunts Walking Tour: He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31st 1888, striking terror at the hearts - and cold steel at the throats - of Londoners, leaving a trail of blood that led...nowhere. On this professionally guided walking tour, we evoke that autumn of gaslight and fog, of menacing shadows and stealthy footsteps. En route we will seek to steady our nerves in "The Ten Bells," the pub where the victims - perhaps under the steely gaze of the Ripper himself - tried to forget their waking nightmare. The cost of this tour is £4.50 per person.

SATURDAY 24 JUNE — SUNDAY 25 JUNE

Overnight in Bruges: Bruges is possibly the most perfect city in Europe, one of the continent's best preserved medieval towns in which you feel you are back in the Middle Ages. Close your eyes for a moment and think of Olde World Europe - the image you have in your mind's eye is Bruges; the city could be an illustration from Grimm's fairy tales. Bruges is a city of romantic canals and bridges, tranquil retreats and bustling squares. The medieval merchants of Bruges created great wealth that is evidenced in the city's handsome gabled houses, ornate guildhalls and majestic churches, not to mention important art treasures, including works by Van Eyck and Michelangelo. At night Bruges comes alive, with its restaurants and bars making the city a great place to spend the evening and enjoy some of Belgium's wonderful treats! The price of this Belgian experience is only £130.00 and includes round-trip bus and ferry transportation between London and Bruges, Saturday night bed and breakfast 3 star hotel accommodation in Central Bruges, a professionally guided sightseeing tour of the city and entrance into the city's famous Groeninge art museum. **Spaces are limited for this trip, and students wishing to participate are strongly encouraged to reserve their place by completing the attached booking form and returning it to AIU (via the address &/or fax number provided).**

TUESDAY 27 JUNE

The Wimbledon Tennis Championships:

The highlight of the world tennis calendar, the Wimbledon championships continue to draw the world's best players to contest a tournament spread over a two-week period. Tickets for the centre courts are very difficult to get, but it is possible to gain general admission to the grounds for the evening session, where you would be guaranteed outer court action plus access to court number two. Gaining admission to the ground is not a certainty, given the popularity of the championships, but 'first Tuesday' is the best day to try. Many of the top players start their championship on this day and the games usually last until sunset (usually around 10pm). We will provide details on how students can try and obtain entrance to the Championship on this day.

WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE

Chicago: Everybody wants to see *Chicago*! The famous Broadway musical (and movie) has hit London like an express train! Chicago tells the story of a struggling nightclub singer in 1930's Chicago whose career takes a turn for the worse upon the arrival of a sensational protégé who takes the nightclub circuit by storm. The story is a fast-moving, all-singing, all-dancing spectacular. One of Britain's leading theatre critics alarmingly advised his readers to "kill to get a ticket." You need not do that as tickets are available to AIU-London students and cost £22.50 each.

SATURDAY 1 JULY

Day trip to Cambridge:

Spend a day in this famous and beautiful university town. Cambridge University was founded in 1271 on the banks of the River Cam and has been busy producing many of the world's great minds since that date. The University colleges span this 700-year tradition, and many are architectural masterpieces, most especially King's College with its world-famous Chapel. The cost of the trip is £30.00 and includes a guided tour of Cambridge and entry to the Tower of Saint Mary the Great.

SUNDAY 2 JULY

Day trip to Warwick Castle:

Cross the moat into a thousand years of history at Warwick Castle, England's finest medieval fortress. Climb soaring towers and massive ramparts, then descend into the 14th century undercroft where banners are sharpened as the legendary "kingmaker" prepares for the tournament. Warwick's Norman castle provides a perfect setting for today's medieval tournament where contests of jousting, swordmanship and archery puts you in mind of the time of Robin Hood and his merry band of men. The cost of the trip is £34.00 and includes return bus transportation and entrance into Warwick Castle.

THURSDAY 6 JULY

Final Exams

FRIDAY 7 JULY

Housing Check-Out

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Event dates and prices quoted within this brochure are given to help students plan their time and budget their finances but remain subject to change. Every effort has been made to quote accurate prices; however, arrangements for a number of proposed activities are currently being finalised. In these instances, prices have been quoted as approximate and are subject to change within the price range given.

