

## ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT TRAVELING OVERSEAS

is meeting other students. You run across thousands who are just like you — away from home and looking for adventure. You'll probably find many of them at those special places that are magnets for students; they're generally packed, with everyone just hanging out and having fun. You get to meet people, make friends, swap stories.

Keep your radar tuned and you'll find them. Word of mouth is your most reliable source — especially when you run across a student who's just been where you're headed. Hot spots come and go, but here are some of the current favorites around the globe.

### ↳ THE CHARLES BRIDGE, PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

The Charles Bridge, a.k.a. *Karlův most*, has blossomed into one of Europe's primo gathering spots for non-stop fun. This bridge over the Vltava River in the "city of a hundred spires" has become the Haight

Ashbury of the '90s with an Eastern European flair. Stop for a hair wrap, check out what the vendors are selling, watch an artist freeze a moment on canvas, or enjoy hanging out with just plain folks from around the world. Almost every language is heard here, but English is the one all can speak — and sing!

Singers galore (usually American) fill the air with familiar tunes. American and British rock was suppressed under Communism, and now the locals can't get enough of it. Everyone's welcome to sit down and sing along. John Lennon is a special favorite, and when "Imagine" is sung in the evenings, audiences hold candles and lighters high in his memory.

### ↳ WINDMILL LANE, DUBLIN, IRELAND

U2 fans take note: Dublin's Windmill Lane is the home of U2's office and recording studio. If the band is in and free from recording schedules, they'll probably show up streetside and chat for a while.

Even if U2 isn't in, fans from around the world still gather and share their love of the group and the music. Visitors and Dubliners alike wander down the street and gaze at the latest addition to the deluge of graffiti covering the walls, streets, garbage cans and any other paintable object.

### ↳ JIM MORRISON'S GRAVE, PARIS, FRANCE

Still as big a legend as he was before his death in 1971 at age 27, Jim Morrison — the lead singer and chief mystic of the Doors — continues to lure fans. Today, Morrison is never alone. Just follow the well-worn cobblestone path through the Pere Lachaise Cemetery. Amid the mass of marble mausoleums and tombstones covered with graffiti,

there's a small grave for James Douglas "Jim" Morrison. On a nice day, the small headstone is a shrine for hundreds of travelers from around the world who come to sit, sing, smoke, drink and pay tribute. They leave behind flowers, letters, photographs and articles of clothing. Couples reportedly have made love on the grave, and one bit of graffiti pleads, "Beam us up, Jim."



**Jim Morrison fans are still waiting for the singer to beam them up.**

### ↳ PLAZA MAYOR, SALAMANCA, SPAIN

At the Plaza Mayor, it seems the whole town gravitates under the large clock for one reason or another. It's a prime place for students to hang out and break bread (and wine and cheese) with old friends and meet an unending number of new ones.

The Universidad de Salamanca, founded back in 1218, is the oldest in Spain. The diversity of architectural styles ranging from Roman to baroque adds a splendor to the town's university buildings, cathedrals and town square, all built in golden sandstone.

### ↳ THE PINK PALACE, CORFU, GREECE

Not long ago, European royalty savored the unmatched beauty of the Greek isle of Corfu. Today, an incredible mix of young travelers from the world over keeps the island bustling. The hot spot here is none other than the legendary Pink Palace — the place to be in the Greek isles.

At the foot of the majestic cliffs of Agios Gordios, the Pink Palace — best described as the "Club Med for backpackers" — keeps growing and gaining popularity since its