

# EDUROAM - BEYOND THE CAMPUS

**eduroam® is the secure, worldwide roaming access service for the international research and education community. It allows any user to get network access at any institution connected to eduroam – irrespective of location – via their mobile device or laptop.**

**However, with the boom in mobile connectivity, NRENs (National Research and Education Networks) are continually looking for ways to meet the needs of users outside traditional research and education environments.**

**Here are just a few examples from across Europe, which we hope will provide inspiration to the wider community.**

## LIBRARIES

Funet, the Finnish NREN has plans to deploy eduroam in libraries - the Turku City Library is already connected - and other central locations throughout Turku.

Turku universities have been very positive in furthering the footprint of eduroam, with suggestions for making it available for staff and students within the city. This will help with organising events for instance, since with eduroam there is no need to arrange any other WLAN.

New locations are listed on [eduroam.org](http://eduroam.org) location map and on the eduroam Companion mobile app, which help universities to raise awareness of eduroam within their locality.

## LEISURE CENTRES AND PARKS

In Austria, ACOnet has started another "eduroam in the city" initiative, currently working with the city administrations of Wien (Vienna) and Innsbruck.

While eduroam is already available at most universities in Austria and some other participating organisations like the Natural History Museum, this new initiative intends to extend the eduroam coverage outside campuses, using public WLAN infrastructure, to leisure areas, shopping streets, tourism hotspots and parks.

## CREATING AN EXTENDED CAMPUS

In Germany, universities in Munich and Ingolstadt are in the process of forming partnerships with public Wi-Fi providers to make the city into an extended campus.



## RAILWAY STATIONS AND RESTAURANTS

SUNET, the Swedish NREN and Wi-Fi provider (The Cloud) have an agreement giving researchers, students and staff at Sweden's universities access to a secure internet connection on the Cloud's 4,500 or so access points including airports, railway stations and even restaurants.

The SUNET – Cloud partnership represents an innovative approach in eduroam and is a big step forward, as it makes connectivity easier and provides users with secure mobile access to a global wireless network both at their home institution and in public places.

## AIRPORTS

In Norway, UNINETT the Norwegian NREN provides free Wi-Fi access to students and researchers at 14 Norwegian airports across the country, from Kristiansand in the south, to Svalbard in the far north – with more to

follow. eduroam is also available in most of central Trondheim (Norway's second largest campus city) through a collaboration with the municipality and the university.

## TOURISTS AND SCHOOLCHILDREN

CARNet the Croatian NREN offers research and education users on the islands Unije, Susak and Dugi Otok in the north of the Adriatic free-wired internet if they have an eduroam login. Serving tourists is a pleasant side effect as the network was originally established for schoolchildren on the islands.

Similarly, tourists also enjoy free wireless networks (when they own an eduroam login) in the city of Pula in Istria in Croatia. The Wi-Fi network PulaFreeAir has 17 locations in the city.

## HOSPITALS AND LAMPPOSTS

The UK extended its eduroam footprint through NHS teaching hospital trust collaborations. For instance in Oxford, eduroam overlaid onto hospitals' Wi-Fi network infrastructures supports medical students from across the UK at numerous teaching hospitals.

Cooperating with local authorities will also see greater eduroam coverage in city centres, particularly where local universities are involved in joint infrastructure or transport projects. In Cambridge, we could soon see eduroam-providing access points mounted onto city council lampposts.

Edward Wincott, eduroam Service Manager, Jisc said: "Having eduroam available outside the traditional campus empowers students, teachers, researchers and users. They can work, study and enjoy high performance internet access at locations of their choosing, making for greater productivity and satisfaction."

## OUTSIDE EUROPE

eduroam, although a European invention, has spread to many parts of the world, including to Japan. In Tokyo, you can use your eduroam login to hotspots at coffee shops, conference centres and major shopping centres in the city centre.



## GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

In Belgium, Govroam was pioneered and launched in 2013 by Belnet, the Belgian NREN. The principle is the same as that of eduroam except end users are public services and governmental staff. When an employee from a federal government institution visits a local administration, they can easily surf their wireless network using the same credentials as at their home institution.

Each visited institution can also decide which access rights govroam users get on their network. Finally, administrations connected to the Belnet network do not have to pay additional costs for the implementation of govroam.

Belnet is keen to increase the number of public sector organisations and is actively promoting the many benefits. The service has now been rolled out in the Netherlands, in collaboration with SURFnet, the Dutch NREN.

Have you discovered eduroam in any unusual or innovative places? We'd love to hear your stories. Write to us at [connect@geant.net](mailto:connect@geant.net)