



# Local Area Guide

for health and social care international recruits



*The essence  
of English  
charm.*

Huntingdon, St Ives  
and St Neots



## About this guide

This guide is intended to provide an overview of the local area to include guidance on travel distances, potential areas in which to live, tips for finding accommodation and contact details for local letting agents. Should you require any further assistance please speak to your employer who will be able to provide you further information.

These charming market towns in Cambridgeshire are rich in history and natural beauty. With their historic market squares, idyllic river views, and vibrant communities, **Huntingdon**, **St Ives** and **St Neots** offer a picturesque and tranquil setting for a fulfilling lifestyle.



### About Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots

- These market towns in Cambridgeshire are steeped in history and surrounded by scenic countryside.
- Huntingdon, approximately 59 miles (95 km) north of London, is known for its historic association with Oliver Cromwell and its charming town centre.
- St Ives, a picturesque town on the River Great Ouse, and St Neots, the largest town in Cambridgeshire, both offer a rich historical heritage and vibrant community life.
- The area is perfect for those who appreciate a combination of historical charm, natural beauty, and a friendly community atmosphere.

## Getting around

### By bus

- Stagecoach operates in the area, providing services within the towns and to other locations like Cambridge and Peterborough.
- For routes and timetables, visit [stagecoachbus.com](https://www.stagecoachbus.com).

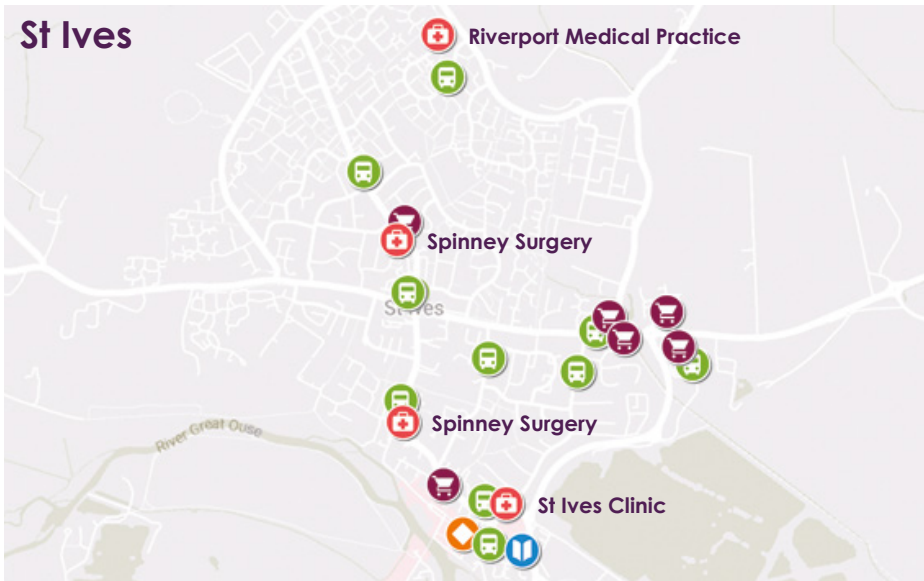
### By rail

- **Huntingdon Station:** Direct trains to London King's Cross (approx. 55 minutes) and Peterborough.
- **St Neots Station:** Services to London King's Cross (approx. 50 minutes) and the North.
- Train services are primarily provided by Great Northern and Thameslink. Visit [nationalrail.co.uk](https://www.nationalrail.co.uk) for schedules.

