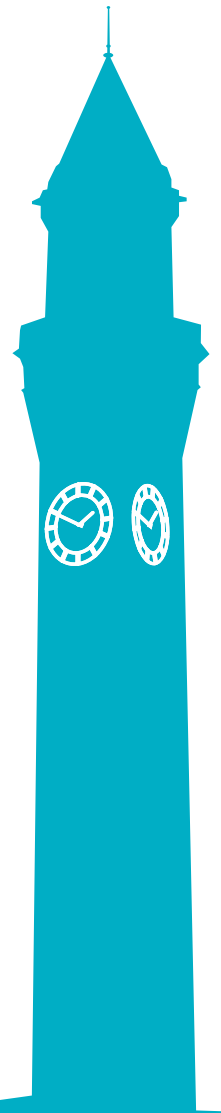




UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

# UNDERGRADUATE OPEN DAYS WHAT TO EXPECT



How to make the most of your day

Information line: 0121 414 3374

[www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays)

*#hellobrum*

THE  TIMES  
THE SUNDAY TIMES

**GOOD  
UNIVERSITY  
GUIDE  
2016**

UNIVERSITY  
OF THE YEAR  
FOR GRADUATE  
EMPLOYMENT

# Welcome to Birmingham!



'Everyone was very polite and helpful. Nothing was too much trouble and the lecturers were really good and kept me interested.'



If you have any questions contact us:

**Information line:** 0121 414 3374

**Registration queries:**

[marketing@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:marketing@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

**Email:** [openday@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:openday@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

**Web:** [www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays)



'A well organised day with good facilities and a friendly and helpful atmosphere. We got a good feel for the campus, intended subject of study and the accommodation.'



There are eight Nobel Prize winners among our alumni and staff.

FACT



Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

Look out for our open day event page on Facebook for news, advice and photos and make sure you connect with us on Twitter and Instagram with the hashtag #hellobrum





'As a Student Ambassador at the University of Birmingham I'm here to help you get the most from your visit to our open days.'

'Having gone through the application process myself, I can appreciate you've probably got loads of questions running through your mind about the University and what it's like to live and study here. Myself and my fellow student ambassadors will be at open day to help you make the most of your day. We'll be there to welcome and help you with check-in, point you in the right direction of your activity, show you around the campus and accommodation and chat to you about why we chose Birmingham and our experiences of student life and study.'

Joe, Student Ambassador



This guide has been produced to provide information about our open days to help you plan and prepare for your visit.

The official programme will be available to download from our website and will tell you everything you need to know about our open day; including subject talks, campus tours and other activities that run on the day.

We run a number of the talks more than once to help you research different subjects and receive as much general information as possible.



**FACT**  
Over 98% of attendees who took our Visitor Feedback Survey rated our recent open day as good/excellent and many said it was the best they had been to.

**i**  
Visiting times for open days are between 9.00am and 4.00pm; however you can arrive when you like and will be able to use the open day programme, scheduler and mobile app to plan your visit around the activities that you would like to incorporate into your day.

# Preparing for your visit

To help you plan your visit to our open day we will send you further information prior to your arrival. This will include:

- ❑ An email to let you know when the programme is available to download
- ❑ Final information about the day including travel tips and any updates to the programme
- ❑ An email during the week of the open day which will include your QR code to enable you to check-in on the day

## Plan your travel to open day

Making your travel plans early often allows you to access discounts on tickets for public transport.

At open day, we often welcome over 20,000 visitors to our campus; as a result, the adjacent roads and University car parks fill up very quickly. The University has only a limited number of car parking spaces and the majority of visitors will be unable to park. Therefore we strongly recommend, where possible, for visitors to use public transport.

