



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

BLACK STUDENT GUIDE 2024-25



We are the original redbrick
liverpool.ac.uk

Passionate. Lively. Welcoming.

Known for its friendly, diverse communities, Liverpool has a reputation for being a place where people come together and stand up for what matters. Here you'll find a thriving Black community, both on campus, and in the wider city.

This guide was written in partnership with some of our current students, who wanted to share with you their top tips and recommendations, on everything from beauty and personal care, to places of worship, to favourite spots to eat, to help you settle into your new home. Whatever your interests and passions, we can guarantee you'll find an outlet for them in this amazing city. You'll also find information in this guide on the many support services we offer and our commitment to race equality.

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Community

Liverpool is a city where community thrives, and as a student at the University, you'll quickly find yourself becoming part of this vibrant and welcoming network.



Hi, I'm Sandra!

I've been a student in Liverpool for 2 years. Liverpool is a great place to build community and meet like-minded people. Some of my favourite events to find community have been the 'Give it a Go' events from the Guild - for example, the coffee-tasting class and the weekly yoga lessons. I've also enjoyed being part of societies like **BME Medics** and helping with events and fundraisers.

Liverpool is a great place to build community and meet like-minded people!



Community in Liverpool can be as large or small as you want it to be. It can take on many forms, from the people you meet in your halls of residence to the various student societies available on campus. Whether you're interested in sports, music, or cultural activities, there's a place for you.

Communities of Faith

If you have a particular religion or belief, there are many opportunities to engage with your faith in Liverpool. The city has a plethora of churches, temples, synagogues, and mosques. Many of these institutions have student-led activities.

For example, the Anglican Cathedral hosts student-centred groups and the Liverpool University Student Catholic Society ([@liverpoolcathsoc](#)) holds regular Masses and social events.

The Gloryland Student Church is another welcoming space, held here in the guild, encouraging students to embrace their faith. Additionally, the **LJMU Gospel Choir** is a multicultural group whose doors are open to all.

In the City

Liverpool is a city that is rich with history, and the city's Black community is one of the oldest in Europe. It's a city that doesn't shy away from the challenges of its dark past so closely connected to the transatlantic slavery, and the city's world-renowned **International Slavery Museum** seeks to tell the untold stories of enslaved people. The **Museum of Liverpool's Black Community trail** celebrates the history and diversity of Black people in Liverpool and how they have contributed to all aspects of Liverpool life.

You'll find an abundance of Black community groups operating in the city, including the **Kuumba Imani Centre**, just 10 minutes' walk from the city centre, who offer a variety of community-led activities and workshops, as well as many thriving organisations dedicated to combatting racism and building stronger, safer communities, such as the **Anthony Walker Foundation** and the thriving **Merseyside BLM Alliance**.

Online Communities

Online groups like The Goddess Projects ([@TheGoddessProjects](#) on Instagram) are dedicated to creating spaces to empower and assist Black women in particular to achieve within their communities. They organise events such as Open Mic nights and meet-ups.

By getting involved in projects and societies that interest you, whether it's cultural, music, or volunteering, you'll find a sense of belonging that makes your time in Liverpool truly special.



Music, Culture & Nightlife



Hi, I'm Mansoor!

I'm a third year Aerospace Engineering student. Congratulations on joining the University of Liverpool. I'm excited to welcome you to this vibrant city, where I've been living for the past four years since moving here from London.



When it comes to nightlife, INK Bar and Pure Nightlounge are your go-to spots for guaranteed good vibes and great music.

Liverpool is known for its incredible nightlife, easily ranking among the top three in the UK. The city hosts a variety of must-attend events that celebrate our culture and community.

One standout event is **DXPE**, a prominent force in the nightlife scene. It's the place to be if you want to rub shoulders with celebrities from Love Island, footballers, comedians, US artists, and your favourite UK rappers, all while vibing to Afrobeats, Bashment, RnB, and Amapiano. For more details, check out [@mj_ay](#) on Instagram. Some music groups to check out if you love music are **Katumba**, a local community drumming group who foster mental and physical wellbeing through music and movement, and **Movema**, a Liverpool-based charity who celebrate diversity through dance.

When it comes to nightlife, **INK Bar** and **Pure Nightlounge** are your go-to spots on Fridays and Saturdays and are my personal favourites for guaranteed good vibes and great music.

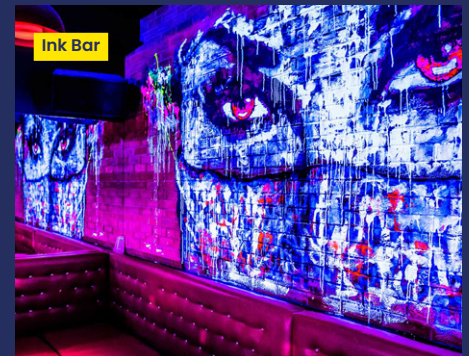
For a taste of culture during the summer, I recommend **Africa Oyé** event at Sefton Park. This festival brings families together to celebrate African culture through food, drinks, and music, offering a fantastic opportunity to connect with the city on a deeper level.

