THINKING DIFFERENTLY
ABOUT LEGAL CAREERS

GRADUATE BROCHURE
LONDON 2023/2024
WHY ORRICK?

US Law Firm of the Year, Runner up
Legal Business Awards 2023

Band 1 UK Venture Capital
Chambers 2023

#1 Venture Capital Firm in Europe
PitchBook Q2 2023 & 30 quarters in a row

#4 for Pro Bono Internationally
The American Lawyer 2023

Legal Advisory of the Year, Winner
Wind Investment Awards 2023
SECTOR FOCUS

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION
To compete in today’s market, every company must play in the tech space. Orrick has built a platform to help businesses adapt and thrive in the digital landscape. In London we provide advice to tech companies at all stages of growth, as well as to investors driving the ecosystem.

OUR TECH CLIENTS INCLUDE:
- Microsoft
- Stripe
- Graphcore
- Telenor
- Lilium

“They simply are so good in the venture capital market. They do so many deals that their level of commercial knowledge is really high.”
Chambers & Partners

ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE
As global demand for sustainability grows, our team advises participants across the full energy spectrum. Our top-ranked, award-winning Offshore Wind team acts for leading sponsors, ECAs, lenders and investors in complex and first-of-a-kind matters across Europe, the US and Asia.

OUR WORK IN E&I INCLUDES:
- Representing developers, sponsors, investors and lenders in renewables, such as Ørsted, Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners and all the major lenders and IFIs/ECAs.
- Advised on the sale of transmission assets for Hornsea One, the world’s largest offshore wind farm.
- Advised on the US$1.6B Project Financing of the 298MW Zhong Neng Offshore Wind Farm in Taiwan, the first Taiwanese bank-led project financing of an offshore wind farm in Taiwan.

FINANCE
For over a century we’ve acted for leading financial institutions at the forefront of innovation. Our London finance team has broad experience advising on the English law aspects of structured finance, banking and finance and restructuring work.

ON THE CUSP OF INNOVATION:
We act for traditional financial institutions, funds and asset managers, private equity sponsors and fintech companies on a broad range of finance and restructuring matters.
- Representing Morgan Stanley on European CLO transactions
- Providing litigation and regulation advice to the Big 4 accounting firms
- Represented Millicom International Cellular SA on a $1.65B bridge loan.

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INNOVATIVE LAWYERS 2022
Top 3 for Innovation
7 Years in a Row
#1 in Reinventing the Legal Practice

Our clients include
100+ TECH UNICORNS
Orrick is a modern, inclusive, global law firm focused on serving the Tech & Innovation, Energy & Infrastructure and Finance sectors. We differentiate from other global law firms though our strategy focused on delivering commercial, synthesised, sector-focused advice, a best place to work culture that attracts talent and inspires best performance, and by innovating in our legal advice and service delivery.

If you are motivated by practising at a modern and innovative global law firm, but crave the teamwork, mentoring and client contact that a smaller office offers and want to help drive positive change in the community, then Orrick is the firm for you.
WHY PELICANS?

Pelicans have become a symbol for us as we reflect together on how we want to practice in the future. They’re remarkable birds. Pelicans work as a team. They recognize that each individual has unique strengths – taking turns leading, depending on the conditions. They flock together to herd fish to shallow waters. And they go to extraordinary lengths to protect the next generation in their pod.

How you do things is part of what defines your ecosystem. We hope this brochure gives you an introduction to how we do things at Orrick, our culture and a sense of what it might be like to be part of our team.
CORE VALUES

We are fortunate to have inherited the core values of excellence, teamwork, perseverance and innovation – going back 150+ years to our roots in California’s Gold Rush era. This history shapes the long-term perspective we bring when we advise our clients. We’re equally grateful to work with the most innovative companies worldwide, paving the way for a more globally integrated, technologically sophisticated future.
INNOVATION

Legal innovation inspires us. Orrick is pushing the boundaries to improve legal workflow with human-centred design. And we’re committed to leading it. A big reason for this success is that we involve everyone in innovating. As part of our commitment to innovation, associates at Orrick receive up to 50 hours of bonus credit annually for work on innovation-related projects.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Inclusiveness is a core value that shapes the way we run our firm. It’s part of our daily conversation about investing in talent, staffing our teams and measuring our success. We are taking concrete steps to make our firm and our profession more inclusive. You’ll see it in our metrics and our lawyer development and coaching programmes – and you’ll feel it in our culture.

