

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

Self-Guided Tour



The Cathays Park Campus

www.cardiff.ac.uk



Virtual Campus Tour

Discover more about the University and the city of Cardiff through our interactive online tour at: virtualtour.cardiff.ac.uk

Our virtual campus tour covers both of our campuses, the city of Cardiff and selected student residences. Through 360 degree panoramic photos and videos, you can get a flavour of what it will be like to study and live in the vibrant capital of Wales.

Open Days

We're running virtual and physical open days throughout the year to give you an opportunity to find out more about Cardiff University and student life.

To find out more and book your place visit: www.cardiff.ac.uk/openday

Or contact the Open Day Office directly:

Tel: **029 2087 4455**

Email: openday@cardiff.ac.uk

Welcome

Cardiff University is one of the UK's leading universities and the largest in Wales. It has an international reputation for its teaching and research.

The University's Cathays Park Campus is located in and around Cardiff's civic centre, just a few minutes walk from the city centre. This self-guided tour is designed to give you an overview of the University estate.

The tour will take you approximately one hour (or 90 minutes if you make one of the optional detours to either Talybont student residences or to the Queen's Buildings - home to the School of Physics and Astronomy and the School of Engineering - or approximately 75 minutes if you take the detour to the Optometry, Hadyn Ellis and CUBRIC buildings).

Please note: unless you have made prior arrangements, you will not be able to tour individual academic schools, as students and staff are working, and there may be health and safety reasons which preclude access. Likewise, you will not be able to see inside our student residences as students are living in them, but you are welcome to tour the sites to gain a feel for the place. You may view inside the residences at any of our open days.

If you are visiting the University during office hours (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm), why not come and pick up a Welcome Pack from the reception area in our Main Building (**map ref 1**). Staff here can also put you in contact with our team who can answer any questions you may have.

Copies of our prospectuses and brochures can also be downloaded from our website at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/pubs/ug

Covid-19

Ensuring the safety and welfare of our staff, students and visitors is our priority. We are closely monitoring the Covid-19 situation. Please check our website for latest information: www.cardiff.ac.uk/coronavirus

Please note: The School of Journalism, Media and Culture is not included in this tour as it is located in the city centre, next to the headquarters of BBC Wales. The Heath Park Campus (home to the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Healthcare Sciences) is a large working hospital site. As you will appreciate, we do not recommend visiting this site at the current time. Parts of the Heath Park Campus are included in our online virtual tour: virtualtour.cardiff.ac.uk

We hope you find this tour enjoyable and informative.

NOTES:

Cardiff University Routefinder

Travel and parking information is available on our website. If you are planning to travel to Cardiff by car, you can obtain a full set of travel directions from your home to the University at: www.cardiff.ac.uk/visit/directions

Satnav

If you are using satnav, the postcode for the University's Cathays Park Campus (Main Building) is **CF10 3AT**.

Advice for visitors with a disability/medical condition/specific learning difficulty

Cardiff is committed to providing an accessible environment for all applicants, students and visitors. If you have special requirements that arise as a result of a disability, medical condition or specific learning difficulty, we encourage you to contact us in order that appropriate arrangements can be made prior to your visit.

For further information, please contact the Student Support Centre (**map ref 11**).

Tel: **029 2087 4844**

Email: studentconnect@cardiff.ac.uk

Your tour begins at the Main Building on Park Place. **Map ref A**



Main Building

The University's Main Building is home to the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Chemistry and Biosciences, as well as the Science Library.

Regarded as one of the finest pieces of architecture in Cardiff, it is a Grade II listed building, and was designed by ecclesiastical architect William Douglas Caroe, who sought to achieve "the charm and quiet dignity and scale" of Trinity College, Cambridge, coupled with the "picturesque balance and delightful proportions of some of the Oxford colleges".

Work began in 1905 and the first stage was completed in 1909, but money ran out, and the side wings were not completed until the 1960s. The Great Hall, which was a part of Caroe's original plan and would have formed the fourth side of the quadrangle, was never added.

As you look towards the central door, on your right is the North Wing, which is home to the School of Chemistry.

This wing was constructed in stages throughout the last century. When the Prince of Wales opened the Tatem Laboratories in 1930, he caused an international press sensation by travelling from London to Cardiff and back by air in a single day.