Upcoming Events

There's always lots going in Liverpool for arts and culture lovers, no matter what you're interested in.

Our **Tung Auditorium** showcases a diverse programme of events, from classical to jazz, to electronica and spoken word. They also run events in partnership with **Blackfest**, a local grassroots organization that develops work by Black artists across community spaces in the city.

Find out more about Blackfest here - www.blackfest.co.uk



Food & Drink



Hi,
I'm Jermaine

I'm a third-year law student at the University of Liverpool, and I'd love to share some of my favourite spots to eat around the city.

Whether you're after authentic African flavours, Caribbean delights, or something with a bit of a twist - Liverpool has plenty to offer. Some of my personal favourites include the **Red Sea Restaurant** for mouth-watering Ethiopian dishes, **Gobble Up** for a taste of the Caribbean, and don't forget to check out **Bakchich** on Bold Street for the best Lebanese food in the city!

These spots are perfect for students - affordable, delicious, and with great vibes, enjoy!



Red Sea Restaurant

Food Recommendations

Red Sea Restaurant
19 Lodge Lane, L8 0QG

Gobble Up
46 Lower Breck Road, L6 4BZ

Sedpraiz Eatery
149 Great Howard Street, L3 7ED

Sanfex African Hotspot
70 Prescot Rd, L7 0JA

Bakchich Lebanese Restaurant
54 Bold St, L1 4EA

Mahoe Blue
276 Aigburth Rd, L17 9PJ

Raggas Caribbean Café & Bar
58 Smithdown Rd, L7 4JG

Desserts by Dre
54 Penny Lane, L18 1DG



Bakchich Lebanese Restaurant



Desserts by Dre



Sanfex African Hotspot

Beauty & Personal Care



Hi! I'm Smret

I'm a Medical student who has been living in Liverpool for the past 2 years. Liverpool is an exciting and lively city with so much to offer, including a fantastic range of beauty spots.



Drippinglow



Lashesbylayla.x



Hairbynahxee._

Balancing a busy schedule can be challenging and I often struggle to find time for myself, however I am a big advocate for self-care and there's nothing better than getting your hair styled, nails perfected, or lashes done - you've got to treat yourself every now and then! I also understand how difficult it can be to find places that cater to various hair types, especially when you're new to the city, so check out my recommendations for all the best places and people to visit in Liverpool (some are offering special deals and student discounts!).

So go ahead and enjoy a little pampering - you deserve it!

Beauty supply stores

Liverpool Hair and Cosmetics

- 31way, Ground floor at St John shopping centre, Liverpool, L1 1LJ
T: 0151 708 0699

Citrus Cosmetics

- 140 Great Charlotte Street, 1st floor at St John shopping centre, Liverpool, L1 1NA T: 0151 707 1532

Citrus Cosmetics

- 50 Prescot Road, Fairfield, Liverpool, L7 0JA

Rapunzels Hair City

- 315 Smithdown Road, Liverpool, L15 0EB T: 0151 733 4333

Hair

Styledbybenedito

- Instagram: @styledbybenedito

Hairbynahxee._

- Instagram: @hairbynahxee._

Men's hair/hairstyles (without the use of extensions) are available.

Ellahaironline

- Instagram: @ellahaironline

Rewa_hb

- Instagram: @rewa_hb

Jae.lacelab

- Instagram: @jae.lacelab

Teebraiids

- Instagram: @teebraiids

10% student discount from October for 7 months.

Romeo's Barbershop

- 19 Brick St, Liverpool, L1 0BL
T: 07713398676

Nails

Drippinglow

- Instagram: @drippinglow

Clayton Nails and Spa

- Clayton Square, Liverpool, L1 1QR

Lashes

Rewa_hb

- Instagram: @rewa_hb

Lashbarbiex

- Instagram: @lashbarbiex

Lashesbylayla.x

- Instagram: @lashesbylayla.x

Societies



Hi, I'm Ophelia!

I'm a third year Law student and as a very active member of ACS, I would say University of Liverpool African Caribbean Society is a very welcoming and exciting society, which caters to the interests of all members, with events such as Sip'n'Paints and hair braiding classes, and supports their educational needs through partnerships with 10,000 black interns.

As a society we try to encourage as much diversity and inclusion as possible around campus and the city, by encouraging our members to participate in other societal events such as **BME Medics, North African Society** and **Decolonise UOL**, as well as participating in the local Black community.



As someone who has been in Liverpool for 2 years now, I can honestly say that Liverpool has an amazing culture and community. The University prides itself on inclusivity, by providing a mosque within Sydney Jones Library, as well as safe prayer spaces. Liverpool also has a wide range of active religions, popular religious building such as Al Rahma Mosque and Liverpool One church, are amazing places to widen your social skills alongside your faith, as a lot of the BAME society within Liverpool attend these places of worship.

The Guild holds a Society Fair every September - it's the best way to discover new societies and find the right one for you!



But whatever you enjoy, Liverpool has a little of everything for everyone, my advice would be to just stay open to new experiences!

