

If you are interested in applying to Peterhouse, we would be delighted to show you around or answer any questions you might have.

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Welcome

Welcome to our lovely college – a very special place. As the oldest Cambridge College, we're proud of our distinguished history and long record of academic excellence, including a number of Nobel Prize winners. We enjoy our traditions (candle-lit formal hall being just one of them), but we're also a relaxed, outward-looking and friendly place, close to the city centre and engaged with the wider world, with a constant stream of visitors coming to our seminars, concerts and other events held in our beautiful nineteenth-century Peterhouse Theatre or in the extensive gardens we call the Deer Park (though no deer anymore).

We like to have fun as well as work hard and, as the College with the smallest student body in Cambridge, we are incredibly proud when our teams do well, whether it's as University Challenge champions, winning inter-collegiate women's football or ranking top in a subject in final-year exams. If you come here you'll join a close-knit family community of Fellows, postgraduates, undergraduates and staff where you'll soon get to know everyone and make the most of the amazing opportunities this University has to offer.

Bridget Kendall
MBE

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Being Here

"The first time I saw the Deer Park – a huge expanse of grass, flowers and fruit trees hidden away at the back of Peterhouse, it genuinely made me gasp."

Rama

Peterhouse is a vibrant College and a beautiful, fun place to live. We provide a friendly and welcoming environment, are close to the main Arts, Engineering and Science faculties, and are five minutes walk from the city centre.

We have spacious grounds (full of squirrels and daffodils in the spring), generous grants, awards and prizes for our students, and a range of accommodation to suit all needs. We offer a nurturing and close-knit community to all our members, past, present and future, helping new undergraduates quickly to feel at home and encouraging graduates to visit often. We have a lively and varied student body, and our members embrace extra-curriculars of all types, including making use of our excellent theatre, gym, boat club, sports, societies and pool table.

Peterhouse aims to offer all the facilities you need to work, rest and feel at home. In addition to the library, academic facilities, accommodation, the dining hall and the bar, the College also has a common room for undergraduates to use, a fully-equipped tiered theatre, a squash court, a gym and music practice rooms.

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Feeling at Home

All undergraduate accommodation at Peterhouse is located on or adjacent to the main site and all rooms are less than a five minute walk from the centre of College.

Peterhouse students enjoy some of the best rooms in Cambridge. All first-years are accommodated in fully-furnished single rooms. All have either shared bathroom facilities nearby, or are en-suite.

Students don't need to worry about finding accommodation as Peterhouse guarantees accommodation for all its undergraduates for the duration of their course, whether for three or four years. Most rooms are fully-furnished singles, but en-suites and shared 'sets' are also available.

Eating together is an important part of life at Peterhouse and we pride ourselves on the quality and variety of the food. Most students eat in the College's Hall at least once a day. The Served offers a choice of hot food, a salad bar, desserts, fruit, sandwiches, ice cream, snacks and hot and cold drinks. A vegetarian option is always available and we can cater for gluten/dairy-free, halal, vegan and other special dietary requirements.

Peterhouse continues to offer the option of a more formal dinner every evening. Formal Hall is a three-course, candle-lit dinner with waiter service, costing less than £7. Popular and inexpensive, Formal Hall is an ideal opportunity for students to spend time with their friends and invite guests.

"You can walk around and know everyone you see. You feel a part of a family and a historical legacy."

Aimée

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Doing Well

"If you like to travel, apply to Peterhouse. The College has a number of funds and trusts set up specifically to finance student travel. Peterhouse's grants are envied across the rest of the University!"

Anna

We want you to succeed in your chosen degree. Academic support and College investment in academic facilities and resources are given prime importance.

The College's Ward Library contains over 65,000 books and well over 1,000 more are added every year on the recommendation of students and Fellows. Multiple copies of important texts for all courses are available for lending so you will rarely need to buy books for your course. The computer room is well-equipped with computers, scanners, printers and specialist software. The College's Computer Officers are available to help students with any computing issues.

Students doing well in exams will be awarded academic scholarships, exhibitions or one of our subject prizes which bring both recognition and monetary rewards. Finally, generous funds are available from the College for particular purposes, such as language courses, research courses, study-related travel or holiday travel that broadens your horizons.

The core part of your teaching at Cambridge comes through supervisions. Supervisions are intensive and enjoyable interactive learning sessions where you have the freedom to ask questions and raise any problems you have with your understanding of the material, as well as seek advice on how to further your studies. This form of focused and personalised teaching enables your supervisor to assess your progress and pay your particular interests close attention.

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Your supervisor will often be a Fellow of the College, but sometimes you will go to another college for supervision, just as undergraduates from other colleges will come to be taught at Peterhouse. Peterhouse Fellows offer excellent teaching in their areas of expertise and our links with specialists across the University mean that you will be supervised by the most appropriate person, regardless of the direction your studies take.

