

## Top Apps and Tools for Students Moving to a New Area in the UK

Moving to a new area can be daunting, but the right apps and tools can make the transition smoother. Whether you're navigating your new surroundings, managing your budget, or meeting new people, these UK-specific apps will help you settle in quickly and confidently.

### 1. Google Maps

#### Why It's Useful:

An essential for navigation, Google Maps helps you find your way around your new town or city, offering walking, cycling, driving, and public transport routes. You can also discover local businesses, cafes, and landmarks.

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### 2. Traveline South West

#### Why It's Useful:

Perfect for Cornwall and the South West, Traveline provides public transport routes and schedules, including buses, trains, and ferries. It's a must for getting around without a car.

**Bonus Tip:** If you're outside Cornwall, the **National Rail** or **Trainline** apps are invaluable for UK train travel.

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### 3. Splitwise

#### Why It's Useful:

Living with housemates? Splitwise is a lifesaver for managing shared bills and expenses. It keeps track of who owes what and makes settling up easy.

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#### 4. SpareRoom

**Why It's Useful:**

SpareRoom is one of the best apps for finding flatshares and housemates in the UK. Whether you're looking for student accommodation or a shared house, this app has plenty of options.

**Alternative:** Use **Rightmove** or **Zoopla** to find longer-term rental options.

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#### 5. Monzo or Starling Bank

**Why It's Useful:**

These digital banking apps are designed for easy budgeting and spending tracking. They're perfect for students, allowing you to categorize expenses, set budgets, and manage your money on the go.

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#### 6. Unidays and Totum

**Why It's Useful:**

Both apps provide discounts exclusive to students. From high-street stores to restaurants and travel, these apps help you make your money go further. Totum also offers an optional discount card recognized nationwide.

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#### 7. First Bus App

**Why It's Useful:**

In Cornwall, First Bus operates many of the main bus routes. Use this app to check schedules, buy tickets, and get real-time updates on services.

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#### 8. Too Good To Go and Olio

**Why They're Useful:**

Cut down on food waste and save money with these apps. **Too Good To Go** connects you with restaurants and shops offering discounted surplus food, while **Olio** lets you share or receive free surplus food from your local community.

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## 9. Notion or Microsoft To Do

### Why They're Useful:

Stay on top of your studies and personal life with these organization tools.

**Notion** is ideal for creating study schedules, to-do lists, and even budget trackers. **Microsoft To Do** offers a simpler interface for task management.

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## 10. Meetup and Facebook Groups

### Why They're Useful:

Meetup is great for joining local events and hobby groups, while Facebook Groups often have student-specific communities for your university or town. These are fantastic tools for meeting people and discovering what's happening in your area.

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## Bonus Apps

- **Emma:** A UK-specific budgeting app that connects to your bank accounts and tracks spending.
  - **Trainline:** For booking and managing train journeys across the UK.
  - **Uber and Bolt:** Ride-hailing apps that are handy for when public transport isn't an option.
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## Final Tips

- **Start Early:** Download these apps before you move to familiarize yourself with their features.
- **Ask Around:** Fellow students often know the best local tools and services—don't hesitate to ask for recommendations.
- **Make the Most of Student Perks:** Many apps, like Monzo and Notion, offer student-friendly features or discounts.

With these UK-specific apps in your pocket, you'll be well-prepared to navigate your new area, budget wisely, and enjoy everything your new home has to offer.