

# SUMMER TERM 2006

## Cultural Activities Calendar & Information



### What is Cultural Activities?

Dear All Summer 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 the amazing coastline of Wales!

### How can I get involved?

As you will read in the Calendar, on the first Tuesday of term (Tuesday July 11th) 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 term Sign-Up will be provided upon your arrival in London.

**However**, if you are interested in participating on the Adventure Weekend in West Wales 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 trip 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!



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#### SUMMER B TERM PRE-BOOKABLE TRIP

- Jul 28th—30th:  
Adventure  
Weekend in West  
Wales  
(page 3)

**Wild  
Weekend in  
Wales...?**



Above: Last year's students return from a successful day's activities in West Wales.

Left and Right: Do you dare to go coasteering with us in Wales or try your hand at sea kayaking?

**...see page 4!**



# AIU Active



**CONTACT ALICE GILKES,  
SPORTS COORDINATOR AT  
[SPORTS@AIULONDON.AC.UK](mailto:SPORTS@AIULONDON.AC.UK)**

## SPORTS PLANNED FOR THE SUMMER TERM 2006

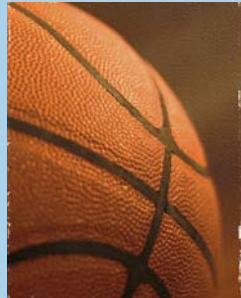
### FOOTBALL

**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

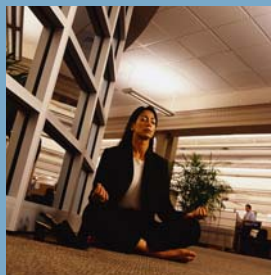
**SUMMER SOFTBALL  
EVENINGS  
IN REGENT'S PARK.**



### YOGA

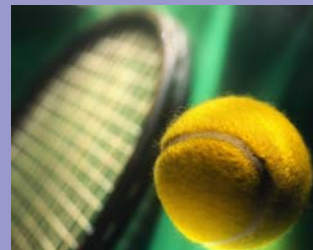
**EVERY WEEK ON CAMPUS**

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



### TENNIS

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



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

TUESDAY 11 JULY

**Cultural Activities Sign-Up:**

Tickets for all activities can be purchased from 8.00 AM in Student Affairs (Maim Building, Marylebone High Street). Please note, it is possible to sign-up for the Adventure Weekend in West Wales 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.**

FRIDAY 14 JULY

**A Day in Greenwich:** As we move further into the new millennium, spend the day with AIU-London travelling back to the "start of time." We will visit the historic London suburb of Greenwich to explore its extensive maritime history, its famous open markets and the Royal Observatory which houses the Meridian from which Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) is derived. We will travel down to Greenwich via the Thames River Boat through London's vibrant commercial sector. This district, the former London docks, has been ambitiously redeveloped with striking modern architecture that has come to symbolise the rejuvenation of Europe. We will visit the Royal Observatory and have free time to visit the National Maritime Museum. We will then return to Central London by train. The cost of this activity is **free** to AIU-London students; however students will need to pay for their transportation costs for the day (estimated cost £10.00).

SUNDAY 16 JULY

**Day trip to Leeds Castle & Rochester:**

Surrounded by a lake that reflects the warm buff stone of its crenellated turrets, Leeds is often considered to be the most beautiful castle in England. Built in the early 12th century, Leeds has royal connections dating back to 1278 when it was given to Edward I by a courtier seeking favour. Henry VIII loved the castle and visited it often. The town of Rochester is home to England's tallest Norman castle, and the town's medieval history is still visible from the original city walls that followed the lines of the original Roman fortifications. The cost of the trip is £34.00 and includes admission into Leeds Castle plus round-trip transportation between central London, Leeds Castle and Rochester.

TUESDAY 18 JULY

**Jazz Night:**

Although it may not immediately spring to mind when asked about the world's top cities for jazz, London has quietly been cultivating an ever stronger and respectable jazz scene for some time now. Ronnie Scott's Club, in the centre of Soho, has been the vanguard of London's jazz scene for the past 46 years and in that time has attracted legendary names such as Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie, Hugh Masekela and Charlie Watts, to name but a few! By contrast, the Bull's Head pub in Barnes, South London, shies away from big international names and egos and welcomes Britain's finest jazz musicians. Most of London's jazz community (whisper it quietly now!) would maintain that the Bull's Head is the place to go for the capital's finest jazz night. Finally, Soho's Pizza Express Jazz Club has earned a reputation for providing live jazz music of the highest standard in its authentic basement environment. We will select one of these great jazz nights out to take students to during the Summer term (full details will be provided upon arrival in London). Ticket prices vary from £10.00 to £20.00 each.

