University of FLORIDA
A Walking Tour
Welcome to the home of The Gator Nation – the University of Florida – one of the nation’s top public research universities. UF’s campus is a blend of traditional Gothic and striking contemporary architecture, making it a university recognized for its beauty, as well as its academic excellence. We hope you enjoy your self-guided walking tour that will acquaint you with our campus buildings and general history. Walking at a steady pace, this tour should take about one hour. The tour begins at the University’s Welcome Center in the J. Wayne Reitz Union. The tour route is accessible to individuals using wheelchairs by following the sidewalks. The large numbers on the following pages coincide with your tour route, shown on the map on the back cover.

Did you know?
UF is home to approximately 36,000 undergraduate students. Combined with graduate and professional students, the UF campus is 50,000 strong.
The J. Wayne Reitz Union is the community center of the university and the “front door” to the university for prospective students and their parents. The Reitz Union is home to the Florida Bookstore and the UF Welcome Center. It also houses offices for the following — Career Resource Center, Center for Student Activities and Involvement, Office of Sorority and Fraternity Affairs, a food court, meeting and dining facilities, a 36-room hotel, retail stores, entertainment area and an arts and crafts center.

UF’s Student Government headquarters are located on the third floor. Acting as a strong voice for the student body, Student Government is composed of 94 student senators and has a multi-million dollar budget to provide extracurricular activities for the benefit of UF students.

www.union.ufl.edu

Did you know?
UF Student Government has an impressive budget of more than $14 million to support organizations, activities and events that benefit students.
The Nadine McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion is home to UF’s School of Theatre and Dance. It houses the 415-seat Constans Theatre, four acting studios, three dance studios, a scenic shop, a Pilates/Physical Therapy studio, a 3,600 square-foot Black Box Theatre, a costume shop, two design labs, two computer labs, and a fully functional light lab for theatre and architecture. One of the most striking features of the pavilion is its three-story atrium that features San Francisco-based artist Shan Shan Sheng’s “Harp of Color.”

Did you know?
UF has 16 colleges, more than 150 research, service and education centers, offers 100 undergraduate degree programs, some 200 graduate programs and approximately 60 combined-degree programs.
A Walking Tour
The Computer Science and Engineering Building houses the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, the Marston Science Library, and a large computer lab for student use. The sculpture “Alachua,” constructed in 1987 of welded aluminum by artist John Henry, is adjacent to this building. UF students and staff call the sculpture “French Fries.”

Located on the first floor of the Marston Library is the UF Map and Imagery Library Collection, containing more than 497,800 maps, 266,500 aerial photographs, 2,250 remote sensing images, and 7,215 atlases and reference books. It is the largest academic map collection in the Southeast, and among the top five academic map collections in the United States.

www.cise.ufl.edu

**Did you know?**

UF has made significant strides toward the goal of leadership in sustainability. We have a responsibility to prepare our students to contribute to a sustainable future of the USA and other countries.
The dream of building a tower on the UF campus began in 1953 when alumni sought funds to construct a monument in memory of students killed in World Wars I and II. The tower also commemorates the 100th anniversary of the founding of the University of Florida in 1853. Construction of the 157-foot-tall Century Tower was completed in 1956. In 1979, a cast-bell carillon was added to the tower’s bell chamber, one of only four carillons in Florida and the eighth largest in North America. The carillon tolls each quarter hour of the day and is played on special occasions.

**Did you know?**
The University of Florida has a 2,000-acre campus located within a 125,000-population urban area and has more than 900 buildings — including 174 with classrooms and laboratories.
CENTURY TOWER
A Walking Tour
The University Auditorium was completed in 1924 and seats 867 for concerts, convocations and special lectures. The auditorium’s hammerbeam ceiling features carvings of a scholar, musician, engineer and an athlete. In its initial design, the auditorium was to be connected to the university’s main administration building. However, the Great Depression forced the university to suspend further construction, and the administration building, Tigert Hall, was later built on SW 13th Street.

The spacious interior and elaborate wood carvings of the auditorium create the perfect setting for a large pipe organ, made possible by a $50,000 gift in 1925 to President Murphree from Dr. Andrew Anderson, a St. Augustine physician and philanthropist. The Anderson Memorial Pipe Organ is one of the major instruments of its kind in the Southeast.

Did you know?
The northeastern area of the UF campus is listed as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places. The beautiful brick construction of these original buildings showcases traditional Gothic architecture and exemplifies UF’s campus appeal.
Opened in 1977, Turlington Hall houses most of the administrative offices for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UF’s largest college that offers majors in social, biological and physical sciences, as well as mathematics and humanities. Turlington Plaza is a great place to learn more about campus organizations from the many information booths that are set up at this location. The oddly shaped chert rock in the plaza is 30 million years old and weighs 10 tons. It was donated to the UF Geology Department by the Crushed Stone Corporation.

**Did you know?**
The University of Florida offers more than 850 student organizations and 200 honorary and professional organizations, providing abundant opportunities for students to meet others and get involved with the campus and the community.
TURLINGTON HALL AND PLAZA
The Marshall Criser Student Services Center, named after a former president of the university, houses the Admissions and Registrar’s offices. The Office of Student Employment, where students apply for a work permit, and University Financial Services, where students pay tuition, also are in Criser Hall. A statue of UF’s second president, Albert Murphree, sits in the courtyard between Criser and Peabody halls. Murphree served as president from 1909-1927, and he was known nationally as an educator who declined a national political role after William Jennings Bryan announced he would nominate him to run for president of the United States.