Improvements have continued, and in recent years, many millions of pounds have been invested in new and improved chemistry facilities to create an outstanding environment for research and education.

Opposite, in the South Wing (on your left hand side) is the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Despite its classic appearance, this wing was opened as recently as 1962 - by the Duke of Edinburgh on one of his many visits to the University - although the School itself was established in 1891.

The historic-looking architecture houses state-of-the-art facilities including geomicrobiology and geochemical laboratories, microscopy, stable isotope laboratory and 3D semi-immersive visualisation laboratory. The School also has its own research vessel, *Guiding Light*, moored in Penarth Marina, a few miles away.

The area in which you are standing was originally envisaged as a courtyard with lawns and fountains in Caroe's original design.

In the past, this area was used for grass tennis courts. It has also been taken over by film crews. It was transformed into Smithfield Market for a BBC drama. The building has also become a Nazi HQ for a film and used as a location for TV programmes including Doctor Who and Sherlock

Until recently this area has been a car park, but it will now be redeveloped.

You may notice pock-marks in the stonework above the entrance - this is the result of bomb damage during World War II. Elsewhere, an upper-floor corridor caught fire when an incendiary device lodged in the roof in February 1941. Students formed chains of buckets to help put out the fire.

The central part of the building is home to the Science Library and part of the School of Biosciences (the rest being located in the modern Sir Martin Evans Building, next door to Main Building).

Inside, the central part of the building is a reception area called the Viriamu Jones Gallery after John Viriamu Jones, who became the first Principal of the University College in 1883 at the age of just 27.

The University was then located in Newport Road, but it was Jones' vision and drive that led to its relocation here in Cathays Park.



Viriamu Jones Gallery

He never saw his vision realised, as he died aged 45 in 1901. In the centre of the gallery is a marble statue of John Viriamu Jones, weighing three tons. In 1998 it was moved 20 feet from its original location in order to create wheelchair access to the building.

His statue was created by Sir William Goscombe John, one of Wales' most famous sculptors, and was exhibited at the Royal Academy of 1906.

The gallery is used for many University functions and gatherings, including open days, conferences, the remembrance service and for carols around the Christmas tree.

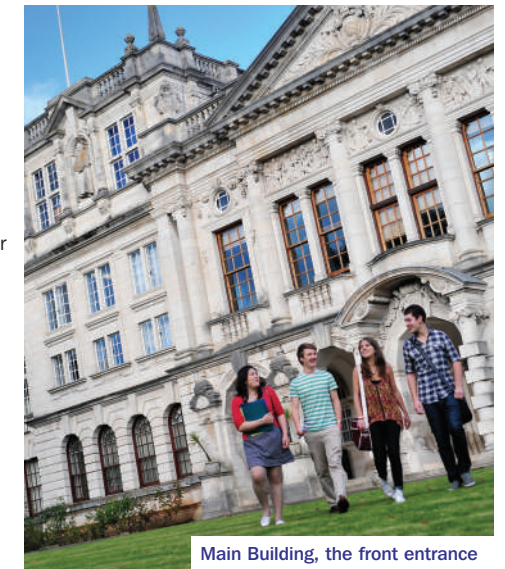
Retrace your steps out of the car park, turn left and then turn left again down the side of Main Building and head to **Map ref B**

This is the grand front entrance to Main Building. From Horseshoe Drive in front of the building, look up at the entrance; you will see a Welsh inscription in the stone: 'Nerth gwlad ei gwybodaeth - A nation's strength is in its learning'. Note also, the impressive decoration including coats of arms of benefactors and supporters, a 'figural frieze' and statues of King George V and of Edward VII, when he was Prince of Wales.

As you look at the building, to your left you can see the Sir Martin Evans Building, the main home of the School of Biosciences. It is one of the largest bioscience departments in the UK and its former director, Professor Sir Martin Evans, was awarded a Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2007 for his pioneering work in identifying embryonic stem cells. The techniques which he, and his two colleagues from America who shared the prize, developed are now being used worldwide in research into cancer, cystic fibrosis, diabetes and other diseases.

Among those working in the Sir Martin Evans Building is Dr Rhys Jones, a Distinguished Visiting Fellow, who presents Rhys Jones' Wildlife Patrol on BBC Wales.

