

lonely planet

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University
of Glasgow



Study GLASGOW



Glasgow

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*What makes a good city a great city? Its people.
Case in point: the Glaswegians. Irreverent,
boisterous, super-friendly, straight-talking
and with a wicked line in humour.*





Go further with the University of Glasgow

Over the last five centuries, the University of Glasgow has pushed the boundaries of what's possible. We've fostered the talents of seven Nobel laureates, one Prime Minister and Scotland's inaugural First Minister. We've welcomed Albert Einstein to give a lecture on the origins of the general theory of relativity, and Scotland's first female medical graduates completed their degrees here in 1894. If you choose to work or study here, you'll be walking in the footsteps of some of the world's most renowned innovators, from scientist Lord Kelvin and economist Adam Smith, to the pioneer of television John Logie Baird and head writer and executive producer of *Dr Who* and *Sherlock*, Steven Moffat.

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www.glasgow.ac.uk

CONTENT SUPPLIED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW



Ashton Lane, Glasgow

A portrait of Amy Wright, a young woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark, patterned scarf and a dark jacket. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with green and yellow foliage.

Amy Wright

STUDENT PROFILE

Studying MA History
From Greater Manchester, England

Sum up Glasgow in three words.

Charismatic, engaging, diverse.

What do you like most about

Glasgow? It's one of the friendliest places I've been to in the UK, and there are so many places off the beaten track, which makes it quite an exciting place to live.

What's surprised you about the

city? The beauty of the campus and the city itself – it's much greener than I had imagined and the parks are stunning in autumn.

What's the nightlife like? It's very varied – there are lots of clubs and bars covering a range of music genres, so there is something for everyone.

What's your favourite place in Glasgow?

There's an amazing place called the Sharmanka Kinetic Theatre in Trongate,

where lots of Russian sculptures come to life and move to eerie music. It sounds very strange (and it is) but it's well worth a visit!

Why did you choose the University of Glasgow?

It ranked highly in the academic tables, and I instantly loved the city. I also liked the fact I would be here for four years instead of three!

What do you like most about the

University? It has some really beautiful buildings (like Hogwarts!) and I love the flexibility within the courses.

What's been your best experience at the University?

Every year the union hosts an event called Daft Friday, with live acts, laser quest and a ceilidh band. It's great to look forward to at the end of winter exams and a nice send-off before Christmas!



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Glasgow combines style, edgy urbanity and the locals' legendary friendliness in a captivating blend that is utterly addictive.



Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow



THIS IS
Glasgow

Displaying a disarming blend of sophistication and earthiness, Scotland's biggest city (and the UK's third-largest) has evolved over the last couple of decades to become one of Britain's most intriguing metropolises.

Glasgow's Victorian architectural legacy is now swamped with stylish bars, great restaurants for every budget, and an energetic club culture. Its pounding live-music scene is one of the best in Britain, accessible through countless venues dedicated to homegrown beats. Yet nightlife is only the beginning. First-rate museums and galleries abound, and the city's proud industrial and artistic heritage is innovatively displayed. Charles Rennie Mackintosh's sublime works dot the town, while the River Clyde, traditionally associated with Glasgow's industrial side, is now a symbol of the city's renaissance thanks to a large-scale waterfront regeneration. Glasgow combines style, edgy urbanity and the locals' legendary friendliness in a captivating blend that is utterly addictive.



Soumyadeb Chowdhury

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STUDENT PROFILE

Studying PhD Computing Science
From Kolkata, India
.....



Sum up Glasgow in three words.

Green, friendly, festive.

What do you like most about

Glasgow? It is very difficult to just like one thing in Glasgow. It is a beautiful city with many historical buildings, museums and people from all around the world.

What's surprised you about the city?

The friendly locals and their desire to help anyone and everyone, without asking for anything in return.

What's the nightlife like? Awesome.

There are so many nightclubs playing different genres of music that it can be difficult to choose. You can also find live bands playing in pubs.

What's your favourite place in

Glasgow? Any pub in Ashton Lane, near the University. Ashton Lane always has a festive mood.

Why did you choose the University of Glasgow?

The School of Computing Science here is one of the top-ranked in the UK. Having received offers from other universities like Manchester, Edinburgh and Bristol, Glasgow was the obvious choice because of the vast amount of research being conducted here.

