# ARDIFF<br/>INIVERSITYEuropean Documentation CentreRIFYSGOL<br/>AERDYDCanolfan Ddogfennau Ewropeaidd



## Finding Accommodation in Cardiff

Finding accommodation for your stay in Cardiff can be challenging. At certain times of the year staying in official university accommodation is an option – this is mostly during the summer vacation (June-September), but it is also sometimes possible for the period after Christmas when full time students decide to move into privately-rented accommodation and rooms become available.

Experience has shown that there are different techniques and websites to help you find accommodation in Cardiff.

You might like to try a new service:



https://www.uniplaces.com/

see this article about Uniplaces

As a new feature from the spring of 2015 we are asking each new full-time intern at the Cardiff EDC to explain how they found accommodation for their stay in Cardiff.

#### Roberta Facchinetti Forlani, February-April 2015



As soon as I had been accepted for an internship at the EDC, I started looking for accommodation on the Internet. For some months I kept on checking two websites, <u>www.gumtree.com</u> and <u>www.spareroom.co.uk</u>. I found those websites reliable and in particular the latter gives the advertisers the possibility to fill in

specific information about the houses and the people who are living in them, and for this reason I found it very detailed and useful in order to find a room for my stay in Cardiff.

#### Elisa Patassa, March-May 2015



When I knew that I had been accepted for an internship at the Cardiff EDC, I immediately sent an email to the University Residences department (<u>residences@cardiff.ac.uk</u>), as suggested on the EDC website. They asked me to fill in a form and email it back. As their vacancies change on a daily basis, they told me

that they would contact me 3-4 weeks prior to my arrival to let me know about their current availabilities.

Meanwhile, I joined groups and liked some Facebook pages about students and Erasmus students in Cardiff such as:

- <u>Cardiff Student Accommodation</u>
- Erasmus Cardiff 2014-2015 [closed group]
- Esn Cardiff

Then, I started replying to all the interesting accommodation offers that I could find on these pages and I was lucky enough to get in touch with a really kind girl who needed to sublet her room because she was spending the second term in Australia. We exchanged several emails, she sent me a video of the house and gave me the contact of the house manager, who provided me with a guarantor form and the sublet agreement I should sign upon my arrival. After having chosen this option, the University Residences wrote me back with an offer of accommodation, but it was more expensive than the solution I had already found.

To future interns I would suggest trying to get in touch with permanent students of Cardiff University because they know the city very well and can advise you better.

## Lisa Kleiber, May-July 2015



After I had been accepted for an internship at Cardiff EDC, I asked Mr Thomson where I could find accommodation in Cardiff. He invited me to join the <u>Cardiff EDC Intern group on Facebook</u> [closed group]. This was a good possibility to make contact with the other interns. I asked some of them how they found

accommodation and they gave me a lot of useful tips. Some of them told me to join Erasmus groups on Facebook:

- Erasmus Cardiff 2014-2015 [closed group]
- Cardiff Erasmus Office

Lots of students offer their accommodation there – but too spontaneously for my liking. Other interns told me to use <u>www.Spareroom.co.uk</u> to find accommodation in Cardiff. I preferred using Spareroom.co.uk, where I finally found my accommodation.

## Beatrice Emanuele, June-September 2015



When searching for accommodation in Cardiff, I was fortunate enough to have a friend studying there at university. As a result I found myself having to search only for a temporary residence for a two-week period, before being able to move into private accommodation where my friend was residing.

In order to find a room for a brief period of time, I resorted to searching on the internet for Cardiff's own university residences. Since my internship started in

June, it was sufficient to do an online search for "Cardiff University summer accommodation" to be redirected to a <u>page</u> on the University's website. During the summer there are two student halls which offer accommodation for a stay of 29 nights or less (<u>Senghennydd Court</u> and <u>Talybont North</u>) and one which offers accommodation for a stay of 30 nights or more (<u>Cartwright Court</u>). The booking and payment processes are quite straightforward and can all be done over the internet, and it is an easy way to find a place even for a few days when looking for other accommodation.

## Sedef Topal, July-September 2015



When my application to Cardiff EDC was accepted in the winter of 2014-15, I started to look for a place to stay in Cardiff immediately. I decided to choose a way for which the cost of accommodation was affordable for me because of the fact that the national currency of my country (Turkey) has a low value as

compared to British currency.

I recognised at the end of my investigations on the web that the cheapest way that I could live in Cardiff is to stay at student residences of Cardiff University. I sent a mail to <u>residences@cardiff.ac.uk</u> about my situation and they returned to me and told me that I should communicate with <u>SummerCartwright@cardiff.ac.uk</u> because I would be an intern at Cardiff EDC in the summer for over 30 days.

Consequently, I was able to make my payment for accommodation in Cartwright Court on the web. <u>Cartwright Court</u> is small but quiet, clean and comfortable. It is close to the local markets. I recommend staying in Cartwright Court for the interns in the future who are staying during the summer time period.

#### Roberta D'Agostino, September-December 2015



After I had been accepted for an internship at Cardiff EDC, I started to look for accommodation. With a precise available budget and thanks to Google maps, I understood what I had to look for.

Using this guide and receiving some tips from a friend who lives here, I created my ad on <a href="http://www.spareroom.co.uk/">http://www.spareroom.co.uk/</a> and <a href="http://wwww.spareroom.c

It's been a challenge to find a room to rent for 4 months, in general because landlords prefer to give contracts for 6 or 12 months. Finally, two days before my departure, I found the "perfect" place.

#### Tiia Harainen, April-May 2016



I had only few weeks to find accommodation, and I found the perfect place quite easily, though it could have been more challenging to find a place to stay for a short period of time.

As soon as I received an acceptance letter, I emailed the <u>Cardiff</u> <u>University Residences</u> to ask if they could allocate a room for

me, and I was lucky to receive an offer. The University Residence, Talybont Gate, was a perfect place to stay for six weeks and I really enjoyed living there.