Medical and Dental students receive some of their teaching here during the first year, and the building houses our dissection rooms which are the largest in the UK.



Main Building, the front entrance

Facing towards the road, walk left out of the Horseshoe Drive onto Museum Avenue.



Principality Stadium

Beyond the grand buildings to your left (National Museum Wales and City Hall) is the main shopping centre of Cardiff - the pedestrianised city centre offers designer shops, department stores (including one of the largest John Lewis stores outside London) and all the High Street favourites, while the city's glass-canopied Victorian and Edwardian arcades feature many small boutiques, independent stores and cafés.

Close to the shopping centre is Cardiff Castle, which was originally a Roman Fort and was redeveloped during Norman times. It was owned by many noble families until 1766 when it passed by marriage to the Bute family. The castle underwent significant redevelopment in the 19th century when the 3rd Marquess of Bute transformed it into the truly impressive gothic-style castle you see today. The castle and the parkland surrounding it (Bute Park) were bequeathed to the people of Cardiff in 1947.

The Principality Stadium is also in the city centre. It hosts major sporting events including international rugby, as well as concerts by the world's biggest acts. During the pandemic it was converted into a 2000 bed "Nightingale" hospital.

Cross the road and head into Alexandra Gardens in front of you.



War Memorial

These gardens are the central point of Cardiff's civic centre. The area was conceived by the 3rd Marquess of Bute (1847-1900) who was reputed at one time to be the richest man in the world. He is largely responsible for many of Cardiff's stunning architectural and landscaped features and the foundations of its thriving economy.

The Welsh National War Memorial, which dominates the centre of the gardens, was unveiled by the Prince of Wales in 1928 and is now a Grade II listed building.

Walk straight across the gardens to King Edward VII Avenue. On the opposite side of the road is the Glamorgan Building. **Map ref C**

This Grade I listed building was designed by Vincent Harris and Thomas Moodie, following their success in an open competition. The building was completed in 1911 and opened the following year. For many years it was the home of the former Glamorgan County Council, which covered an area stretching from Cardiff to Swansea, including the Vale of Glamorgan and the South Wales Valleys.

The statues by Albert Hodge depict the means by which the old county's wealth and status arose - through navigation and mining.

The University bought the building in 1997 and invested £5M in creating a new home for the School of Geography and Planning and the School of Social Sciences.

The magnificent circular Council Chamber remains, and is now used as a lecture theatre.

Doctor Who fans may recognise the building as Cardiff's council offices in an episode in which the Mayor of Cardiff turned out to be an alien. The building has also been featured in Sherlock and other popular programmes and films.



Glamorgan Building

Walk towards the building to the right of the Glamorgan Building - the Bute Building.



Bute Building

This Grade II listed building - the one with the red dragon on its roof - was the home of Cardiff Technical College from 1916, and became the main building of UWIST (University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology) in 1968.

Designed by Sir Percy Thomas and Ivor Jones, its frontage features six Roman Doric columns and it now houses the Welsh School of Architecture. It is currently subject to a multi-million pound investment programme to upgrade facilities.

The Welsh School of Architecture has in fact been based in this building since it was formed in 1919 - originally as part of the Technical College. Today it is one of the largest Schools of its kind in the UK, with facilities including a Sky Dome, which can recreate the light for any location around the world.

Until recently the building was also home to the School of Journalism, Media and Culture. It has moved to a new purpose-built home in the city centre alongside BBC Wales' headquarters which will provide additional opportunities for collaboration.

Continue up King Edward VII Avenue past the Bute Building. **Map ref D**

Located on the corner of King Edward VII Avenue and Corbett Road is the Redwood Building. Opened by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1961, its entrance is dominated by a vast relief sculpture by Bainbridge Copnall, showing a toga-clad figure, surrounded by books and a globe, reaching out protectively over a young scientist and a nurse.



Redwood Building

The Redwood Building is home to the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and was named after Theophilus Redwood, a founding father of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, who hailed from Boverton, near Llantwit Major in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Founded in 1919, it is the only School of its kind in Wales and several major internationally-recognised research centres are based wholly or partially here.

Five presidents of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society were graduates of the School and the only pharmacist in recent times to be knighted, Sir Roger Jones, graduated and went on to become founder of Penn Pharmaceuticals.