Our global DEI programme is run by Angelique Magliulo-Hager, Sheryl Garko, Siobhan Handley and Lorraine McGowen, the latter recognized by Savoy as one of the most influential black lawyers in the United States. We also have a dedicated Women’s Initiative which supports women’s career development across the firm and promotes diversity within senior management. Orrick also has a long history of promoting LGBTQ+ equality, both inside and outside the firm. In 2020 we were involved in the US Supreme Court’s landmark ruling in Bostock v. Clayton County, strengthening workplace protections for LGBTQ+ employees across the US.

Closer to home, we have several DEI initiatives within the London office. Our London DEI committee meets regularly to support and promote a wide range of events and initiatives, with recent activities including supporting the annual Dive/In event, celebrating International Women’s Day and recognising Windrush Day.

We also have a London LGBTQ+ group where LGBTQ+ lawyers and staff are able to meet, network and collectively share their experience. The group, which also works closely with our global network, constitutes a safe and confidential space to promote the wellness of LGBTQ+ individuals in the workplace. Additionally, it actively contributes to the creation and improvement of LGBTQ+ related policies in collaboration with our DEI Committee and Stonewall.

Inclusiveness is also key to how we recruit in London. We are proud to partner with Rare Contextual Recruitment, which helps us ensure our trainee recruitment processes are as fair and inclusive as possible. Rare data allows us to contextualise candidates’ academics and experience to ensure that we are not missing out on talented individuals who may have had a less privileged start in life. We also work with Aspiring Solicitors who introduce us to talented students from diverse and social-mobility backgrounds at their Virtual Law Fair series. Orrick was also a founding member of the Reignite Academy, an organisation that supports individuals returning to the legal profession following a career break or time spent out of the legal sector.
The impact of our pro bono programme is broad. It is also one of the most important ways we measure our professional success. Our lawyers contributed more than 121,000 hours to pro bono representation last year.

We have a recognised leading pro bono practice with almost 100% of our lawyers in Europe and Asia supporting high impact pro bono projects each year. Our lawyers work on a variety of matters such as access to justice projects assisting marginalised and disadvantaged individuals in our communities, innovative social finance deals and human rights reporting and research.
HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

THE GREECE COLLABORATIVE  The UK and European offices of Orrick, in collaboration with a consortium of law firms, partner with the NGO European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL) to provide much needed pro bono legal information and assistance to asylum seekers in Athens and Lesvos. This project involves sending volunteer lawyers to the ELIL offices for two weeks at a time to help with preparing these vulnerable individuals for the asylum interview process.

UK ACCESS TO JUSTICE  Trainees and lawyers in our London office can join a number of ongoing Access to Justice projects to help vulnerable individuals in our local community. These are:

- supporting adults with learning disabilities and mental health difficulties with welfare benefits and charging appeals with Access;
- advocating for terminally ill children and their families in areas of social housing and community care with LawWorks;
- assisting destitute detained immigrants to obtain the legal aid they are entitled to with Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID UK);
- assisting Afghan individuals with family reunification and Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) applications with Safe Passage and Refugee Legal Support;
- preparing exceptional case funding and family reunification applications for asylum seekers in Europe with family members in the UK with Refugee Legal Support;
- assisting Ukrainian citizens or residents currently located in the UK with family reunification and visa extensions with Asylum Aid;
- assisting on statelessness applications with Asylum Aid.

They can also join a regional project, working on Rule 39 interim measures applications to the European Court of Human Rights on behalf of refugees and asylum seekers on issues such as pushbacks and reception conditions with Coalizione Italiana per le Libertà e i Diritti civili (CILD).

