

What to expect from the Student Travel Award.

Lydia Bunt is a second year at Pembroke studying MML and won a Student Travel Award in 2017.



As a student of French and German, I was able to travel to countries that hold a personal interest for me. Practicing my language skills was a definite benefit and I think allowed me to form better connections with alumni.

I was able to network, even managed to find a part-time translation job and met so many interesting and informed people who gave me some really valuable advice about my path of study and potential careers that it could lead to. I was also invited to stay with alumni in some of my trip destinations, and had a really lovely time due to their kind hospitality.

This experience will stand me in good stead for a future in which I hope to live and work in Germany. This, coupled with the chance to visit some sites of personal cultural interest, made the Award both useful and extremely enjoyable for me.

“I feel a bit wiser and more world-aware”

You definitely should [apply]! It allows for the perfect balance of learning more about the University of Cambridge and life afterwards, and pursuing your own personal interests. Planning a trip, budgeting for it and effecting it on your own is a big formative experience, and I feel a bit wiser and more world-aware for doing it!

Travelling alone is also really enjoyable, and you'll find that for most of the time you're not even alone anyway because you'll meet so many interesting people along the way.

If you want to apply, think about how you're going to publicise your award in a creative and interesting way so that your contemporaries at university will be interested in what you're up to.

Hopefully as well as a desire to travel you'll have a genuine interest in University outreach and the Cambridge alumni network, so it's good to think about how you can combine visiting places of personal interest with meeting as many alumni as possible and learning things from them.

The Student Travel Award provides funding for two students to visit University Alumni Groups around the world during the summer or Christmas vacations and promote them as a resource to students. To apply, visit: alumni.cam.ac.uk/get-involved/student-travel-award. Applications close on Tuesday, 3 April 2018.