Cross Corbett Road, turn right and walk along the road; on your left is Aberdare Hall. **Map ref E**

This hall of residence is exclusively for female students. The hall was founded by Lady Aberdare in 1885 to promote women's education in Wales. Initially it housed 22 women in a rented house, but has occupied this impressive terracotta and brick building since January 1895.

Next to Aberdare Hall is the School of Music. Outside the School is the powerful bronze sculpture, Walk In (1966), by the acclaimed British artist Dame Barbara Hepworth.

The School of Music building was opened in 1970 and boasts facilities including electric acoustic studios and a 250-seat concert hall, used for public performances.



Aberdare Hall



Music Building

Alumni of the School include Karl Jenkins who has composed for Welsh baritone Bryn Terfel, written film scores and recorded an album with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, 'Kiri sings Karl'. He also wrote a fanfare for the University's 125th anniversary celebrations, while Professor Alan Hoddinott, former Head of the School of Music wrote the fanfare for the wedding of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles.

In 2007, the School's Professor Judith Weir became the first composer to be awarded the Queen's Medal for Music.

Walk past the Music Building towards the traffic lights. Cross the road and walk through the red gates next to the coffee shop at the crossroads. **Map ref F**

This is the University's Colum Road site. On your right is the Arts and Social Studies Library.

This is former railway land, acquired by the University in the 1970s. It was originally envisaged that the library complex would have had a second building, replacing many of the houses and the coffee shop in Colum Road.

Even in its single-building structure, this is our largest library, and it now boasts the new Wolfson Floor - a spacious wireless-enabled eLounge with flexible seating, alongside a bank of fixed PCs. In all, our libraries hold more than 1.1 million books.

Continue walking along the path, and in front of you is the John Percival Building.

This building was opened in 1976, and a substantial extension was added in the mid-1990s, providing enhanced facilities for students and staff. It is home to three academic schools: English, Communication and Philosophy; History, Archaeology and Religion; and Welsh.

The academic schools in this building enjoy international reputations for the quality of their work, and, like our other academic schools, they attract renowned guest speakers.



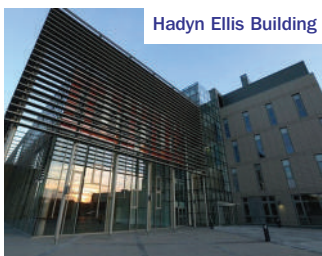
John Percival Building

Follow the path around the side of the John Percival Building to the right, towards the railway line. On the other side of the railway line you will see our Optometry Building and the Hadyn Ellis Building as well as CUBRIC and a number of other new buildings. **Map ref G**

You will have the chance to take a closer look at these impressive recent additions to the University's estate during a brief optional detour, a little later.



Optometry Building



Hadyn Ellis Building



CUBRIC Building

Follow the road alongside the railway line. To your left is Cardiff Business School's Postgraduate Teaching Centre and in front of you is the Julian Hodge Building, which also forms part of the Cardiff Business School. **Map ref H**

The £13.5M Postgraduate Teaching Centre, opened in 2014, includes lecture theatres, seminar rooms, and other impressive facilities, including a 'trading room' which provides our students with the practical skills for life at the stock exchange.

The Julian Hodge Building was built with money left to the University by Sir Julian Hodge, the London-born entrepreneur and banker who spent most of his life in Wales. This building is a teaching resource centre with a 450-seat lecture theatre and a computer suite with 200+ computers.

On the opposite side of the railway line was a former railway works. The land was bought by the University and a number of major new buildings have been and are being constructed to form the new Maindy Park Campus. You can see these buildings on a short optional detour a little later.



Julian Hodge Building

Walking past the Julian Hodge Building, you come to the Aberconway Building.

Built in stages between 1981 and 1983, Aberconway is home to Cardiff Business School - the largest single academic school in the University.

Turn left down the road and walk towards the barriers. As you exit the site on to Colum Road, on your right are the Aberconway Halls of Residence and on the other side of Colum Road is Colum Hall. **Map ref I**



Aberconway Building

About five minutes north on Colum Road (to your right) are Talybont student residences. The University's largest accommodation site, it is home to 2,500 students. It is also home to one of the University's sports centres, with all-weather pitches, a fully equipped gym and a rugby training pitch.

