

GREAT BRITAIN

TORQUAY

WHERE DO WE GO?

Torquay is a seaside town in Devon, England, part of the unitary authority area of Torbay. It lies 18 miles (29 km) south of the county town of Exeter and 28 miles (45 km) east-north-east of Plymouth, on the north of Tor Bay, adjoining the neighbouring town of Paignton on the west of the bay and across from the fishing port of Brixham.

The town's economy, like Brixham's, was initially based upon fishing and agriculture, but in the early 19th century it began to develop into a fashionable seaside resort, initially frequented by members of the Royal Navy during the Napoleonic Wars while the Royal Navy anchored in the bay. Later, as the town's fame spread, it was popular with Victorian society. Renowned for its mild climate, the town earned the nickname the English Riviera.

The writer Agatha Christie was born in the town and lived at Ashfield in Torquay during her early years. There is an "Agatha Christie Mile", a tour with plaques dedicated to her life and work.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL

The school building is located a few meters from the port, close to shops, cafes, restaurants, international marina and ferries. The beaches are within walking distance.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in a shared room, in families of trust in Full Board.

Host Families:

- 20 minute to the town centre & school
- Groups in the same area with detailed maps
- Students in shared rooms, leaders in single
- Recruited, inspected & police checked



STUDY OPTIONS

A GENERAL ENGLISH

Practising the core skills of Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing and Grammar, with a clear focus on improving communication.

B ENGLISH CULTURAL STUDIES

Below is a sample of the topics that could be taught during an English Cultural Studies course at Riviera English School. This list is not finite - we would be happy to incorporate your own ideas.

1. British habits and routines, mealtimes, working hours, weekend activities, hobbies and sports.
2. Torquay/Torbay - population, history, employment, tourism - places to visit/ famous people (Agatha Christie... Making a poster to promote Torbay).
3. Young people - slang/habits/interests; problems - drugs, alcohol, unemployment; pop music.
4. Politics and the monarchy - elections/ the Prime Minister/ the Royal family - compared with other countries' systems.
5. Practical familiarisation - opening a bank account, getting a National Insurance number, arranging accommodation, renting/buying property, using transport, paying bills, asking for and giving directions; prepositions of place, asking politely (indirect/direct questions), shops and shopping.
6. Houses - different types of house/ names of rooms and furniture/ quirks of British houses - separate taps, carpet on bathroom floor, household pets, decoration, prices of houses - look at real estate pages in local newspaper - compare with other countries.
7. The education system - what age do children start school, the different types of school, school uniform, compulsory subjects, typical school timetables, types of qualifications.
8. Food - other countries vs British food - what do they eat for breakfast/ recipes - write a recipe for a typical local dish / typical English food cream tea/fish and chips/ potatoes/ shepherd's pie.
9. The law - ages for smoking/alcohol/getting married/ driving....Crimes and punishments.
10. Festivals - Christmas - how do the other countries celebrate Christmas compared with Britain? Other quirky things such as the tooth fairy, superstitions - number 13, black cats, walking under ladders...
11. Literature - (specifically Devon linked) Hound of the Baskervilles/ Agatha Christie...
12. The weather - vocab to describe the weather, comparing the weather in other countries and England (comparative language), presenting a weather forecast, discussing climate change.
13. Travelling in England - the top tourist destinations and places of natural beauty.
14. Historical figures - a look at some of the most famous English people throughout the ages.

C ENGLISH FOR THE WORK PLACE/BUSINESS

Areas that can be covered include: Writing a CV, interview techniques, daily interactions, business meetings, telephoning, emailing, writing letters, presenting facts and figures, company structures, business terms and expressions, formal vs. informal language in business, company analysis, company presentations, financial terminology.

D ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES

For example, your group may need to prepare for an exam, or need to concentrate on certain areas of the language. Just let us know your requirements and we will put together a teaching plan.

SCHEDULES, ACTIVITIES AND VISITS

Our program of activities is led by a native guide. Includes daily activities.

W1	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MORNING		ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION 08:45 - 10:15 h and 10:45 - 12:15 h	ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION 08:45 - 10:15 h and 10:45 - 12:15 h	ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION 08:45 - 10:15 h and 10:45 - 12:15 h	ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION 08:45 - 10:15 h and 10:45 - 12:15 h	ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION 08:45 - 10:15 h and 10:45 - 12:15 h	EXETER Visit the city of Exeter with its historic Quayside. Visit the Cathedral and award winning Museum. Great shopping too!	DEPART TORQUAY Farewell from Host families and accommodation officer
AFTERNOON	ARRIVE IN TORQUAY Welcome by the accommodation officer and host families	ORIENTATION WALK OF TORQUAY	KENT'S CAVERN Coastal walk to Torquay's famous caves 	TORRE ABBEY Monastery, museum and gallery	COCKINGTON Visit this famous thatched village, visit Rose Cottage for a Cream Tea or Cockington Court craft centre	FREE AFTERNOON (time for last minute souvenir shopping) 		
EVENING		Home with hosts	Home with hosts (Group Leader may arrange an activity)	BOWLING Challenge your friends! 	Home with hosts (Group Leader may arrange an activity)	CINEMA 	Home with hosts	

Sample Program

- **Orientation walk of Torquay**

The best activity for your first day, explore and get to know the city and its attractions.

- **Kents Caverns**

Is a cave system in Torquay. It is notable for its archaeological and geological features

- **Cookington**

Is a village in Torquay. It has old cottages within its boundaries, and is about a half a mile away from Torquay.

- **Torre Abey**

Torre Abbey is a historic building and art gallery in Torquay, Devon, which lies in the South West of England

FULL DAY EXCURSION TO EXETER

Exeter is a city in Devon, England, on the River Exe 36 miles northeast of Plymouth and 65 miles southwest of Bristol. It is the county town of Devon, and home to Devon County Council and the University of Exeter.