These projects involve areas of law outside our usual expertise, so comprehensive training and supervision by an expert lawyer at our partner organisations is provided.

Access to Justice: Most Effective Pro Bono Partnership, winner

LawWorks Pro Bono Award 2022
At Orrick, we also provide meaningful opportunities for our lawyers and staff to give back through non-legal volunteering and fundraising. We have a successful partnership with the East London Business Alliance, a registered charity that aims to bring about positive change by building relationships between the private sector and the local community. London-based lawyers and staff have participated in speed networking, mock-interviews, CV workshops and a presentation project with year 12 students.

**HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS**

**ORRICK CARES** We also make a social impact together through Orrick Cares, a programme we launched in 2014 to foster collaboration among our lawyers, staff, clients and friends through volunteerism at community events and nonprofits. Each office chooses local initiatives that matter to them, and each team member can take one extra day of paid time off each year to volunteer for an Orrick Cares activity of their choosing. When it comes to charitable giving, our team members have the ability to decide where funds go.

**CHANGE FOR CHARITY** With the launch of Change for Charity in 2019, employees can elect to have a small amount of their pay deducted each month and at the end of the year, each office votes on a local charity to contribute to, and the firm matches up to $50,000 globally. Last year, Change for Charity supported over 20 organizations – including educational nonprofits, children’s advocacy efforts, animal shelters and Doctors Without Borders. The firm also donated over $135,000 to hunger relief, supporting 69 food banks and organisations in 22 cities globally.
A clear and accountability-focused sustainability strategy is critical for a better global environmental future. Sustaining the environment and preserving our planet’s natural resources is a key value for Orrick, and we are committed to operating our firm in a manner that reflects those values. Environmental and sustainability matters are also increasingly important to our clients, and they closely scrutinise how their legal counsel perform in these criteria. To achieve these goals, we seek to conduct our business in a manner that reduces waste and reduces our worldwide carbon footprint.

**HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS**

**GREEN @ ORRICK** is a global initiative that was launched in 2019. Each Orrick office runs its own Green Committee that meets regularly to track progress and to discuss further steps to make their day-to-day work more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

In London, recent Green @ Orrick initiatives include installing plants on our client floor, providing employees with a budget to buy a plant for their office and promoting re-wilding of employees’ gardens. We are also a member of PrintReleaf to help offset our paper usage.
YOUR TRAINING CONTRACT
WHAT TO EXPECT

The two-year training programme comprises six four-month seats, with regular appraisals. This gives you the opportunity to gain a wide range of practice group experience and work with many different clients.

TRAINEES CAN CURRENTLY DO SEATS IN OUR FOLLOWING LONDON PRACTICES:

- Banking & Finance
- Cyber, Privacy & Data Innovation
- Employment Law
- Energy & Infrastructure
- International Arbitration
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- M&A and Private Equity
- Restructuring
- Tax & Incentives
- Technology Companies Group
- Technology Transactions

You’ll have a real opportunity to chart the course of your career. Here’s how ...

YOU’LL WORK IN SMALL TEAMS
This means more partner and client contact and access to coaching and mentoring.

YOU’LL DO PRO BONO WORK
Pro bono work is among the most important work we do. Our dedicated Head of International Pro Bono and Community Responsibility will help you find projects that inspire you.
LEARNING NEVER STOPS

- As a trainee you will be assigned a dedicated mentor to support you throughout your training contract alongside your seat supervisor.

- You’ll have regular appraisals with both your supervisor and our Training Principal to support your ongoing development.

- Trainee-led training: our trainee training representatives take the lead in organising bespoke sessions with associates and partners on behalf of the wider trainee intakes.

- Orrick University offers over 350 substantive legal and business skills courses to help with your continual growth, both professionally and personally. As you advance from associate through to managing and senior associate, you will also attend academies with your global colleagues. We also offer workshops in leadership, teamwork, plain English writing, business development, mindfulness and more.
HEAR FROM OUR TEAM

SIDDHARTH BALANI
Trainee
Training Contract Seats: Tax & Incentives, TCG/MAPE, Banking & Finance and Energy & Infrastructure

I always wanted to train at a firm whose speciality and expertise aligned with my interests in the technology sector, international work and exciting and ambitious clients, while being part of a lean and dynamic team. Orrick has proven to be just that.