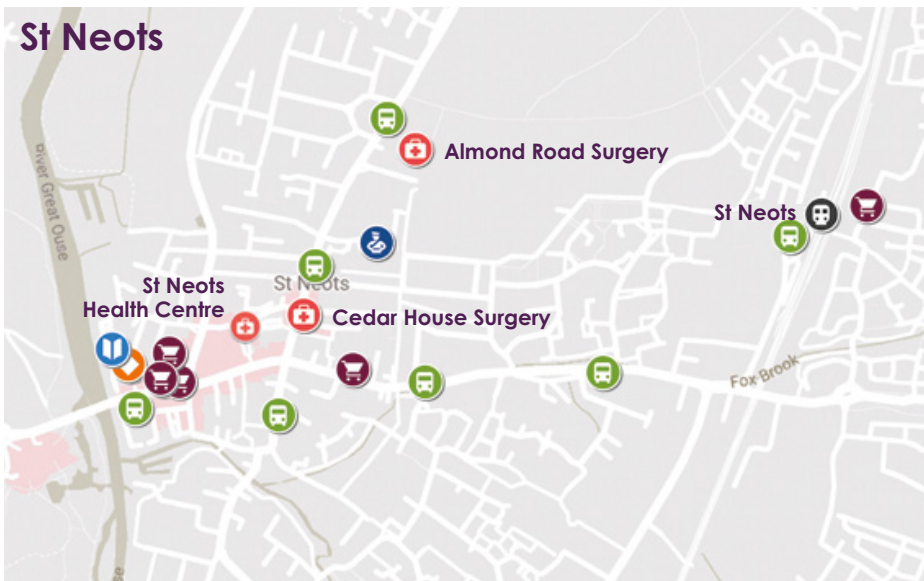
## Huntingdon



## St Ives



## St Neots



### Key

- Train station
- Bus stop
- Supermarket
- Medical centre
- Library
- Police station
- Bus station
- Council offices

## Finding accommodation

When renting property, UK law says that landlords must check that you are who you say you are and that you are allowed to live in the UK. More information on proving your right to rent property can be found at [gov.uk/prove-right-to-rent](https://gov.uk/prove-right-to-rent)

### Useful tips

When considering a new home, it's crucial to think about your preferred location. Deciding on an area simplifies the search. Consider proximity to your workplace and essential amenities like shops, gyms, supermarkets, churches, childcare facilities, schools, and parks. Research public transport availability, including the frequency, cost, and travel times of bus services, as well as the location of train and bus stations. Remember, rural areas often have less public transport than major cities or towns. Communities 1st has developed a Top Tip Guide for finding Accommodation in the UK.

Be aware that some landlords offer "all inclusive" rent, which might cover some of these costs. It's important to understand exactly what is included in the rent before committing to a property.

Before moving into a rental property, you will typically need to pay the first month's rent in advance, a tenancy deposit, and possibly a holding deposit if you're renting through a letting agent. For advice on paying bills visit: [moneyhelper.org.uk/en/homes/renting](https://moneyhelper.org.uk/en/homes/renting)

### Rental cost guide (£/pcm)

Number of bedrooms

Studio	£700
1 Bed	£800
2 Bed	£1,050
3 Bed	£1,250

### Local letting/estate agents

Gatehouse Estates  
Giggs & McGrath  
Harvey Robinson Estate Agents  
Lovett Sales & Lettings  
Sharman Quinney Estate Agents

### Agent portals

homestay.com  
onthemarket.com  
rightmove.co.uk  
zoopla.co.uk

# Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots



## Local NHS services and facilities

**GP Practices:** Numerous practices in Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots. To find a local GP, visit [nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk).

**Walk-in Centres and Minor Injury Units:** For non-emergency care, there are various centres in and around Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots.

**Hinchingbrooke Hospital:** Located in Huntingdon, offering a range of services including A&E. About five minutes from Huntingdon town centre.

**St Neots:** Local health services available; nearest major hospital is Hinchingbrooke.

**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust** provides local healthcare services. Contact: **01223 726789**.

## Useful contacts

NHS	<b>111</b> or in an emergency <b>999</b>
Cambridgeshire Police	<b>101</b> or in an emergency <b>999</b>
Huntingdonshire District Council	<b>01480 388388</b>
Cambridgeshire County Council	<b>0345 045 5200</b>
Citizens Advice Huntingdonshire	<b>0808 278 7807</b>

## Who are Communities 1st?



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[communities1st.org.uk](https://www.communities1st.org.uk)

Communities 1st is committed to offering rounded pastoral support for international health and social care recruits transitioning to life in the UK. Our comprehensive service, delivered through a combination of dedicated staff and enthusiastic volunteer buddies, focuses on individualised 1:1 support and a range of group activities, ensuring a smooth integration into the UK lifestyle.

Don't miss the opportunity to benefit from our well-structured and holistic programmes. Reach out to us today to find out how we can collaborate to create a positive and seamless transition for your recruits.

### For more information

Visit: [www.communities1st.org.uk](https://www.communities1st.org.uk)  
Email: [buddy@communities1st.org.uk](mailto:buddy@communities1st.org.uk)  
Call: **01727 649980**

@Communities1st

