

## In Darwin's footsteps – Excursion to London and Cornwall

23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 - led by Steven Jansen and Lena Wilfert

**Program:** We will follow in Darwin's footsteps by visiting some of the globally leading natural history institutions in London: the Natural History Museum, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, Down House, where Darwin conducted many of his experiments, and the Linnean Society, where Darwin's and Alfred Russel Wallace's ideas on the theory of natural selection were first presented, and a large amount of the samples collected and described by Linnaeus are preserved. You will also have time to explore this vibrant city, and maybe even spot some wildlife.



Subtropical garden



Cornish coastline



Atlantic rainforest

We will then take the train to Falmouth, where Darwin landed after his voyage on the Beagle. Here, we will be based at the University of Exeter's Cornwall campus, where we can use research facilities. We will explore coastal ecology in this cold subtropical



Brittlestar from a Cornish rockpool

climate, for example comparing remnants of European Atlantic rainforest with subtropical gardens filled with plants brought back by Victorian explorers. We will also study marine ecology, studying marine biodiversity in rockpools and maybe even spotting seals or dolphins.

**Dates and places:** The course begins at 7pm on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June in Central London; we will spend 3 days in London and will arrive in the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup> of June in Cornwall. The course ends on Monday morning, 30<sup>th</sup> of June in Penryn, Cornwall.

**More information:** look out for the moodle course, there will be an information session in November/December 2024.

Registration by email to [lena.wilfert@uni-ulm.de](mailto:lena.wilfert@uni-ulm.de) – deadline see SK website