Welcome to Portsmouth!

This tour will help you to get a feel for what life would be like as a student at the University of Portsmouth. It includes University buildings and some local attractions that you may like to visit whilst you are here.

The University is split into two campuses – the University Quarter and Langstone Student Village. The larger of the two, the University Quarter, is located in the heart of the city centre and is the focus of this walking tour, as this is where the majority of teaching takes place.

Now, on with the tour…

Start

Departure Point – Information Centre, St Andrew’s Court, St Michael’s Road

From the Information Centre, go straight across the crossing, and across another on to Guildhall Walk. Purple Door is on your left. Housed within Purple Door is Purple Door Careers and Recruitment. The service is available to advise and guide our students on their future career choices, as well as providing volunteering and work experience opportunities. It is also there to help our students find the right job after they graduate. Above Purple Door is James Watson Hall, student accommodation with 710 en suite rooms.

Look left along White Swan Road and you will see the University’s new White Swan Building, which is home to the School of Media and Performing Arts. Linked to the New Theatre Royal, the building has a purpose-built TV studio, performance studios and music practice rooms.

Continue on Guildhall Walk and head towards the square. Here you’ll find the Guildhall, where concerts, fairs and conferences are held throughout the year – one of the major events being the University’s week of graduation ceremonies each summer.

If you continue to the end of King Henry I Street you will see King Henry Building in front of you. This is where psychology and biological sciences are taught.

Biology is one of our most renowned teaching and research areas and psychology has been studied at the University of Portsmouth since 1969.

Take the pedestrian path to the left of King Henry Building and at the main road, cross over at the traffic lights.

If the course you are interested in involves electronic and computer engineering or mechanical and design engineering then you need to turn right and go straight ahead to Anglesea Building (the building on your left, after the railway bridge).

If not, to continue, go straight ahead into Park Road and follow the road to the next set of traffic lights.

When you reach the crossroads with Burnaby Road, turn right under the railway bridge. In front of you is the main cluster of University teaching buildings – these are worth looking around even if your course is not studied in the area. This is known as the Northern Quarter.

The first building on your left is the Portsmouth Register Office. The next building along to the left is Milldam. Once military barracks, Milldam is now home to the School of Social, Historical and Literary Studies.

The University Nursery is located behind Milldam Building and cares for students’ children.

Opposite St Michael’s Building is the Centre for Simulation in Healthcare, which houses the latest facilities for developing tomorrow’s health-related scientists. Return from Exchange Road, back to King Henry I Street, to continue with the tour.

If you are interested in pharmacy and biomedical science or health science and social work then you need to take the turning opposite Park Building and go down Exchange Road, straight towards St Michael’s Building. The entrance for St Michael’s Building will be on your right after crossing over White Swan Road.

St Michael’s Building offers state-of-the-art facilities where seminars, workshops and lab-based work takes place.

www.port.ac.uk
Directly opposite Milldam, on the right-hand side of the road is Burnaby Terrace, a row of Victorian terraced houses that have been refurbished to house the members of staff from Portsmouth Business School.

Here, University buildings surround you. The contrast between old and new reflects the University’s long-established origins in the city and our continued growth and commitment to providing the latest learning facilities and resources.

With your back to the railway bridge, on the left you’ll find the brightly coloured Richmond Building. This is the home of Portsmouth Business School. Accounting, law, economics, human resources, marketing and business studies are some of the subjects taught here, and the faculty has a strong tradition of quality in business education, research and consultancy.

To the right and just behind Richmond Building you’ll find the architectural award-winning Portland Building, which was designed for the University by our Professor of Architectural Design, Sir Colin Stansfield-Smith. It has had a £9 million refurbishment to include more PCs, a new hydraulics laboratory, improved learning spaces and a brand new café. It is home to civil engineering, surveying and property development. Portsmouth Business School’s postgraduate courses are also taught here.

Next door to Portland Building is Lion Gate Building, the home of computing and mathematics. These are all based around one courtyard.

Immediately in front of you is the red brick Buckingham Building. If you are coming to study geography or computing then this is the place for you.

To the right you will see Dennis Sciama Building, home to the world-renowned Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation.

Behind Dennis Sciama Building is Burnaby Building, where the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences and the laboratories for civil engineering are located.

If you’re ready for a break from the academic side of university life, this is a good opportunity to take in some of the city’s attractions. Head down Portland Street (the road that divides Portland and Richmond Buildings) and turn immediately right into St James’s Street, then left into Queen Street. As you walk towards the sea you will pass Portsmouth Historic Dockyard on your right. This is one of the top heritage attractions in the UK and home to the world famous ships the Mary Rose and HMS Victory. You can also see HMS Warrior 1860 in the harbour.

Follow the road around to the left. You will pass Portsmouth Harbour Train Station and Ferry Port, providing quick links to London, the Isle of Wight and Gosport.

Portsmouth’s Spinnaker Tower soars 170 metres into the sky, with an observation gallery offering breathtaking views of Portsmouth Harbour and beyond. The tower is in Gunwharf Quays, part of the major redevelopment of Portsmouth Harbour.

Gunwharf Quays is on your right. To discover designer outlets, eat at one of the many waterfront bars and restaurants, be entertained at the VUE Cinema, bowl at Bowlplex or dance the night away at Tiger Tiger nightclub, follow the walkway under the tunnel on your right-hand side.