What do you like most about the University?

The curriculum and style of teaching develop analytical skills, and make you think out the box and work outside your comfort zone, which helps build a career.

What's been your best experience at the University?

Getting a funded PhD place after finishing my Masters. It has changed my life and is a dream come true.

1. The People

What makes a good city a great city? Its people. Case in point: the Glaswegians. Irreverent, boisterous, super-friendly, straight-talking and with a wicked line in humour. The locals are so much a part of the fabric of Glasgow that in 2013 the city adopted 'People Make Glasgow' as its new slogan.

2. Art & Culture

High culture is right at home here, with an excellent classical music scene, inspiring art galleries and a wide choice of theatre. It's perfectly counterbalanced by an innovative, buzzy, boundary-pushing contemporary culture. Eye-catching installations, avant-garde exhibitions, street dance events and daring comedy keep things fresh.



Clydeside landmarks, Glasgow

3. Nightlife

Clever cocktails in a basement speakeasy? Live folk or powerpop? A pint of 80 shilling ale in a 19th-century pub? Dancing the night away in the epic nightclub scene? Quiet night in with a cup of cocoa? Delete one of the above.

4. Walking & Cycling

Whether you fancy a short stroll or a major riding expedition, Glasgow is superbly placed on several local and national walking and cycling routes. The Clyde Walkway follows the river through the city into gorgeous Lanarkshire countryside, while the Clyde to Forth cycle route can zip you through to Edinburgh or out to the west coast.



Highlights

5. On the Doorstep

Some of Scotland's most spectacular sights and countryside are just outside of town. The bonnie banks of Loch Lomond are only 20 miles up the road, while 40 minutes on the train gets you to the ferry for the spectacular Isle of Arran. Edinburgh and Stirling's magnificent castles are similarly close at hand.

6. Eating Out

Glasgow is the best place to eat in Scotland, with excellent eateries ranging from traditional Scottish restaurants and Italian eateries to top-notch cafes and cheap and cheerful curry houses. Competitively priced restaurants of all types line the streets of the centre and West End, where students are treated like royalty with discounts and specials.



West End, Glasgow

7. Green Spaces

Glasgow's wealth of green is a welcome surprise. Lovely Kelvingrove Park is right by the University, while historic Glasgow Green dates to the 15th century. The wooded Botanic Gardens follow the River Kelvin and glorious Pollok Park is so rural you'll spot Highland cows.

8. Football

With three 50,000-plus stadiums, Glasgow lives and breathes football. Even if it leaves you cold, the enthusiasm is infectious; if you're a fan, it's positively exhilarating. Though Celtic and the Rangers aren't among the continent's elite, Glasgow is one of Europe's great football cities.



Highlights



What's On

Scottish pipe band

JAN

Celtic Connections // www.celticconnections.com

Exploding into the post-Hogmanay lull, this excellent festival focuses on Scottish roots music, but there's also plenty of international folk content: expect soul, blues and West African beats along with the pipes and fiddles.

FEB

Glasgow Film Festival // www.glasgowfilm.org

This understated 10-day cinefest always has a great selection of screenings, including dozens of UK premieres.

MAR

Glasgow International Comedy Festival //

www.glasgowcomedyfestival.com

The local sense of humour is legendary, so you're guaranteed a high-quality turnout for three weeks of chortles, giggles, nervous smiles and belly laughs from mid-March to early April.

APR

Glasgow International Festival of Visual Art //

www.glasgowinternational.org

This contemporary visual art extravaganza, locally known as GI, has a range of innovative installations, performances and exhibitions around town, with a focus on local artists. Held in even-numbered years.



Merchant City Festival

JUN West End Festival // www.westendfestival.co.uk

Brilliantly timed to celebrate the end of exams, Glasgow's biggest fiesta runs throughout June and has a cornucopia of events, including live music, street theatre, a gaudy carnival parade and much more.

Glasgow Jazz Festival // www.jazzfest.co.uk

You can't claim to be a cultural hub without a jazz festival, and Glasgow's short but punchy affair in late June is a great example of the genre. It's one of the city's longest-running celebrations.