To complement this, Peterhouse prides itself on providing interdisciplinary discussion and debate in a less formal context through student-run academic societies with invited external speakers, which are open to all.



10 Being Happy

One of the major benefits a collegiate university can offer is the level of attention and interaction between academic staff and their students. At Peterhouse, we make every effort to ensure that no obstacle, whether financial or pastoral, stands in the way of our students achieving their full potential.

While supervisions provide an opportunity to look at your chosen topics in depth, your overall guide on academic matters will be your Director of Studies (DoS) who, in all but the smallest subjects, will be a Fellow of Peterhouse. Your DoS will offer you individual attention, monitoring your progress based on feedback from you, your supervisors and your exam results, and will help you choose the courses that will build towards a degree that reflects your particular interests.

Each undergraduate is also allocated a personal Tutor who is responsible for their pastoral care and will usually be the same person throughout your time at Peterhouse. There is also a College Nurse and College Counsellor.

Regardless of how you like to fill your time outside of study, whether with sport, performance art, writing for a student newspaper or throwing yourself into one of the myriad of societies available here, Peterhouse provides a great springboard for extra-curricular hobbies and passions. From social action groups to ultimate frisbee, our students are involved in a wide range of clubs, societies and activities, both at College and University level.

In addition, the College Bar offers a welcoming place to meet up with friends and the student-run Entertainment Committee puts on regular parties, theme nights and events, including a variety of social events to welcome new students into College.

"One of my favourite things about Peterhouse is College sport - you can play any sport you wish, even if you've never done it before. Any talent is greatly appreciated, as is enthusiasm!"

Emma

"We are delighted to be able to offer a range of financial support to our students – we give over £315,000 of grants per year to our undergraduates, helping them to get the best out of their time here."

Senior Tutor

Cambridge is one of the world's top universities, but studying and living here is no more expensive than at any other university in the UK. In fact, because Peterhouse is well-resourced, we are able to subsidise our academic facilities and student accommodation as well as offering financial support, so it can often work out cheaper to study here than at many other institutions.

Peterhouse offers a wide range of rents to suit all budgets, with rates determined by room size and facilities (i.e. you can save money by choosing to live in a smaller room, or you can pay a little extra for an en-suite). Importantly, students only pay rent for the three ten-week termly periods when they are likely to be in residence, although the flexibility exists to stay for longer. Rents and other charges are reviewed annually in consultation with students and the College does not seek to make a profit from charges to students.

Peterhouse and the University are committed to the principle that no first-time UK student should be deterred from applying to Cambridge because of financial considerations. Bursaries are awarded on the basis of financial need as well as academic potential. Extensive financial support is available for Cambridge and Peterhouse students, both from the UK and overseas. Means-tested bursaries are available to UK and EU students through the University's bursary schemes and overseas students can apply for financial support from the Cambridge Trusts. In addition to these central schemes, Peterhouse is fortunate in being able to offer additional grants, such as hardship grants for unanticipated problems, book grants for texts required for study and travel grants to fund expeditions, field work and cultural exchanges. Students from Cambodia, mainland China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam are eligible to apply for a full scholarship from the Jardine Foundation to study at Peterhouse as an undergraduate.

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Applying

“The thing to remember about an admissions interview is that the interviewers really want you to do well, and that they’re there to help if you get stuck, just like in a supervision”

Admissions Tutor

Peterhouse offers all of Cambridge's undergraduate courses except Education, Geography, Land Economy, Psychological & Behavioural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine.

Each year we admit about 75 new undergraduate students, and we are proud that each year the places and backgrounds they come from become more and more diverse. We admit students solely on the basis of their academic potential, which we assess by looking for curiosity, aptitude and ability in the chosen subject, measured by academic achievement, individual assessment in the relevant context, and performance at interview.

Since we are a small College, our Admissions Team are able to take great care over each application, and consequently we interview the vast majority of our applicants. We hope that interviewees are able to relax and enjoy their interview with us, at the same time as relishing a challenge in their favourite subject.

To help you do as well as you can in this process, we’ve provided lots of detail about how to apply and what you can expect at an interview on our website. So if it looks like you might get the grades we ask for in the subjects you need, and if we offer a course that appeals to you, we would be pleased to receive an application from you.

Living Here

“All the accommodation is located around the central hub of College. This enables Peterhouse students to feel like they are part of the College community for all three years, and this sense of belonging is really quite special.”