Sign-Up Information:

Students can sign up for the activities listed within this brochure at Cultural Activities Sign-Up (starting Tuesday June 6th). Students should note, that it is possible to ***advance book for the following weekend events***, using the advance booking form supplied with this brochure:

- **Overnight in Bruges**

AIU-London Organised Weekend Trips: Your Questions Answered

Introduction: Non-Refundable Payments Explained

The weekend trips organised by the American InterContinental University London campus are aimed to get the best possible value for the cheapest price. In order to get these best deals, AIU-London is required to financially commit to our trip suppliers before our students arrive on campus; thus we offer trips on a pre-booking basis, so we can get the money in early to pay for the trips. We need to ensure students are seriously committed to the trips and hence have added a booking form condition that all students must sign. By signing the pre-booking form, students acknowledge their understanding that all payments are non-refundable.

Pre-booking– Your Security:

All Pre-Booking forms faxed to AIU-London are received by a secure fax in the Student Services Department. Once we receive your fax we will charge your card for the trips requested and then email you a confirmation (should you not receive an email within three days of faxing your form, please email activities@aiulondon.ac.uk). We will file and retain your form until the end of the Summer term, and then forms will be shredded and disposed.

Can I sell my place on a trip if I don't want to go?

Yes. We obviously realise that circumstances sometimes materialise where a student needs to withdraw from a trip. In such cases we seek to help the student by selling their trip space to another student on the trip's reserve list, if this is possible. Please note, this scenario is only possible if we have people on the "Reserve List" for the trip in the first place!

What if I'm ill and can't make the trip?

In the eventuality that a student needs to cancel a trip through factors beyond their control (for example ill-health immediately preceding the trip or denial of a visa to enter a country, etc.) again AIU-London will seek to assist the student in reclaiming the money lost, BUT, it is important for the student to understand that this reclaim can only occur through the student's individual travel insurance policy. We strongly recommend therefore that each student obtain a "comprehensive" travel insurance prior to their trip. We will ask students to give details of their travel insurance (or the policy they intend to buy) upon their arrival in England.



AIU Active



SPORTS PLANNED FOR THE SUMMER A TERM 2006

**CONTACT ALICE GILKES,
SPORTS COORDINATOR AT
SPORTS@AIULONDON.AC.UK**

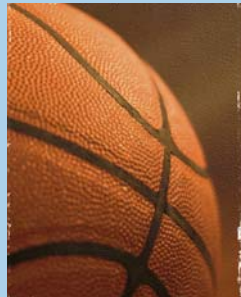
FOOTBALL

**JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER
TERM FOOTBALL IN
REGENT'S PARK! ALL
LEVELS ARE WELCOME.**



BASKETBALL PICK-UP GAMES

**FREE PICK-UP GAMES EVERY
FRIDAY FROM
3.00 PM TO 5.00 PM. SLAM DUNK
LOCAL TEAMS AND MEET NEW
PEOPLE IN THE AIU-LONDON
COMMUNITY!**



SWIMMING

**TWICE WEEKLY AT
SEYMOUR LEISURE CENTRE
THE BEST WAY TO KEEP FIT AND
RELAX AT THE SAME TIME!**



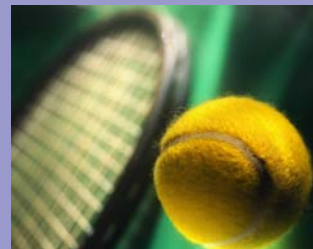
SOFTBALL

**SUMMER SOFTBALL
EVENINGS
IN REGENT'S PARK.**



TENNIS

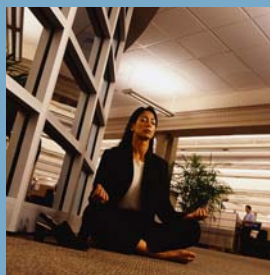
**WHETHER EXPERIENCED OR BEGINNER,
TENNIS FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR
BOOKING THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER!**



YOGA

EVERY WEEK ON CAMPUS

**RELAX AND STRETCH
YOURSELF WITH
OUR LUNCHTIME
YOGA SESSIONS ON
THE AIU LONDON
CAMPUS.**



**SIGN UP FOR ALL ACTIVITIES
DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF TERM!**