JUL Merchant City Festival // www.merchantcityfestival.com

Merchant City is a stylish but laid-back nexus of eating, drinking, shopping, music and nightlife, and the local festival in late July is a pleasure-seeker's delight, with a great street-party feel and lots of performances and stalls.

OCT Glasgay! // www.glasgay.co.uk

In a city renowned for having one of Britain's most vibrant and welcoming GLBT communities, this festival runs for a month in October and November. There are some cracking club nights and parties, but this is a serious arts event too, with a wide range of theatre, exhibitions, films and talks.

Xin Hui Yeo

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STUDENT PROFILE

Studying Bachelor of Dental Surgery
From Selangor, Malaysia
.....



Sum up Glasgow in three words.

Friendly, vibrant, welcoming.

What do you like most about

Glasgow? The people and the atmosphere. You get the best of both a city and a town! People care for each other and I particularly appreciate the clean air, unlike in a bustling city!

What's surprised you about the city?

The weather. If you want to experience four seasons in a day, come to Glasgow (or anywhere in Scotland perhaps)!

What's the nightlife like?

Amazing, buzzing and crazy! Come and experience it yourself!

What's your favourite place in

Glasgow? The University! I am always very proud of the campus, especially the cloisters, the tower and the quadrangles.

Why did you choose the University of Glasgow?

Glasgow Dental Hospital & School is highly ranked in the UK and I have always wanted to be part of an old, prestigious 'Hogwarts-like' university.

What do you like most about the University?

It cares about its students, and student voices are well represented. There are many societies and lots of fantastic volunteering opportunities, and the staff are keen to help and offer advice.

What has been your best experience at the University of Glasgow?

Finding myself going in circles between the East and West Quadrangles trying to find where to register in first year?!



Partying

A woman is seen from behind, dancing in a nightclub. Her right arm is raised high in the air. The scene is lit with vibrant blue and red lights, creating a boisterous atmosphere. In the background, there are blurred lights and the silhouettes of other people. The overall mood is energetic and festive.

Done for the day? Take a disco nap and hit the town – Glasgow is not a city for a quiet night in.

Some of Britain's best nightlife is found in Glasgow's boisterous pubs and bars. The city's amazing collection of drinking establishments is unrivalled north of London. Traditional locals tempt with their dark wood and no-nonsense approach, while stylish bars embrace sophistication without losing the down-to-earth, welcoming atmosphere that Glasgow is known for. Every second bar seems to be a live-music venue, and your later-night clubbing options are brilliant.



King of Clubs

Glasgow has a legendary clubbing scene, attracting devotees from afar. Venues like the **Sub Club** (www.subclub.co.uk) and **ABC** (www.o2abcglasgow.co.uk) have serious cred and pull in DJ talent. Glaswegians usually hit clubs after the pubs have closed, so many clubs offer early discounts; look out, too, for free passes in bars. Club nights are many and change frequently: check *The List* magazine for upcoming shindigs. Several nights, including midweek, are aimed at students.

Gigs Galore

Glasgow is king of Scotland's live music scene and there are so many venues it's impossible to keep track of them all. Perhaps the most famous venue is legendary **King Tut's Wah Wah Hut** (www.kingtuts.co.uk), hosting bands every night of the week. Oasis were signed after playing here. Pick up a free copy or check the website of **The Gig Guide** (www.giggguide.co.uk) for the latest listings.

Places to Party

Headed out? Merchant City offers trendy drinking, with any number of memorable concept-bars, while in the West End all manner of folk mingle happily in reliable spots off Byres Road. In the centre, western Sauchiehall Street pulls in punters nightly, while parallel Bath Street boasts quirky basement bars and cocktail dens. There's a vibrant, non-cliquey GLBT scene, with the pink quarter found in and around Merchant City.



Eating

Perhaps the most potent symbol of Glasgow's renaissance is its sophisticated selection of dining choices.

Glasgow has an excellent range of eateries offering a cosmopolitan selection of global cuisine – from Italian and Indian to French and fusion. Plus you can dine on high-class Scottish fare, both traditional and modern. Competition is fierce, so lunchtime and early-evening two- and three-course specials can offer incredible value. Many establishments are BYO (allowing you to bring your own wine or beer), which also gives you great value for money.



