

# International Orientation 2018 10<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Royal  
Agricultural  
University  
Cirencester



**Provisional Programme:**  
*Subject to changes*



Living & studying in the UK...

**Welcome** to the International Orientation programme at the Royal Agricultural University.

We are delighted to have you here and hope that this will be an enjoyable experience. Our intention is to provide you with a warm, friendly atmosphere and an excellent level of support.

We understand that you may feel nervous and apprehensive about studying abroad, as you are away from your family and friends. The aim of the International Orientation programme is to help you feel prepared to begin your time studying at the Royal Agricultural University; to give you the chance to meet new people and make friends, get settled and organised, become familiar with the RAU campus and staff and the local area, to improve your oral and written academic English language skills, become a little more acclimatised to life and the culture in the UK and have fun and visit some famous places – all ahead of term beginning.

**The Academic Orientation sessions throughout the 2 week period will focus on the following skills to prepare you for your studies:-**

- How to plan and organise your study time
- How to listen and read effectively and take good lecture notes
- How to plan and structure your academic writing
- How to summarise and paraphrase
- How to locate research materials and reference your sources
- How to deliver presentations and take part in seminar discussions



**PLEASE NOTE: *there is always the possibility that some events may have to be amended or cancelled due to inclement weather***

- 08.00 – 09.00** *Breakfast - Dining Hall*
- 09.15 – 10.15** **Meet Michelle outside the Porters' Lodge**  
*Welcome & introduction session*
- 10.15 – 10.45** **Student Services Hub**  
*Coffee-break – Meet the student welfare team and SU International Officer*
- 10.45 - 11.30** **SU Campus Orientation: Group Challenge & Treasure Hunt**  
*With ..... – SU International Officer*
- 11.30 – 12.30** **Finance Office & Registry, George Wing** - University fees information update with Student Ledger Clerk Mark and issuance of Biometric Residence Permits by Asst. Registrar Katerina
- 12.30 – 13.30** *Lunch*
- 14.00 – 15.00** **Meet Michelle outside the Porters' Lodge** to walk into town  
**A guided walking tour of Cirencester** with local guide, William Cooper, beginning at the Church Porch on Market Square
- 15.00 – 17.00** Open bank accounts at Lloyds Bank in Cirencester town centre
- 17.00 – 17.30** **STARs** – will meet you at Lloyds bank and show you where various shops and places that you need to know are located in the town, then walk back to campus together in time for supper in the Dining Hall
- 18.00 – 18.30** *Supper – Dining Hall*

08.00 – 09.00 *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

09.00 - 10.00 EJ PG1 - **Academic Orientation session**

10.00 - 1030 **coffee-break & Accommodation on & off-campus:**  
meet our RAU Accommodation Officer, Sarah, who will answer any questions you may have and facilitate meeting local agents for those without pre-arranged on campus accommodation

10.40 – 11.10 **Meet Mark outside the Porters' Lodge**  
Sports at the RAU: A tour of the gym and sporting facilities

11.15 – 12.15 EJ PG1 - **Academic Orientation session**

12.15 – 13.15 *Lunch - Dining Hall*

13.20 – 13.50 **Meet Dr Ian Grange – RAU Centre for the Environment - outside the Porters' Lodge:**



Senior Lecturer in Countryside and Environmental Management in the Centre for Environment at the Royal Agricultural University, Dr Ian Grange has extensive academic expertise in soil science with research experience in the UK, Australia and Thailand. His current teaching and research interests include habitat management and ecological connectivity at the landscape scale.

<https://www.rau.ac.uk/about/news-and-events/news/raus-very-own-springwatch>

14.00 – 15.30 **Meet RAU nurse Anna Thompson at the RAU Clinic** for your introduction to the NHS, RAU Clinic, and Phoenix Surgery  
Bring your completed Medical Registration forms - Anna will walk you to the Phoenix Surgery to familiarise you with the route and the surgery reception, and hand them in to surgery staff