SUNDAY 23 JULY

**Day Trip to Windsor and Hampton Court:**

Spend the day touring two of Britain's royal palaces. Windsor Castle, the oldest continuously inhabited royal residence in Britain, was built by William the Conqueror in 1070 to guard the western approaches to London. Successive monarchs have made alterations that render the castle a remarkable monument to royalty's changing tastes. The castle is the primary residence of the present Queen and her family who stay at Windsor many weekends and Windsor was also recently the setting for the marriage of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles! Hampton Court was once the home of King Henry VIII and now stands as a dazzling monument to five centuries of English history. The Palace is historically important, as a museum of art and royal artefacts, and is also visually exciting with its beautiful gardens and parkland. The cost of the tour is £34.00 and includes a guided tour of Windsor, free time to see the Castle (entrance *not* included, and will cost an additional £12.00) and admission into Hampton Court Palace. Details of finalised meeting location for this trip will be announced following purchase of a place on this activity.

TUESDAY 25 JULY

**The Comedy of Errors at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre:**

Many of the greatest plays in the English language were first performed at the original Globe, built in Southwark in 1599. In 1613 the theatre was destroyed by fire when a spark from a stage canon used in a performance of *Henry V* set light to the thatched roof. Now master craftsmen have rebuilt the Globe in its original design, working with green oak, brick, lime, goat's hair and water-reeds to create this Tudor theatre once again. Tonight's performance of *The Comedy of Errors*. Take one pair of estranged twin brothers (both called Antipholus) and one pair of estranged twin servants (both called Dromio), keep them in ignorance of each other and throw them into a city with a reputation for

sorcery and you have the chief ingredients for theatrical chaos. One Antipholus is given gold in the street and invited to dinner by a woman who thinks she's his wife; the other is barred from his own house and rebuffed by his jeweller. Caught in between, the Dromios are soundly beaten for disobeying each other's orders. Basing his plot on a farce by Plautus, Shakespeare outdoes the mayhem of his Roman original to build up a hectic tale of violent cross-purposes, furious slapstick and social nightmare. . Please note, that in Shakespeare's day, the audience traditionally stood throughout a performance. These were known as the "groundlings". These are the tickets we have for this performance, therefore students should note that you will be standing (as opposed to sitting) throughout the evening. Tickets cost £5.00 each

FRIDAY 28 JULY- SUNDAY 30 JULY

**Adventure Weekend in West Wales:**

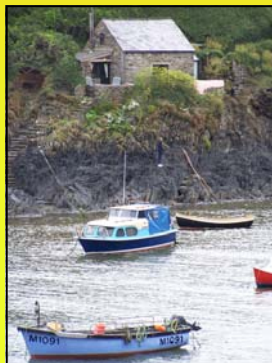


**PRESELI  
VENTURE**



**PRESELI  
VENTURE**

Consistently ranked as the favourite activity of our student body, this is a weekend of real adventure on the Atlantic coast of Wales. Go cliff jumping and feel the rush of wind past your face as you dive from the cliffs into the ocean below or find the door to the "green room" by trying a surfing lesson and catch a wave or two! Take a bike an coast up and down the country lanes or for those who prefer a more relaxing time you can choose to hike across the untouched Welsh countryside where you could easily imagine yourself in a classic oil painting. We spend the weekend at Presele Venture, a small family-run activity centre based in the Welsh Coastal National Park. The cost of the trip will be £199.00 and includes all transportation, shared accommodation at the Adventure Centre (**including all meals**), and the hiring of all adventure equipment under the guidance of trained and experienced professionals. All necessary safety equipment will be provided along with full training into equipment use. **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 on the Pre-Booking Form).**



MONDAY 31 JULY

**The Producers:** The most celebrated Broadway show of the last ten years has made its eagerly awaited transition to London's West End. Based on Mel Brooks' film of the same name, *The Producers* tells the story of theatre producer Max Bialystock and his accountant Leo Bloom, whose declining career prospects force them to concoct the perfect money making scheme - a Broadway theatrical flop. Their "guaranteed-to-fail" fiasco? A musical based on Hitler and the Third Reich! However, when the curtain goes up on their all singing, all dancing bad-taste spectacular the results aren't quite as Bialystock and Bloom had hoped.... *The Producers* has been lauded by the critics as the show that "puts the comedy back into musical comedy" (*The Guardian*) and "a glorious night of musical comedy at its magnificent, spirit-lifting best" (*The Telegraph*). Perhaps most importantly, AIU-London students loved it too, with one student announcing that it was "the best thing I have ever seen in my life!" Tickets cost £27.50 each.

FRIDAY 4 AUGUST

**Visit to Buckingham Palace:**

Visit one of England's hidden treasures, the official residence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Amongst some of the finest pictures and works of art, we will see where the Queen and Members of the Royal Family receive and entertain distinguished guests on state, ceremonial and official occasions. Buckingham Palace is only open during the summer months so this is a fantastic opportunity to see what lies behind the doors of this world famous residence. Tickets cost £12.50 each.

