



England



Scotland



Northern Ireland



Wales

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

<a href="#">Capital</a>	<a href="#">London</a> <a href="#">51°30' N 0°7' W</a> ( <a href="http://kvaleberg.com/extensions/mapsources/index.php?params=51_30_N_0_7_W_type:city">http://kvaleberg.com/extensions/mapsources/index.php?params=51_30_N_0_7_W_type:city</a> )
<a href="#">Largest city</a>	<a href="#">London</a>
<a href="#">Official languages</a>	<a href="#">None</a> ; <a href="#">English</a> <i>de facto</i> <sup>4</sup>
<a href="#">Government</a> <a href="#">Queen</a> <a href="#">Prime Minister</a>	<a href="#">Constitutional monarchy</a> <a href="#">Elizabeth II</a> <a href="#">Tony Blair</a>
<a href="#">Establishment</a>	1801 <sup>5</sup>
<a href="#">Area</a> Total Water (%)	<a href="#">244,820 km²</a> ( <a href="#">77th</a> ) 1.3%
<a href="#">Population</a> <a href="#">July 2003</a> est. <a href="#">2001</a> census <a href="#">Density</a>	59,553,800 <sup>6</sup> ( <a href="#">22nd</a> ) 58,789,194 246.5/km² ( <a href="#">49th</a> )
<a href="#">GDP</a> (PPP) Total Per capita	<a href="#">2005</a> estimate \$1,825,837 million ( <a href="#">6th</a> ) \$30,658 ( <a href="#">15th</a> )
<a href="#">Currency</a>	<a href="#">British pound</a> (£)( <a href="#">GBP</a> )
<a href="#">Time zone</a> Summer ( <a href="#">DST</a> )	<a href="#">GMT</a> ( <a href="#">UTC+0</a> ) <a href="#">BST</a> ( <a href="#">UTC+1</a> )
<a href="#">Internet TLD</a>	<a href="#">uk</a> <sup>7</sup>
<a href="#">Calling code</a>	+44

#### ACCOMMODATION

Ideal for working holidays. Accommodation London offers short and long-term leases from £25 per person per night. Studio apartments or shared houses in northwest London near the tube.

#### Temperature

Over England the mean annual temperature at low altitudes varies from about 8.5 °C to 11 °C, with the highest values occurring around or near to the coasts of Cornwall. The mean annual temperature decreases by approximately 0.5 °C for each 100 m increase in height so that, for example, Great Dun Fell in Cumbria (at 857 m) has an annual mean temperature of about 4 °C.

#### Nation minimum wage

A national minimum wage is a pay floor that producers cannot legally undercut. It became a reality on April 1<sup>st</sup> 1999. The Low Pay Commission initially recommended a figure of £ 3.60 an hour for people over 20, and £ 3.00 for younger workers between 18-20. 16-17 years olds will be exempt. The NMW was raised again in March 2001. As of spring 2001, the rates for the NMW are as follows :

NMW is a statutory „pay floor“ (£ 4.10 from October 2001) £ 3.50 for workers under the age of 21.

## UK hourly wages

Minimum wage : £ 4.10 (from Oct)

Average men : £ 10.89

Average women : £ 8.38

Average part-time : £ 6.83

Average manual : £ 7.19

Average wage of £ 10.28 in the UK for people in full-time employment

Purchases of food and non-alcoholic drink contributed £ 44 to weekly household expenditure - £10 of which went on meat, £6 on fresh fruit and vegetables, £4 on non-alcoholic drink and £2 on chocolate and confectionery.

## Paying rent

As a private tenant you have to pay rent to your landlord in return for living in your home.

If you're struggling to pay your rent, you need to act quickly or your landlord could try to evict you. You may be able to get [housing benefit](#) or other financial help. Use the [Advice Services Directory](#) to find details of advice centres that can help you.

## How much does it cost?



Things to consider when setting a rent are:

1. Market rate - this can be gauged by looking in the advertisements and working out what the going rate is for your area and your type of home
2. Size of rooms - unless there are marked differences in the rooms it is much easier and more equitable if everyone pays the same rent. If you have some rooms that are significantly different in size to others then a guesstimate of what the difference means in rent should mean. It is important to remember though that the rent doesn't just pay for the bedroom, it is also for the other shared rooms, the facilities and the lifestyle
3. Inclusive/Exclusive of bills. It is much easier to include bills, but less equitable. If somebody eats more, or is in more than others then it is only right that they should pay more. By excluding bills, you impose a discipline on yourself to work out the bills fairly and regularly. Because I am a lazy bastard, I go for the half-way house on this one and exclude bills but ask for an extra amount per month to cover an average amount. This way the bills are less of a shock when I eventually do them
4. Increases/decreases - market rates change. If it looks like the rate is going up, I will increase it for new tenants but keep it level for people already in the house. Should they come down (and they never do) then the decrease should be applied to everyone immediately