18.00 – 18.30 *Supper – Dining Hall*



**08.00 – 08.30**                      *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

**08.30**                                **Meet Michelle outside the Porters' Lodge** to depart

**10.00 – 12.00**                    **THE AQUAPONICS SOLAR GREENHOUSE** - *an essential resource for studying sustainable food production and aquaculture, see this pioneering technology first hand! The Aquaponics Solar Greenhouse - the first of its kind in the UK – employs sustainable food growing techniques using aquaculture, farming fish, and hydroponics creating a hugely productive and efficient farming system with few inputs and many, high value outputs. Fish are grown and the nutrient rich water is then recycled into soilless vegetable production cleaning the water in the process so it can be constantly reused. This productive, edible ecosystem is housed in a purpose built passive solar greenhouse and combined with a variety of other complementary farming techniques such as producing fish and poultry food from insects, and growing quail, fed from by-products of the system.*



**12.30 – 13.30**                    *Lunch - Symond's Yat Rock - packed lunch provided – an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty*

**13.30 – 16.00**                    **Canoeing on the River Wye**



**18.00 – 18.30**                    *Supper – Dining Hall*

**08.00 – 09.00**                      *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

**09.00 - 10.30**                      **Academic Orientation session**  
Including student presentations – *Aquaponics & Canoeing*

**10.30 – 10.45**                      *coffee-break*

**10.45 – 11.15**                      **Meet in the Library Foyer**  
RAU Library Orientation

**11.15 - 12.15**                      **Introduction to IT at the RAU**  
Introduction to using the RAU's *Gateway* and IT services with RAU IT technician Leigh; includes any self-registration queries and uploading of photographs for ID cards.

**12.30 – 13.30**                      **Bathurst Lounge - Welcome Lunch**  
An informal finger food buffet lunch with the RAU Vice Chancellor Professor Joanna Price and some academic staff, the Student Support team and STARS as well as the Student Union International Office and other representatives

**13.30 – 15.30**                      **Meet outside the Porters' Lodge:** to walk to the RAU Equestrian Centre at Fossehill Farm



**18.00 – 18.30**                      *Supper – Dining Hall*

08.00 – 08.30

*Breakfast - Dining Hall*

08.45

**Meet outside the Porters' Lodge** - Depart for Avebury: the largest prehistoric stone circle in Europe

10.30 – 11.30

guided walking tour of the stone circles

❖ *Packed lunch provided*

11.30 – 14.15

**explore the Manor, Gardens and Alexander Keiller Museum**

Avebury Manor was refurbished for each room to reflect a period in which the residents lived, the furniture and objects were either recreated by modern craftsmen, or genuine antique furniture restored, and made strong enough to be used, sat on and touched. Uniquely, visitors are encouraged to sit on the furniture, lie on the beds and play snooker in the Billiard Room.

The Alexander Keiller Museum, in the Stables Gallery, houses one of the most important prehistoric archaeological collections in Britain

14.15 - 14.30

**Meet at the coach park** to return to the RAU

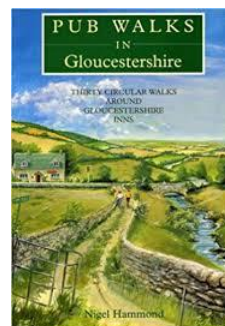
18.00 – 18.30

*Supper – Dining Hall*

**08.00 – 09.00***Breakfast - Dining Hall***MORNING FREE****12.00 – 12.30***Lunch - Dining Hall***12.40 – 16.00**

an introduction to 'rambling' English style by Richard Holmes of Cirencester Ramblers:

- Footpaths & Rights of Way
- The *Kinder Scout Trespass* story
- Using Ordnance Survey Maps and compasses
- Ramblers & walking groups



...followed by a local country walk finishing at a local pub, The Tunnel House.

*Return to the RAU campus by coach.*

***Please wear stout shoes and clothing appropriate for, at times, potentially muddy paths***

**18.00 – 18.30***Supper – Dining Hall***SUNDAY 16th SEPTEMBER****FREE DAY****08.00 – 09.00: Breakfast; 12.00 – 12.30: Lunch; 18.00 – 18.30: Supper**



8.00 – 09.00

*Breakfast - Dining Hall*

09.00 - 10.00

**Academic Orientation session**

Including student presentations: *Avebury, Rambling* and *Week 1 at the Royal Ag*

