

# DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN INTERN AT WALTER SCOTT

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FIRST PUBLISHED AUGUST 2024



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To find out more about life as an intern at Walter Scott, I sat down with 2024 Research intern Harvey Turner. Harvey, who is currently reading History at Oxford University, shares his experiences of joining the firm, his day to day tasks, and what he enjoyed most about life in Edinburgh.

## TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF

Studying history means being constantly reminded of the many and varied repercussions that come from global events. This is an awareness and mindset which translates well into unpacking the factors which make companies successful. Having met Walter Scott at Oxford's Crankstart careers fair, an event for students with socioeconomic scholarships, I was drawn to the fact that such a tight-knit firm worked with such a global perspective. The Research internship at Walter Scott allowed me to combine my analytical strengths with a hands-on project. That opportunity to demonstrate my own research was particularly appealing.

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## HOW DID YOU FIND WALTER SCOTT AND THE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE?

My time with the firm far exceeded my expectations. Across the six weeks, I was not only supported in my professional development, but grew to feel very much part of the team. The opportunities available to me were vast, constantly learning from people with years of industry experience. I was given a front row seat to watch an investment strategy in action.

Having a dedicated mentor was invaluable. I had limited fund management industry experience, but that wasn't a barrier, and the team always supported me when I faced uncertainties or had questions. The firm's collaborative atmosphere also surprised me; Walter Scott is far from the cut-throat finance industry stereotype. The frequent discussions and debates going on within the Research team gave me a strong foundation from which to go about my own research.

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#### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST WEEK LIKE?

In short, fast-paced. We had a packed week of inductions to all areas of the firm, including our specific teams and projects. I really appreciated the time that Walter Scott gave us to not just settle in, but also see how each part of the firm links together. One of the most useful parts of the first week was a training course introducing us to the fund management industry, and where Walter Scott fits within the larger picture. Whilst there was plenty of jargon to get used to, each team made an effort to explain things, and answer any and every question we could come up with.

#### WHAT DOES AN AVERAGE DAY LOOK LIKE AT WALTER SCOTT?

The nature of the research programme is such that no two days are the same. The biggest part of the experience is choosing, researching, and presenting on a company of your choice, and so this work maps out across the six weeks. Typically, the first week or two are spent narrowing down companies worth researching, choosing a stock which fits both the firm's investment philosophy and personal interest. From week three, in-depth research into the stock, its industry, and its competitors takes precedence, with a view to preparing the final presentation in week six. In addition to the project-specific research, I was also welcomed into company-wide meetings, investment debates and research discussions.

My research focused on the cybersecurity industry, one which is expected to see significant expansion in the coming years. The main task was to choose a company with a strong balance sheet, compelling revenue growth, competitive products, and a strong overall business model.

By the end of the six weeks, I had been supported by the team to produce and present a stock pitch.

#### WHAT IS IT LIKE TO LIVE AND WORK IN EDINBURGH?

I'd only visited Edinburgh once before so the whole city was new to me, but I was really struck by its atmosphere. Edinburgh is such an impressive city to live in, there's always lots going on, and almost always someone playing the bagpipes on the High Street! In the city you are constantly surrounded by culture and history, so there was plenty for me to do outside of work. Within 20 minutes, you can go from the hills, to city streets, to the beach, and Walter Scott's office sits right in the middle of it all.

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#### WHAT'S THE MOST VALUABLE THING YOU'VE LEARNED AT WALTER SCOTT?

Throughout my internship, I took a lot from speaking to colleagues at the firm who had previously been interns, and hearing from them what the career roadmap of an investment analyst might look like. I also grew to appreciate the value in having the courage to ask for help when you need it. No-one in a team is going to be an expert at everything, and that's why collaboration is so important.

#### Investment Research

Walter Scott's Research team identifies, analyses, and engages with a select group of the world's best growth companies. The Research internship programme provides a thorough insight into the role of an investment analyst - choosing, researching, and presenting on a chosen company.

#### WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT WALTER SCOTT?

Please visit [www.walterscott.com/careers](http://www.walterscott.com/careers) for details and application information.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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