

Adriana Basiaco: University of Nottingham (Semester 2, 2010)

UQ Program: Bachelor of Arts

My name is Adriana Basiaco, writing from Nottingham, England. I'm an archaeology student in the Bachelor of Arts. I'm just about to finish my 2nd year, and I've been at The University of Nottingham on exchange.

It's all been very enjoyable learning some subjects which aren't available at UQ, and even discovering the different manner in which archaeology is taught and practiced in another country was an interesting and useful experience (although, in retrospect, choosing *Ancient bloody Greek* as well may have been a small moment of madness). It's a good idea to find out how different academic procedure is to UQ before things get important.

Being in England is something I've wanted to do for years, and it's been an absolute delight to find that it's as enjoyable as I dreamed. I've discovered I love the English countryside. It also doesn't mean I haven't learnt any new phrases going to another English-speaking country. 'Fit' is not a measure of your physical health but 'attractive'; 'All right?' is not a question about one's state of being but 'Hello'; and I don't even know what 'lush' means. To add, the English are *friendly*. If you are in trouble, *ask*. Unless that person is behind a service counter...

1. Keep a map of the campus with you at UoN! Buildings aren't numbered on the outside.
2. Find the Union Shop in the Portland Building as quickly as possible—food, magazines, *chocolate*...
3. Public transport in England is expensive; *especially* London. But clothing is cheap.
4. I found \$10,000 is a good amount to have. Personally. Shop at the many 'pound stores', which, like cafés, are everywhere.
5. Bring a water bottle to UoN, even when it's 0 degrees C. The campus is on a *delightful* hill and water fountains are scarce.

I'd hoped to achieve a new sense of independence and confidence as well as going to a country I'd hoped to love. I can happily say that I have achieved that.

God Save the Queen!

-Adriana.



This is me on the hunt for souvenirs after seeing Westminster Abbey during a trip down to London. A good portion of my time has been spent collecting things for other people. It's cold.