Britain's Curry Capital

What gets Glaswegians debating more fiercely than the local football teams? Where to find the city's best rogan josh or biryani, of course. As a four-time winner of 'Curry Capital of Great Britain', the city bristles with South Asian restaurants, from reliable after-pub neighbourhood options to the trendiest avant-garde spice alchemists.

West End Dining

When it comes to Scotland's eating scene, west is best. And that applies to Glasgow itself: right on the doorstep of the University is the city's highest concentration of quality restaurants for all budgets. Temples of modern Scottish gastronomy like **The Ubiquitous Chip** (www.ubiquitouschip.co.uk) and **Stravaigin** (www.stravaigin.co.uk) make a real effort to keep prices accessible, while any number of restaurants, pubs, gastrobars, cafes, delis and pop-ups compete for the student pound with lunchtime specials, uni discounts, DJ sets and party nights.

Catch of the Day

Forget the Med and Caribbean; top shellfish come out of chillier waters. Some of the world's finest seafood is fished and cultivated on the west coast, and guess what city gets its hands on the best morsels? Look out for hand-dived scallops from Islay, oysters from Loch Fyne, salmon, langoustines and a host of other sustainable, delicious, low-food-mile produce.

Culture



Stuffed with art, architecture, museums and more, Glasgow storms home as the culture capital of Scotland.

Glasgow niftily combines high culture – noble Victorian museums, stately theatres, Mackintosh chairs – with a constant feeling of innovation and dynamic new trends brewing. From the ancient splendour of its cathedral to the latest offbeat exhibition at Tramway, the city offers so much that even Edinburgh residents grudgingly admit defeat in the cultural stakes.



Memorable Museums

In Glasgow, you'll never be stuck for something to do on a rainy day. **Kelvingrove**, a grand Victorian cathedral of culture, is a fascinating and unusual museum: you'll find fine art alongside stuffed animals, and Micronesian shark-tooth swords alongside a Spitfire plane. Here and at the **Hunterian Art Gallery** you can appreciate the bold work of the Glasgow Boys, who shook up the misty-glens-obsessed painting establishment in the late 19th century. Across the river, the **Burrell Collection** is an idiosyncratic collection of treasure including everything from Chinese porcelain and medieval furniture to paintings by Degas and Cézanne. On the Clyde is the brilliantly hands-on **Glasgow Science Centre** and the **Riverside Museum**, a stunning modern building devoted to transport.

Soul of the City

Great cities have great artists, designers and architects contributing to the urban environment while expressing its soul and individuality. Charles Rennie Mackintosh (1868–1928) was all of these things. Many of his Glasgow buildings are open to the public, and you'll see his tall, thin, art nouveau typeface reproduced throughout the city. His greatest building, the stunning **Glasgow School of Art**, seems to have been shaped outside and inside, down to the narrowest detail, entirely by his architect's pencil. Likewise, the authentically reconstructed **Willow Tearooms** show CRM's distinctive touch in everything from windows to teaspoons.

Shopping



No matter what your budget, you'll find plenty of can't-live-without treasures in Glasgow.

Boasting the UK's largest retail offering outside London, Glasgow is a shopaholic's paradise. The 'Style Mile' around Buchanan Street, Argyle Street and Merchant City is a fashion hub, while the West End has quirkier, more bohemian shopping options: Byres Road is great for vintage clothing. Student discounts are common throughout.



Market Forces

A popular farmers market with reliably delicious produce alternates Saturdays between Queens Park and Mansfield Park in the West End. The latter also has a popular Friday market covering all bases. At the legendary weekend flea market, the **Barras on Gallowgate**, tat and shysters rule the roost these days but it's still a fun stroll. Indoor markets and car boot sales are held year-round, while the lovely Christmas Market brings a dash of festive cheer to St Enoch Square from mid-November onwards.

Top Spots for Vintage Clothing

Snag a bargain and bring out the hipster in you with Glasgow's fabulous range of retro rag stores.

Vintage Guru (www.vintageguru.co.uk) Elbow your way into this tightly packed favourite for the always intriguing and frequently updated selection and fair prices.

Mr Ben (www.mrbenretroclothing.com) This cute place is one of Glasgow's best with a great selection of brands like Fred Perry, as well as more glam choices.