SUNDAY 6 AUGUST

**Day Trip to the Cotswolds:**

Close your eyes and imagine a scene of small villages with thatched cottages and amiable vicars returning home by bicycle from afternoon tea. The image you have in your mind is the Cotswolds - an area of outstanding natural beauty and as quintessentially English as you can get! This is the England of yester-year as captured by the Romantic artists and which nowadays provides the location for endless period English TV dramas. So come and imagine yourself on the set of *Masterpiece Theatre* as a character in an Agatha Christie mystery. The cost of the trip is £32.00, which includes round-trip bus transport between London and the Cotswolds.

WEDNESDAY 23 AUGUST

**FREE! Palaces, Parliament and Pubs Walking Tour:**

Join us on this free evening walking tour which aims to take in some of London's most famous royal and political landmarks. Our tour starts at Buckingham Palace, official London residence of the Queen and the location for ceremonial state occasions such as banquets for visiting heads of state and the Changing of the Guard. We will then walk up the Mall, the Palace's broad triumphal approach, to Trafalgar Square, the official centre of London. The square commemorates Admiral Lord Nelson, who died heroically at the Battle of Trafalgar against Napoleon in 1805. The most famous building on the square is the National Gallery, one of the finest painting galleries in the world. From the Square we turn south down Whitehall, the political heart of Britain. We will pass by Horseguards Parade, Downing Street (the home of the Prime Minister), the Cabinet War Rooms and finish up in Parliament Square. Here we can enjoy the spectacle of the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben and Westminster Abbey, the resting place of Britain's monarchs and the setting for all royal coronations for the last 1000 years.

SATURDAY 26 AUGUST

**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 27 AUGUST

**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 18<sup>th</sup>-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 28TH AUGUST

**Bank Holiday**

There will be no classes scheduled today. So take advantage of the long weekend and plan a trip yourself to a destination in the United Kingdom or on the continent! Why not come along and see us in Student Affairs where we can share with you a number of resources and advice to make the most of the time that you have.

TUESDAY 29 AUGUST

**A Midsummer Nights Dream - Open Air Theatre:**

The Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park is most definitely a London summer highlight. The Theatre stages this Shak-

-espearan classic in an outdoor theatre that provides a wonderful atmosphere against a background of rustling leaves from the magnificent trees that surround the theatre. This tale of warring fairies and mismatched lovers and set in an enchanted forest has become synonymous with the open air 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. "The perfect place for an enchanting dream night creeps over the park and once more, sprinkles enchantment over this dream." Evening Standard

THURSDAY 31 AUGUST

**Ride the London Eye:** Ride one of London's newest and most popular attractions, the London Eye (or Millennium Wheel). At 135 metres high, the Eye is the world's tallest observation wheel and gives dramatic (25 miles in each direction) views right across London from its location on the South Bank of the River Thames. From this giant "ferris wheel" type structure, visitors will be given a unique perspective on the city's great landmarks that up until now have only been enjoyed by the birds. The Millennium Wheel costs £11.00 to ride. This activity will take place in the evening and further information, including finalised timings and travel arrangements, will be announced following Orientation.

SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

**Premier League Football – Live:** The English Premiership is arguably the most exciting football (soccer) league in the world, and we aim to obtain tickets to a top game. The Premier League contains 20 of England's best soccer teams, 5 of whom are based in London. Chelsea are currently the English Champions and will be participants in next season's European Champions' League. Arsenal hail from North London and play some of the most attractive football in England with fast, free-flowing passing and moving. Their bitter North London rivals are Tottenham Hotspur, whose young talented squad are preparing to face the new season coached by Dutch manager Martin Jol. Fulham hail from West London and have an array of international stars in their team line-up. South London are represented by Charlton Athletic, who have a young team and provide some of London's most entertaining soccer, certainly on the goals-per-game ratio. Finally, recently promoted West Ham United are the pride of East London, a working class area, whose support for their team borders on the fanatical. (Approximate cost £20-£40).

SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

**Day Trip to York**

Spend a day exploring north England's finest city and its marvellous surrounding countryside. As King George VI once proclaimed, "the history of York is the history of England." York is a walled city graced by a magnificent medieval Minster (or church). Adopted as a garrison town by invading Roman and Viking forces the Jorvik centre transcends time to take you back to life in past centuries. Still surrounded by its medieval walls today, York is both a picturesque slice of English history and a modern, thriving city with excellent restaurants and public houses. The cost of this trip is £39.00 and consist of a return train journey to York and an expert guided tour of York.

MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

**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 £12.00 and includes a poppadom starter dish, followed by a main course curry of your choice.

MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER – THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

**Final Exams**

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

**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 (on Tuesday July 11th). Students should note, that it is possible to ***advance book for the following weekend events***, using the advance booking form supplied with this brochure:

- **Adventure Weekend in West Wales**

### **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](mailto: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.