10.00 – 10.15

*coffee-break*

10.15 – 11.15

**Academic Orientation session**

11.30 – 12.00



**Meet at the labs: Simon Daniels, Lecturer in Equine Nutrition & Parasitology, Centre for Equine Management & Science,** whose research interests include Equine parasitology; Anthelmintic resistance; Sustainable parasite control methods; Parasites and intestinal health; Equine nutrition and gastrointestinal health; Oxidative stress

<https://www.rau.ac.uk/about/news-and-events/news/delivering-equine-expertise-african-symposium>

12.15 – 13.15

*Lunch*

13.30 – 15.00

**Meet outside the Porters' Lodge:**

An introduction to croquet *with* Robert Moss and the Cirencester Croquet Club



16.30 – 17.30

*An early supper – Dining Hall*

18.00 – 21.00

**Meet outside the Porters' Lodge - Depart for Gifford's Circus**

**a magical village green circus that tours England throughout the summer.** *"It's not your average big tent affair but a wonderland. It's the best live show I've ever seen. I'd love to join the circus."* Rachel Weisz, Harpers Bazaar

<http://www.giffordscircus.com/our-story/>

**20.45** Depart to return to the RAU

**08.00 – 09.00**                      *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

**09.00 - 10.15**                      **Academic Orientation session**  
Including student presentations: *Gifford's Circus*

**10.15 – 10.30**                      *coffee-break*

**10.30 -11.15**                      **RAU Speaker:** hear from a member of the Royal Ag's academic staff about the work that they do here, both with regards to teaching and research

**11.15 – 12.15**                      **Academic Orientation session**

**12.15 – 13.15**                      *Lunch- Dining Hall*

**13.30 – 15.30**                      **Meet outside the Porters' Lodge – depart for RAU Harnhill farm**



**18.00 – 18.30**                      *Supper – Dining Hall*

**08.00 – 08.30**                      *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

**08.45**                                **Meet outside the Porters' Lodge** - depart for Windsor



**11.00**                                Windsor Castle: Changing of the Guard

**11.30 – 14.15**                      Audio-guide tour of the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world: originally built by William the Conqueror in the eleventh century, today this is the official residence of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the richly furnished State Apartments house some of the finest works of art in the Royal Collection. Enjoy the castle, its grounds and the town.

❖ *Packed lunch provided*

**14.15 - 14.30**                      **Meet at the Coach Park** to depart Windsor to return to the RAU

**18.00 – 18.30**                      *Supper – Dining Hall*

**08.00 – 09.00**                      *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

**09.00 - 10.00**                      **Academic Orientation session**  
Including student presentations – *Week 2 at the Royal Ag;  
Windsor*

**10.00– 10.15**                      *coffee-break*

**10.30 – 12.30**                      **Academic Orientation session**

**12.30 – 13.30**                      *Lunch - Dining Hall*

**13.30 – 19.30**                      **Clay pigeon shoot with STARs – Hollow Fosse**

...this is the art of shooting a firearm at special flying targets, known as clay pigeons or clay targets. The terminology relates to times past, when live-pigeon shooting competitions were held.

**Sausage-sizzle campfire supper - Selsley Common**

A joint outing with the STARs, after the shoot we will drive to Selsley Common, near Stroud, for a sausage-sizzle campfire supper with a view



- 08.00 – 09.00** *Breakfast - Dining Hall*
- 09.00 - 11.00** **Academic Orientation – final session**
- 11.00 – 11.15** *coffee-break*
- 11.15 – 12.30** Group work session: final preparation for your group presentation
- 12.30 – 13.30** *Lunch - Dining Hall*
- 13.30 – 14.00** **Bathurst Lounge:** Group presentation set up & equipment check
- 14.00 – 14.45** **Bathurst Lounge: RAU IO 2018 closing reception & students' presentation**

*International Orientation 2018 – a reflection on our experience as international students arriving at the RAU*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaYU7qX8g-0&t=22s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1qQm0TC-5s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHN6fVYt6yg>



**18.00 – 18.30**

*Supper – Dining Hall*



**SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**08.00 – 09.00**

*Breakfast - Dining Hall*

*Students moving off-campus move out today by 09.30am*

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**FREE DAY**



**MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**RAU INDUCTION WEEK BEGINS**