Having secured my training contract nearly two years before the start date upon graduating from Leeds University, I had the unique opportunity to work as a paralegal in the Technology Companies Group before commencing my training contract. This allowed me to step into the trainee role with confidence, practical legal experience and strong relationships with different clients, offices and departments at Orrick. Having now spent more than two years at the firm, I’ve been able to work with a variety of clients and network extensively across the business.

Time has been invested in my development and real responsibility given to me from day one. In my Corporate seats, I’ve been part of multiple deal teams, including company- and investor-side deals - this has allowed me to actively see the entire life cycle of different deals, from term sheet stage to completion, and it’s encouraging to know that our contributions as trainees have a tangible impact within each transaction.

A memorable highlight from my time at Orrick is playing a charity football tournament at Crystal Palace’s Selhurst Park involving numerous companies in the UK technology universe – hopefully Spurs’ Stadium next!
I joined Orrick in 2020 as a trainee and qualified into our Technology Companies Group in January 2023. My decision to apply to Orrick for a training contract was led by the appeal of its small trainee intake, unique six-seat training programme and sector focus approach. The firm’s six seat training contract gave me the opportunity to explore a broad range of practice areas, including Employment, Mergers & Acquisitions and Banking & Finance.

As each practice group typically only has one trainee, I found that trainees were given real responsibility from the outset. Orrick encourages trainees to seek support from all members of the team, from associates to partners, with an open-door policy throughout the firm.

As part of the Technology Companies Group I have been able to work with exciting companies, venture capital funds and investors at all stages of a company’s life cycle. The range of advice we give to clients – be that an equity financing, an exit or general corporate matters - ensure each day is different. A particular highlight to date was being part of a team assisting a pet insurance company on its $350 million Series D equity financing which led to it becoming a Unicorn.

During my time at Orrick, I have also been involved in incredible pro-bono projects, including Refugee Legal Support, LawWorks and TrialWatch, a programme run by the Clooney Foundation for Justice.

Orrick’s exceptional lawyers, collaborative approach and interesting clients are just some of the many reasons I chose to remain at Orrick on qualification.

MORE FROM OUR TEAM
I was initially drawn to Orrick due to the international nature of its work and the degree of responsibility offered to trainees. This proved true throughout my training contract where I worked on numerous complex and high-profile transactions, including a financing of a windfarm in the Mongolian desert as well as smaller investments in tech start-ups. On each transaction, I was offered the opportunity to work directly with clients and to take the lead on certain workstreams.

Having enjoyed all seats during my training contract, I faced a dilemma when choosing a single practice area at qualification. I think that is why I was ultimately drawn to the Energy & Infrastructure team as its sectoral nature encompasses numerous legal practice areas within one team.

Since qualification, I haven't looked back and the renewable focus of the Energy & Infrastructure Team at Orrick means that I have been lucky enough to work on transactions that are at the forefront of the energy transition. Highlights include acting for Ørsted on its GBP1.141 billion sale of the transmission assets of the 1.3GW Hornsea Two offshore windfarm (which is currently the largest offshore wind farm in the world) and advising a multinational consortium in relation to the development of a green hydrogen project in Oman.
I joined Orrick as a trainee in August 2014. The firm’s draw was its small intake and its global reach but comparatively small presence in London, meaning an opportunity to get good exposure to high-end work in an environment that required taking on responsibility early.

I qualified into (what was then) the Data Protection, Commercial, Intellectual Property “etc.” team, a group that seemed to take on the matters that didn’t cleanly fall into any other identifiable practice area but could probably be summed up as specialising in anything that involved creating or running a business online. It was a great platform for working with and getting to know some pioneering companies doing weird and wonderful things with software and data. It meant understanding how various online products worked under the bonnet and seeing how advice translated into real-world user experience. With the introduction of the GDPR, the growth of big data and the development of AI, it has also been an exciting space to work in.