## Travel by rail

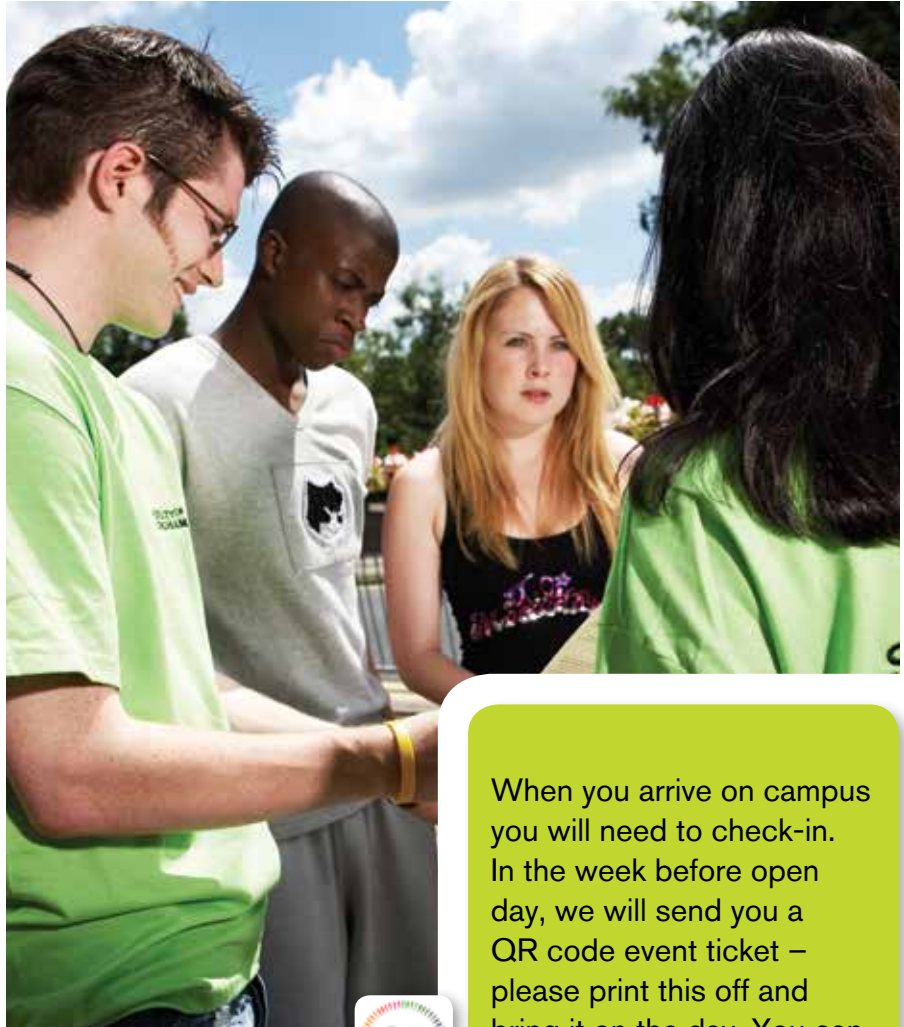
Being the only university in mainland UK with its own station, the easiest way to reach the University is by train. Most cross-country services to Birmingham arrive at Birmingham New Street station and up to six trains an hour depart for the University on the cross-city line (final destination Longbridge or Redditch).

The journey time usually takes less than ten minutes, while the centre of the main campus is a five-minute walk from University station. Student ambassadors (wearing lime green shirts) will be present at Birmingham New Street station to direct you.

For further information about travelling to the University and the onsite train station please visit [www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays/travel](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays/travel)

## Maps

Maps with a more detailed index can be found on the University's website at [www.birmingham.ac.uk/directions](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/directions)



## Mobile app

Find your way around the open day by downloading our FREE open day application from the iPhone App Store, iTunes or Play store (search UoBopenday), or visit [www.birmingham.ac.uk/contact/app-store.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/contact/app-store.aspx)

You can use the interactive app to:

- ❑ Find your way around campus using the interactive campus map
  - ❑ Plan your programme of activities and sessions using your personalised scheduler
  - ❑ View the Accommodation tour walking map
  - ❑ Navigate to information and check-in points on campus
  - ❑ Access travel and parking information
  - ❑ Link to social media pages
- Available to download from June

When you arrive on campus you will need to check-in. In the week before open day, we will send you a QR code event ticket – please print this off and bring it on the day. You can check-in by visiting one of our four check-in points. If you need to rush off to your first talk or activity don't worry, you can check-in later in the day when you have a spare five minutes.

## Useful links

- ❑ Travel information, maps and directions: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/directions](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/directions)
- ❑ National train information: [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)



# How to make the most of your day



## What's on offer?

In the Subject Fairs you will find a wide range of subject-specific stands as well as stands relating to sport, welfare, accommodation, finance, careers and other areas. Visit the fair for informal one-to-one chats with representatives from each area. Talks on a range of subjects and general interest topics take place throughout the day and last approximately 30 minutes.

**Locations and timings will be included in the open day programme.**

## General information

On the day, our student ambassadors will be wearing lime green shirts and will be present across campus to help you find your way around and will be happy to chat to you about their time at Birmingham.

## Tours of the Edgbaston campus

Guided walking tours of the main campus take place throughout the day. They last between 45 minutes to an hour. We also recommend that you visit our brand new sports centre for a guided tour of the facilities.

## Accommodation viewing

Coming to Birmingham may mean choosing a new place to call home and so take the time at open day to visit one of our Accommodation sites (the Vale student village).

Visitors can either use the walking map to reach accommodation (this takes approximately 20 minutes) or there is a specially provided free bus service. Accommodation talks will also take place throughout the day and representatives will have a stand in the subject fair in the Great Hall, so there are plenty of ways to find out about Accommodation at Birmingham.

Prior to your visit, you may like to visit [www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation) to view 360 degree tours of all our accommodation. You can also follow us on Twitter [@livingatbham](https://twitter.com/livingatbham) and find us on Facebook.

**We'll have a detailed brochure about our accommodation available for you on the day, which will help you to find out all your options.**

## What do I do if I have a disability?

We encourage students with disabilities to visit and study at the University and have made adaptations to ensure our campus is accessible. This includes the installation of lifts, accessible toilets and improved signage, with any new buildings made fully accessible.

Blue badge holders will be directed to the nearest disabled parking spaces. A mobility map is available on the day, which gives an overview of the Edgbaston campus showing the main access routes for wheelchair users.