The Glasgow Vintage Company (www.glasgowvintage.co.uk) With a little more breathing room than some, this shop offers more relaxed browsing.

Circa Vintage (www.circavintage.co.uk) This friendly spot offers online shopping as well as a fab range of in-store jewellery and well-kept clothes.



Sport

From cycling and walking to football and curling, Glasgow serves up sports for all tastes.

For many Glaswegians, sport means football and a full stop. But there's life beyond the round ball. There's great cycling and walking – the route to Loch Lomond or the Clyde riverside pathway are great ways to explore the city's past and the beautiful surrounding region. And the city has numerous gyms, swimming pools, indoor courts and sports clubs, which let you get involved in anything, including more unusual Scottish sports like curling or shinty.



The Old Firm

Ever had a laugh at Scottish football? Fair enough too, but imagine where it would be without Glasgow. The city lives and breathes 'fitba', with the scene and news dominated by Celtic and the Rangers, collectively called the Old Firm. The fierce rivals may play in different divisions of late, but going to a game in one of their atmosphere-packed football cauldrons is still a memorable experience. Pick your favourite of the two or stay neutral by supporting unfashionable Partick Thistle or wee Queens Park.

Glasgow 2014

A key part of Glasgow's successful bid for the 20th Commonwealth Games, the largest sporting event ever hosted in Scotland, was the excellent sporting facilities already in place. Redevelopment of these, of the transport system and of large sections of the East End are key benefits of hosting the event, which also offers a great opportunity to showcase Glasgow's successful urban regeneration.

Venues include national football stadium **Hampden Park** (athletics), while the central riverside complex of the **Clyde Auditorium, Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre** and **Hydro Arena** is a major focus, hosting several events. Purpose-built **Commonwealth Arena**, which includes a velodrome, is the most notable legacy item, and has already become an important basketball venue and sports administration hub.

Est 1451

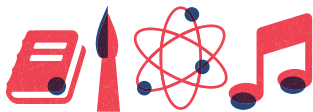
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different exercise classes a week



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www.glasgowstudent.net/clubs



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23,000 students from 120
countries



Top 10

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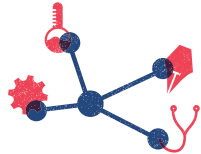


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3 campuses: Gilmorehill, Garscube & Dumfries



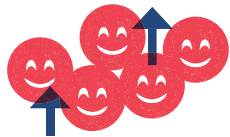
A UNESCO City of Music,
130 gigs every week



4 colleges: Arts; Social Sciences;
Science & Engineering; Medical,
Veterinary & Life Sciences



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Student satisfaction amongst
the highest in the UK

A portrait of Fraser Grier, a young man with dark hair and blue eyes, wearing a dark jacket over a light blue shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green grass and trees.

Fraser Grier

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STUDENT PROFILE

Studying Law From Glasgow

.....

Sum up Glasgow in three words.

Unique, friendly, enamouring.

What do you like most about

Glasgow? After travelling to cities in Europe to experience idiosyncratic varieties of food, architecture and history, it dawns on you as a native to Glasgow that there is so much in the city that is taken for granted.

What's surprised you about the

city? Contrary to ill-informed national stereotyping, Glasgow is a safe city, and whilst living here for 23 years I have never felt threatened.

What's the nightlife like? Very student-friendly and varied enough for all tastes, with most venues in the city within a half-hour walk of each other.

What's your favourite place in

Glasgow? The Glasgow School of Art

is a real treasure of an institution, having been tailor-made for the city by one of its dearest architects.

Why did you choose the University

of Glasgow? The School of Law at Glasgow University is perennially either at or near the top of law schools in the country.

What do you like most about the

University? With two unions, the student experience is second to none, especially during Freshers Week. There are many affiliated clubs and societies to join; anything from sword fighting to skydiving.

What's been your best experience

at the University? Studying and socialising alongside a large international group of inspiring people.

Study Glasgow

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Study GLASGOW

Displaying a disarming blend of sophistication and earthiness, Glasgow has evolved over the last couple of decades to become one of Britain's most intriguing metropolises.

Get to know Scotland's biggest city with this introductory guide to Glasgow. Discover the city's top experiences, see what's on throughout the year, and explore the nightlife, eating, shopping, sports and cultural offerings of this vibrant study destination.