Map ref J

To continue your tour, retrace your steps through the Humanities site to the red gates on the crossroads. If you would like to take a 15-minute detour to see some of our new buildings, turn left here. If not, cross the road at the traffic lights and continue down Park Place.

If taking the detour, walk along Cathays Terrace, over the railway bridge and past the coffee shop. Turn left into Maindy Road, past the supermarket, and here is the Optometry Building.

Opened in 2007, this £16M building represents one of the largest single investments in eyecare anywhere in the UK for many years and includes clinics, laboratories and teaching rooms with the latest state-of-the-art equipment.

The School is the only one of its kind in Wales and one of the largest in the UK, and also offers a valuable service to the public, staff and students. In particular, students at the University can benefit from free eyesight tests in the School's Eye Clinic. Alumni of the School include Mary Perkins, founder of Specsavers.

Continue along Maindy Road to the Hadyn Ellis Building.

The Hadyn Ellis Building is home to a number of internationally-renowned research centres. This £30M building also includes impressive spaces where research work can be showcased to the public.

As with many of our buildings, this is a favourite for TV and film companies seeking striking locations. You may have seen this building on Sherlock and Doctor Who.

Beyond this building is CUBRIC - the Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre which was opened by the Queen in 2016. Constructed at a cost of £44M, it houses a combination of neuroimaging equipment unique in Europe and is now home to some of the world's leading experts in brain mapping, neuroscience, clinical research and genetics.

Also part of the Maindy Park site, two further construction projects are nearing completion. Spark will bring academics, students, business leaders and entrepreneurs together to create, test and incubate new ideas. Meanwhile, the Translational Research Facility will be home to two institutes with expertise needed to transform industry.

To resume the tour, retrace your steps to the gates at the crossroads outside the Humanities site, and cross the road at the traffic lights.

As you walk down Park Place, you will see the impressive Edwardian houses on your left. These were built for upper-middle class families and included servants' quarters above. These houses - many of them extended and linked internally - are now part of the University estate. Numbers 65-68 are home to the School of Modern Languages and the School of Law and Politics.



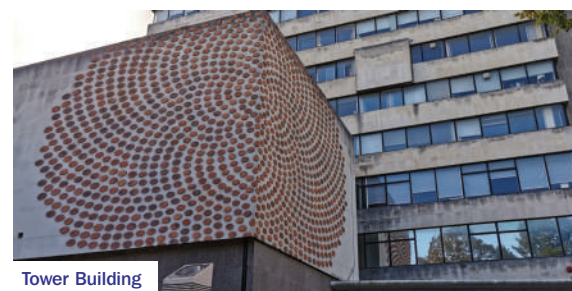
School of Modern Languages



Law Building

On the right-hand side of the road you will see the School of Law and Politics. This building, with its curious 'bull-nosed' end, was opened in 1963, originally for the arts departments. It was a significant development because it meant, for the first time, every academic staff member had a private room in which to study and conduct tutorials.

Continue to walk down Park Place. **Map ref K**



Tower Building

Next door to the Law School is the Tower Building, home to the School of Psychology. The Tower Building, opened in 1967, was built for the emerging social sciences, but is now exclusively occupied by the School of Psychology - one of the largest departments of psychology in the UK.

Above the entrance to the School you can see the artwork *Mind's Eye* by Peter Randall Page. The work aims to capture the dynamic interplay between science and art, particularly where this relates to characterising the mental structure of the human mind.

Continuing down Park Place on the left hand side of the road is the Fitness & Conditioning Centre.

This centre provides an impressive facility, offering exercise classes, a large fitness suite, and free weights room.

Continue down Park Place passing (on the left) the entrance to Cathays Railway Station. Just beyond the Centre for Student Life. **Map ref L**

Architect's impression of the new Centre for Student Life



The £50M Centre for Student Life opened in September 2021. It is home to our student support services offering advice on areas including finance, housing issues and academic problems as well as specialist advice for international students and those with disabilities and dyslexia. It also offers a confidential counselling service. This iconic building also houses a 550 seat lecture theatre, additional social study spaces, and quiet contemplation spaces. It is transforming the way in which support services are delivered to our students.

Behind the Centre for Student Life is the Students' Union (SU) which occupies a large complex straddling the main Cardiff to Merthyr Tydfil railway line.