For more information please visit our website at: [www.as.bham.ac.uk/studentlife/disability](http://www.as.bham.ac.uk/studentlife/disability).

## Where can I find refreshments on the day?

There are a number of cafés, restaurants, bars and shops where you will be able to purchase hot and cold food, snacks and beverages throughout the day.

FACT

We are consistently in the top five universities for competitive sport (British Universities & Colleges Sport [BUCS] league).

'I thought the University as a whole was completely beautiful. The Victorian infrastructure was just amazing, and to walk beneath the clock tower, for example, was just brilliant.'

# What else can you visit on the day?

## Find out about music at Birmingham

Founded by Edward Elgar in 1907, the University of Birmingham Music Society is the oldest and largest music-making body on campus, providing a range of auditioned and un-auditioned ensembles. Currently, we have over 700 members, including students, staff and members of the local community. We have two full-sized orchestras, Wind and Brass Bands, Chamber Choirs, a Saxophone Ensemble, a 200-strong University Chorus, an award-winning Big Band, a newly formed Jazz Collective, and a whole range of chamber music activities. We work closely with the Department of Music who run additional ensembles open to all students, and are based in the state-of-the-art Bramall Music Building, where you can find us all day at open day.

To find out more about what we do, find us online [www.uobmusicociety.org.uk](http://www.uobmusicociety.org.uk), on Twitter @UoBMS or on Facebook [www.facebook.com/UoBMS](http://www.facebook.com/UoBMS)

## Sport and Fitness at the University of Birmingham

At Birmingham, we believe sport and fitness is for all, from complete beginner to elite athlete. 360 Sport & Fitness, our brand new £55 million sports centre is open on the day

We are in the midst of an exciting estates redevelopment scheme spending over £400 million on projects on and off-campus. 2016 will see the opening of the brand new sports centre and the new library which will provide an inspirational place to study.



Artist's impression of the new Sports Centre

for you to visit. It features a 50-metre pool, an arena sports hall, 200+ station gym, six glass back squash courts, ten-metre climbing wall, performance and wellbeing centre and various other facilities.

The University also has 53 competitive sports clubs and ranks in the top five universities for sport in the UK. There are students, athletes and coaches available to chat to in the sports centre at open day.

Sport at Birmingham is the perfect opportunity to try something new, have fun and join a thriving sporting community. Visit 360 Sport & Fitness at open day to explore the facilities and opportunities.

## Visit the Guild of Students

We're here to make sure you get the best from Birmingham! As a charity and the students' union for more than 30,000 students, we

represent you to the University and other organisations about your academic and university experience. We're your voice on the issues that matter most to you.

## At your students' union, you can also:

- ❑ Find part-time work or volunteering opportunities to help you develop the skills outside of study that will increase your employability
- ❑ Meet new people and follow new interests by joining a student group (from Bhangra and Tea Appreciation to Skydiving)
- ❑ Have fun at our legendary weekly club night Fab N Fresh, or various other events throughout the year
- ❑ Access a wealth of advice and support, all to make sure your time at Birmingham is special!

Find us online at [www.guildofstudents.com](http://www.guildofstudents.com) and follow us on Twitter @GuildofStudents



The University has been named University of the Year for Graduate Employment in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016*.

FACT

'I was blown away by the organisation and the facilities that you offered at Birmingham. As a result I will definitely apply and hope to one day become part of that community.'



Guild of Students courtyard

# The city of Birmingham



Birmingham has been transformed into a city for young professionals and is one of Europe's most exciting destinations. It is more than somewhere to study; it is somewhere to build a successful career.

Birmingham is a modern and fascinating city: famous for its historic industrial past, it is now a centre of arts and culture, commerce and entertainment, with a vibrant and diverse community. Home to some of the biggest concerts and sporting events in the country, Birmingham has various large arenas, theatres, sports clubs and one of Europe's finest concert halls.

The city hosts a wealth of shopping experiences including the iconic Bullring, the brand new Grand Central, and a range of independent shops across the city. If you'd rather spend your time testing new cuisines, Birmingham was named Britain's 'foodiest town' by *The New York Times*.

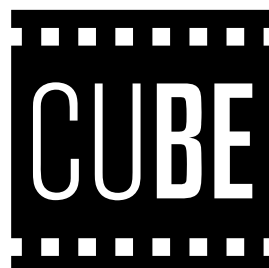
Whether you'd prefer the lively atmosphere on Broad Street or the laid-back feel of Brindleyplace, where you can enjoy beautiful views of the canal; there is always something new and exciting to explore in Birmingham.

## The Birmingham Experience Cube

Experience the best of both worlds when you visit us for an open day. Find out more about the history, culture and vibrancy of the city of Birmingham; straight from our glorious leafy campus.

Make sure you visit our Birmingham Experience Cube on Chancellor's Court, where you will be immersed in exciting locations around the city. Lose yourself in the places you'll be spending your time when you choose Birmingham, and once you've had a taste of the city; go and experience it for yourself!

## BIRMINGHAM EXPERIENCE



How about ending your day with a visit to the modern and fascinating city of Birmingham



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

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