Societies you might be interested in...

African Caribbean Society

Instagram: [@livuniacs](#)

BME Medics Liverpool

Instagram: [@bmemedicsliv](#)

Diversity in Law Society

Instagram: [@livuniversityinlaw](#)

Decolonise UOL

Instagram: [@decoloniseuol](#)

East African Society

Instagram: [@livunieastafrican](#)

Islamic Society

Instagram: [@uolivisoc](#)

Somali Society

Instagram: [@livsomalisoc](#)

North African Society



Scan to see all the groups and societies you can be a part of.



Sports & Fitness

Liverpool is a city well known for its sports. If you're looking to stay fit, improve your physical abilities or just meet new people, you've got plenty of opportunities both on campus and beyond.

Right here on campus, **Sport Liverpool** is home to everything you need to maintain and improve your fitness. Enjoy state-of-the-art gyms, fitness classes, team sports and Liverpool city centre's only full-sized swimming pool. Many students also opt to participate in activities outside of uni, too – with recommendations from some of our black students coming in for competitive basketball ([@hustlers.united_lvp](#)) and American football ([@merseysidenighthawks](#)) teams.

'Joining a team outside of university helps you to build connections further afield and immerse yourself in the local community, whilst enhancing your teamwork, leadership and adaptability skills.'

Mansoor

And if team sports aren't your thing, I recommend a free calisthenics session that takes place every Monday and Friday afternoon to help improve your fitness and connect with other health-conscious individuals. Check out [@calisphoenix_liverpool](#) on Instagram for more details.



Why not try something new?

See all the teams and clubs you can get involved with at Liverpool...



Support at the University

You'll find lots of support as a new student at Liverpool.
No matter what you need support with – study, wellbeing, disability, finance – you will always find someone who can assist you.

Black students are invited to join **Liverpool Plus**, a transition and support programme at the University of Liverpool. Taking part in **Liverpool Plus** will allow you to build your community at University, meeting other students and building and strengthening relationships with different teams across the University.

It'll help you to make the most out of your University experience, by providing priority access to opportunities like the **Liverpool Advocate scheme**. You'll be supported to explore everything Liverpool has to offer, from study skills support with our colleagues at the Library, to studying abroad with our Global Opportunities team. You'll have dedicated points of contact in the Widening Participation team, who can signpost you in the right direction whatever your query.



Find out more information here: liverpool.ac.uk/widening-participation/liverpool-plus/



Find out more about general student support here: liverpool.ac.uk/student-support/support



Careers & Employability

We have a dedicated team of career coaches and employability experts at the university who can provide you with support both during and beyond your studies.

Our new Career Studio on campus is the place to go to find support from our team (who are all students, just like you!). They can help you with exploring your options, planning your career and applying for jobs, helping you better navigate life beyond your studies and time at University.



Scan here to take a virtual tour of our shiny new Career Studio.

Handshake is a dedicated platform for University of Liverpool students to help you find the jobs that you're looking for both during and after your studies and it makes it even easier for employers to recruit you!

It is trusted by 900+ universities and 425K employers worldwide and its networked approach to connecting students, employers, and universities helps you to benefit from:

- Exclusive opportunities from employers who want to hire Liverpool students
- Access virtual and on-campus careers events
- Virtual 1-to-1 chats with employers
- Careers and Employability guides and resources
- Access to the Career Studio 'send a message' service
- The opportunity to read employer reviews and connect with your peers.



Find out more about Handshake at: liverpool.ac.uk/careers/handshake/



Belonging at the University

Every student deserves to feel safe, welcome, and supported from day one. We know this looks different for every individual - and we want to meet every student's needs the best we can.

Our race equality work in recent years has earned us a Bronze Race Equality Charter Award; this does not mean we are, by any means, perfect. Rather, it means we understand where and how we can be better; our plans to improve are sustainable, realistic, and tackle the roots of racialised barriers instead of allowing them to persist.

Black students' experiences and successes are at the heart of our student action plan. **By 2029, we aim to:**

- Enhance the ethnic diversity of our student body, with a particular focus on growing our community of Black British students.
- Embed race equality into teaching and assessment, to better embrace different ways of thinking, learning, and sharing knowledge.
- Encourage more Black students to stay at Liverpool and undertake postgraduate study, so we can better nurture Black academics of the future.

We hope your time at the University is exciting, stimulating, and rewarding. But if things go wrong, we are here for you. In addition to the support already outlined in this guide, we have a simple reporting tool called Report & Support (<https://reportandsupport.liverpool.ac.uk/>). You can leave your details for us to get in touch, or report anonymously.

If you have any thoughts or comments related to this guide please feel free to get in touch with Natalie Majekodunmi - **E: majek@liverpool.ac.uk**



We are big ideas and bold,
independent thinkers.

Individual triumphs
and world firsts.

Lively debates and
life-changing research.

Flashes of inspiration and
hard-earned breakthroughs.

We are the original redbrick.

Member of the
**RUSSELL
GROUP**

A Guide for Black Students

University of Liverpool
L69 7ZX

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