Alice

Cycling distances to:

University departments/buildings

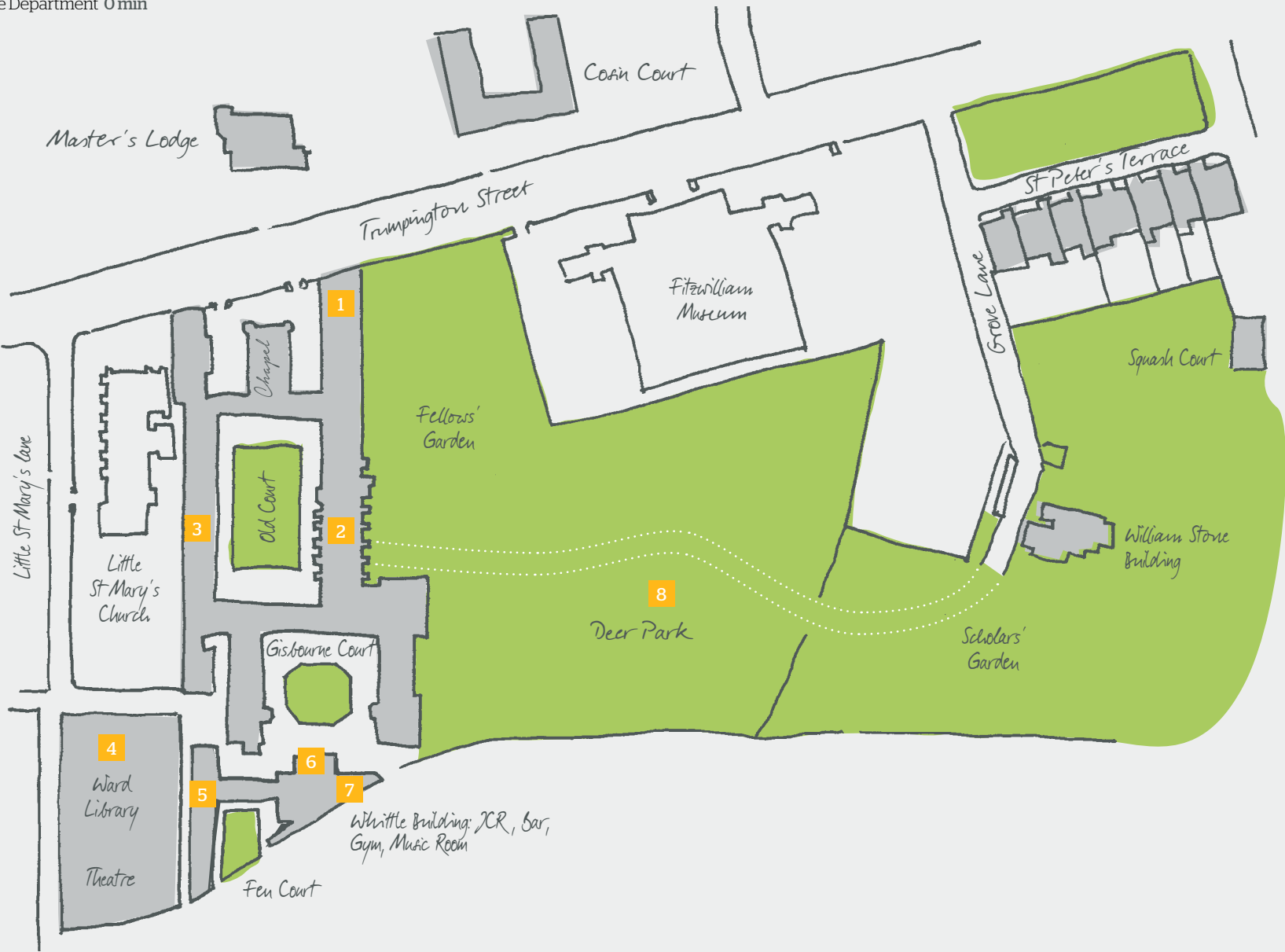
Sidgwick Site 3 mins	History of Art Department 0 min
University Library 5 mins	Chemistry Department 2 mins
New Museums Site 1 min	Maths Department 8 mins
Downing Site 1 min	University Sports Centre 7 mins
West Cambridge Site 10 mins	University ADC Theatre 3 mins
Engineering Department 0 min	Disability Resource Centre 1 min
Architecture Department 0 min	

To nearest

Supermarket 2 mins	Hospital 15 min
Market Square 2 mins	Club 2 mins
Railway Station 7 mins	Corner Shop 0 min
McDonalds 2 mins	Pub 0 min
Punting Station 0 min	Gig Venue 2 mins

Onsite

Park	Laundry
Gym	Library
Bar	Chapel
Theatre	Free Pool Table
Music Room	Squash Court
Accommodation	Prayer Room



1 Porters Lodge



2 Hall



3 Old Court Accommodation



4 Ward Library



5 Fen Court Accommodation



6 Common Room



7 College Bar



8 Deer Park