What do you like most about living in the UK?

Player Interviews - Transcript

We asked seven big names, including Didier Drogba and Petr Cech, for their opinions about life in England and learning English.

Read what they said when we asked them:

“What do you like most about living in the UK?”

Petr Cech: I think the first of all is football for me because the atmosphere and er… everything around football is quite special. Of course, second… very good point for me is er… learning English because it’s always useful. I like going to London just for sightseeing and all this stuff so you know, I settled quite quickly and that’s for me positive… which is positive about England, it’s that, you know… specially London is really cosmopolitan you’ve got a lot of, lot of ethnic groups, a lot of different people and you don’t feel, really like a foreigner.

Didier Drogba: As a football player you can do what you want. You can go with your family and people respect you a lot. In France as well but the way they approach you is different, you know… much more respect even if they are Arsenal fans or I don’t know, Tottenham fans, they respect you a lot.

Gilberto Silva: When I went to the restaurant when the people recognize me they wait, you know… for such a long time, you know, until I’m finished my meal to ask for an autograph. For me it was amazing you know the respect they have. I was amazed to see that.

Dirk Kuyt: I think all the people here are very respectful and friendly and whenever you need some help, every… everybody tries to help you and er… I like that in this country. In Holland, that’s a little bit different.

Sun Jihai: Football! Football! To be honest, without football, I’d never ever live in here. Many good things, but… it’s not my home. You know, without football… definitely. Yeah, I like London, to be honest it’s quite busy, but… yeah, you know… it’s very international.

Ivar Ingimarsson: Well, I actually quite enjoy the weather, ha, everybody’s and moaning complaining about that but coming from where I’m from it’s pretty much summer here all the time… that’s definitely one thing… and obviously you know I’ve been here for like 6 or 7 years now… the English people are… lots of humour, lots of banter going around and you know, don’t take things too seriously I think.

Didier Drogba: The most important thing, the thing I like is my children are trying hard… are speaking English very well so it’s very educative for them. That’s why I’m very happy here.