To continue past Gunwharf, at the traffic lights turn left on to Park Road with the sports field on your right.
At the traffic light crossroads of Park Road and Burnaby Road, turn right on to Burnaby Road so that you have the sports grounds on either side of you. Continue along Burnaby Road to the junction with Cambridge Road.

From Cambridge Road, the **University Library** is directly in front of you. It is at the centre of academic life, providing information in many formats to help with your study and research. The library has undergone refurbishment in 2014 and includes an extra 200 study spaces, a greater range of social learning space and an increase in the number of bookable group study rooms.

If your interest lies in **education and continuing studies**, you will want to visit **St George’s Building**.

You need to go right, down Cambridge Road, following the road down to the roundabout. St George’s Building is straight ahead. After your visit to St George’s Building, follow Cambridge Road back in the direction you came from to the University Library.

If not, to continue from Cambridge Road, turn left and follow the road around to the **Student Centre**. The Student Centre is home to the Students’ Union and to our social learning venue 3rd Space, the Waterhole Bar and the student activities centre. This makes it a perfect venue to party, study, feast and chill out. A convenience store and Blackwell’s bookstore are also located in the Student Centre.

Across the road from the Student Centre, you’ll see the **Spinnaker Sports Centre**. This includes state-of-the-art indoor facilities, the perfect place for fitness classes, five-a-side football and basketball.

Behind the Spinnaker Sports Centre is the **Spinnaker Building**, home to the **Department of Sport and Exercise Science**. This purpose-built facility houses several world-class laboratories, including two high specification climatic chambers, an immersion facility and an integrated swimming flume.

On the corner, next to the Spinnaker Sports Centre you will come to a large ‘L’ shaped building. This is the **Nuffield Centre**, which houses a range of student advice services. Highly experienced and expert staff provide information and advice on a range of subjects including housing, finance, disability and academic skills. It is also home to the International Office, Chaplaincy and a doctor’s surgery. Do feel free to have a look around.

When you have looked around, cross over at the crossing heading towards the Student Centre, and continue on to Hampshire Terrace and into Gun House car park on your right.

If it’s **dental therapy** or **dental nursing** you are interested in, these courses are housed in the **Dental Academy**. From Gun House car park, turn right and walk down Hampshire Terrace. The Dental Academy is on the right-hand side. Housing dental chairs, a radiography suite and a state-of-the-art instrument decontamination centre, the Dental Academy allows student dentists to be trained in teams alongside dental hygienists, dental therapists and dental nurses, mirroring how dental professionals work in practice.

By continuing down Hampshire Terrace and into Landport Terrace you will see **Ravelin House** on your right. This beautiful building is home to the **Institute of Criminal Justice Studies**. Founded in 1992, the Institute has become one of the biggest departments of its kind in the UK and is a leading centre for research and course provision in criminology, criminal justice and police studies.
Alternatively, from the Nuffield Centre you can head towards **Mercantile House**, the tall cream building straight ahead, over the pedestrian crossing.

If you walked down to Ravelin House, head back in the direction from which you came and Mercantile House is the tall building directly in front of you. Follow the pedestrian crossing to continue past this building.

Continue ahead with Mercantile on your right. When you reach the crossing opposite Café Parisien, cross over. The road in front is St Paul’s Road and **St Paul’s Sports Centre** is down this road, on the left. This is the University gym, which houses three floors of gym equipment, an indoor sports hall and other fitness facilities.

To continue from St Paul’s Sports Centre, head back towards the main road. Turn right, walk past the sandwich shops and continue straight ahead into Winston Churchill Avenue and you will see a red brick building on your right – **University House**. This is where the majority of the central administration offices are located including **Academic Registry**, as well as fees and enrolment.

Walk on further down Winston Churchill Avenue, keeping the Ibis Hotel on your right, and you will see a tall grey building with what looks like a helipad on top. This is **Trafalgar Hall**, which was built in 2002 and has 328 en suite rooms.

Further down Winston Churchill Avenue, after Trafalgar Hall, you will find **Eldon Building**. A new £14 million building has been completed to house the **Faculty of Creative and Cultural Industries** which is home to the **School of Architecture**, the **School of Art and Design** and the **School of Creative Technologies**. This investment includes more learning spaces, events and exhibitions space, a new gallery and an upgrade of existing workshops and equipment.

Use the crossing outside Eldon Building to head towards three more halls of residence. Once on the other side of Winston Churchill Avenue, walk to the right and you will see the law courts. With the courts on your left, walk down the pedestrian street and, on the left, you will see a circular building. This is **Harry Law Hall**. This hall accommodates 302 students in en suite rooms.

Directly opposite is **Bateson Hall**, providing 273 rooms with shared bathrooms.

As you start to walk over the small bridge, turn around and look behind Bateson Hall. You will see a blue and white building. This is **Margaret Rule Hall**. This hall opened in 2001 and offers 348 en suite rooms.

A brand new hall of residence has opened this year. Named **Greetham Street**, it contains 836 en-suite rooms and has a great common space overlooking the city centre.

We also have other halls of residence including two on the seafront in Southsea and two more at Langstone Student Village.

Continue walking, keeping the central public library on your left, and head back into Guildhall Square (there is a lift for wheelchair access to the right).

If you have any questions after your tour, please call into the **Information Centre** in St Andrew’s Court for a chat.

**Finish**