The SU boasts superb facilities, including a nightclub and a 1,600 capacity concert venue that has welcomed acts such as Ellie Goulding, Jake Bugg, London Grammar, Bombay Bicycle Club, Professor Green and many more. The venue has undergone major refurbishment in the last few years, creating a modern, multi-functional space for both day and night.

The Union also houses an Advice and Representation Centre, Jobshop and Student Development Unit, as well as cafés, bars and shops.

It is also home to the award-winning student newspaper, 'Gair Rhydd' (Free Word), lifestyle magazine, 'Quench', and the student TV and radio stations, continuing a long tradition of journalism in the University, dating back to a hand-written magazine in 1885.

Also within the Students' Union complex is the Graduate Centre, which provides year-round social and study facilities and highly-acclaimed training for postgraduate taught and research students.

If you are ending your tour here, then your start point at Main Building is across the road opposite.

If you would like to carry on a little further down Park Place, you will see house number 42.

This was the home of the University's first Principal, Viriamu Jones, and his wife Katherine. It was from here that he would have looked across the near-empty Cathays Park and envisaged the great university which would be built there.

Alternatively, if you would like to visit the Schools of Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics or Engineering, retrace your steps past the Centre for Student Life. Immediately on your right you will see Cathays Railway Station. Cross the railway line via the footbridge on to Senghennydd Road.

Looking to your left you will see the Abacws Building, home to the Schools of Mathematics and Computer Science. This state-of-the-art building opened in September 2021 and offers outstanding facilities. The houses you can see in front of you form part of Cathays which is almost exclusively made up of student accommodation and is well-served by local shops, takeaways and pubs. It is sometimes referred to as the "Student Village".



Abacws Building

Turn right on to Senghennydd Road. Next door to the Students' Union on Senghennydd Road is the Sherman Theatre.

The theatre is home to the Sherman Theatre Company, which produces a wide range of productions each year, including theatre for young people, inventive adaptations of classic dramas and new writing projects.

Continue along Senghennydd Road. Next door to the Sherman Theatre is the Department of Continuing and Professional Education. **Map ref M**

The School of Mathematics is currently based in the Mathematics Institute which includes computing laboratories and a library. The School will move to its new home in 2021.



Queen's Buildings

Turn right down the path at the side of the Department of Continuing and Professional Education Building. Follow the road alongside the railway line, passing Senghennydd Court student residences to the pedestrian bridge across the railway line. Cross the bridge and follow the path down a small set of steps to the Queen's Buildings. **Map ref N**



The Newport Road entrance to the Queen's Buildings Complex

Opened by the Queen in 1993, after six years of demolition, construction and refurbishment, this complex includes buildings from the 1920s to the 1990s, providing superb premises for engineering and physics. The Trevithick Building, completed in 1989, provides the lynchpin for this complex, with social and library facilities, as well as teaching rooms.

The School of Engineering boasts top-class facilities and many leading research centres. It even has its own successful motor racing team. The School of Physics and Astronomy has its own observatory, and astrophysicists here have helped to develop some of the world's most powerful telescopes, revealing startling new aspects of the cosmos.

Tour Ends.

Retrace your steps back via the Students' Union, crossing over the bridge at Cathays Railway Station, to Main Building.

Alternatively, if you leave the Trevithick site through the gates to the right of the main reception and turn right, you will be a short walk from Queen Street, one of Cardiff's main shopping areas.



Queen Street

We hope you enjoyed this tour. If you have any further questions please contact the Student Recruitment Team on: **029 2087 4455** or email: enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk

Cathays Park Campus

Building Name	Ref No.
Residences Office	35
Talybont North/South	53/54
Maindy Athletic Stadium/Swimming Pool	102
Talybont Court	55
Aberconway Building	30
Aberconway Hall	58
Colum Hall	59
Julian Hodge Building	29
Optometry and Vision Sciences	31
Spark	34
John Percival Building	27
Arts and Social Studies Library	26
Aberdare Hall	60
Music	24
Modern Languages	8
Politics and International Relations	4
Chaplaincy	10
Psychology	3
Law	4
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Centre for Student Life	11
Main Building	1
Abacws	18
Mathematics	18
Continuing Professional Education	20
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Key

 Self-Guided Tour Route

 Optional Route

 Detour (Optional Route)

A - N
Tour note references