Although the firm has changed a lot since I started my training contract, it has retained the qualities that made me apply and encouraged me to stay here in the first place. Despite being a large global firm, it has an entrepreneurial, almost start-up quality to it which gives it a vibrant, relatively informal and non-hierarchical atmosphere that rewards curiosity, enterprise and a willingness to take on challenges.
I started my career in finance law after studying economics and history at university. At the beginning of my career in law I did not really know what I wanted to do, but I was always interested in finance and this seemed like a natural fit. I joined Orrick in 2002 and worked in the finance team in New York for a number of years before coming to London on secondment. My secondment was due to last only 6 months, but I ended up staying in London on a long-term basis.

After I settled in London, I qualified in England and Wales (and remain qualified in New York) and in 2020 I took on the role of Training Principal. I really enjoy having the opportunity to see the next generation of lawyers come up through the ranks and to help guide them on their career choices. At Orrick, we take pride in giving trainees the chance to do real work. We don’t have a formulaic approach to our training.

Our programme is designed to give our trainees the chance to maximise their experience during their training contract. They have a broad range of practice areas to choose from and we believe strongly in giving opportunities and responsibility to trainees who have the capacity to handle it.

My top tip for someone applying to be a trainee at Orrick would be to keep an open mind about what you want to do, try as many different practice areas as you can, and think about which ones best suit your interests and your strengths.
We hope you’re feeling inspired to learn more about a career with Orrick. Here’s the path to explore more ...

WHAT WE’RE LOOKING FOR
We look for individuals who want a high level of responsibility from day one, enjoy working in teams, are great at building relationships, have the grit and determination to persevere, and find innovation and change exciting. Inspire us with your diverse backgrounds and interests, and tell us about the life experiences and perspectives that shape your worldview. We welcome bright, talented graduates of any discipline who are looking for a firm offering a broad-based training contract. Applicants should have or be on track to achieve a 2:1 (or above) degree in any discipline.

VACATION SCHEME ROUTE
The primary route to applying for a training contract with us is to apply for a space on our summer vacation scheme programme. Our vacation scheme offers participants an opportunity to see the London office of a U.S. law firm in action and get an insight into what life as a trainee would be like here.

During the two-week scheme you’ll spend time in two practice groups, working on real work alongside our trainees, associates and partners. There will also be a variety of social opportunities and events throughout the scheme, giving you an opportunity to really get to know our team. Candidates can also expect to attend various training sessions and workshops and they will be assessed for a training contract via a structured interview, a written exercise, a research task and a group presentation (please note, the assessment process is subject to change).

TRAINING CONTRACT ONLY ROUTE
We also offer a direct training contract application route, designed primarily for those who are unable to complete a vacation scheme with us. This is part of our commitment to ensuring equal access to our opportunities - we recognise that not all our applicants will be able to attend a vacation scheme with us.

COMPENSATION AND SPONSORSHIP
Trainee salaries currently start at £55,000 for the first year, rising to £60,000 in your second year. Our NQ salary is currently £140,000. We also offer a competitive benefits package and a dedicated wellness programme in London, including firm yoga classes, and a variety of global and local mental health initiatives.

Our trainees will study a bespoke course to prepare for the SQE, and we will also provide a maintenance grant of £1,000 per month for the study period.
KEY DATES

1 October 2023  Applications open for Vacation Scheme Route
2 January 2024  Applications open for Training Contract Only Route
31 January 2024 Applications close for Vacation Scheme Route
March and April 2024 Vacation Scheme Route Assessment Days
30 April 2024  Applications close for Training Contract Only Route
June 2024  Training Contract Only Route Assessment Days
July 2024  Vacation Scheme and Training Contract Only Routes Final Interviews
August 2024  Training Contract offers for both Vacation Scheme and Training Contract Only Routes

READY TO THINK DIFFERENTLY?
Go to orrick.com/careers/lawyer-job-opportunities to apply.

LET’S TALK!

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