In 1990, Peabody Hall was renovated and linked to neighboring Criser Hall to provide a two-building complex of student services. Peabody Hall houses the Dean of Students Office, Student Financial Affairs, and the University Counseling Center (moving in May 2010 to the Counseling and Wellness Center next to the Southwest Recreation Center on Bledsoe Drive across from the Harn Museum and the Center for the Performing Arts).

**Did you know?**
95 percent of freshmen return to UF for their sophomore year. This is one of the highest retention rates in the United States.
The Plaza of the Americas was named in 1931 at the first meeting of the International Latin American Association when students planted 21 semi-tropical trees on the plaza and dedicated them to the 21 countries invited to the meeting. The plaza is a great place for students to relax between classes and serves as the university’s official forum where students and organizations may peacefully present ideas. The plaza is designated a “Green Area” where there can be no construction. The brick walkway that runs through the plaza is called the “Friendship Walk” and was constructed during Stephen C. O’Connell’s presidency in 1967. Students laid bricks to create the path, symbolizing the diversity of the student body.

**Did you know?**
As Florida’s oldest university, UF traces its origin to 1853 to the state-funded East Florida Seminary. In 2010, U.S. News & World Report ranked the University of Florida as the 15th best public university in the United States.
PLAZA OF THE AMERICAS
Newly renovated Library West is equipped with the latest in technology for data retrieval, research and studying. Library East was the largest building on campus when it opened in October 1926. Although renovated and remodeled several times, Library East retains much of its original character and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. It houses the Latin American Collection, ranked among the finest in the world, and the Special Collections of the university. There are nine major libraries on the campus that form the largest information resource system available in the state of Florida. They include Architecture and Fine Arts Library, Education Library, Health Science Center Library, the Allen Neuharth Journalism Library, Legal Information Center, Library East and West, Marston Science Library, and the Music Library. Collectively, they are known as The George A. Smathers Libraries, named in honor of the late U.S. senator. [www.uflib.ufl.edu](http://www.uflib.ufl.edu)

**Did you know?**

UF has more than 60 Eminent Scholar Chairs, positions funded at more than $1 million each to attract nationally and internationally recognized scholars and faculty.
The University of Florida is committed to quality academic advising for all students to assist them in the attainment of their educational goals. The Academic Advising Center, located in Farrior Hall, serves as an information and referral center to provide faculty advisers and undergraduate students with timely and accurate information. In addition to advising, the center’s staff provides services to help students improve study skills, prepare for tests, and explore majors and career options. Students also have major and degree-specific advisers available in their college.

www.ufadvising.ufl.edu

Did you know?
The University of Florida offers students the freedom to discover new and sometimes unanticipated academic passions that can enrich their studies and life. UF undergraduate students interested in graduate study can begin working on a graduate degree through UF’s combined-degree program. UF has more than 60 combined-degree programs, which help students save time and money in attaining a graduate degree.
A Walking Tour
Residential life is an important component of education at UF, and living on campus provides an opportunity to be part of a diverse community. There are 7,330 on-campus residence spaces, of which 5,100 are reserved for freshmen. There are 24 residence halls with room styles ranging from single-occupant to 4- or 5-person suites and apartments. On-campus housing is limited, and students are encouraged to apply for housing shortly after applying for admission to UF.

The halls in the East Campus Residence Area are primarily of a 1950s vintage and are some of the most requested by incoming freshmen. These include Broward, Rawlings, Jennings, and Beatty Towers, among others. The halls in the Murphree Area (Buckman, Fletcher, Murphree, Sledd and Thomas) are the oldest campus housing facilities, dating back to 1906. The historic charm of the area helps make these halls some of the most requested by returning residents. UF also has an Honors Student Residential College at Hume Hall. Additional housing information is available at www.housing.ufl.edu.

**Did you know?**

Students who live on campus graduate at higher rates, have higher GPAs and become more involved with campus activities.
THE HUB

The west side of the Hub, recently renovated, houses the UF International Center, Office of Academic Technology services, Computing Help Desk and Learning Support Services (assistance with GatorLink accounts, etc.), CIRCA (provides seven computer classrooms and supporting computer lab work areas for UF students, faculty and staff), and a Starbucks.

THE STUDENT HEALTH CARE CENTER

The Student Health Care Center, once known as the infirmary, opened in 1931. The center provides primary medical care, health screening programs, health education, and other services to students. In addition, the center provides a pharmacy, clinical laboratory, radiology services, immunizations, foreign travel consultation, women’s health care, and specialized programs for students with eating disorders and alcohol and substance abuse. Clinics for acute care and sports medicine also are available. 

www.shcc.ufl.edu
UF’s International Center, established in 1991, is located in 170 Hub and serves as an internal and external liaison for the university, providing a source of assistance to faculty, administrators and students through international activities and initiatives, including study abroad programs, an International Speaker Series, and International Student Services. The east side of the building is a food court that includes Einstein’s Bros Bagels, Chick-fil-A, and Quiznos.

MICROKELVIN RESEARCH LAB

If Florida temperatures are too warm, visitors should walk past the UF Microkelvin Research Laboratory where scientists are capable of producing the coldest temperature in the universe. Funded by a grant from the National Science foundation with support from the university and the state, the lab is the largest ultra-low temperature laboratory in the world and one of the only two of its kind in the United States.
A Walking Tour
On football Saturdays, Ben Hill Griffin Stadium at Florida Field is the place to be. Also known as “the Swamp” where “only Gators come out alive,” the stadium is home to the National Championship and SEC powerhouse University of Florida Gator Football Team. The original football stadium, the lower half of the current stadium, was dedicated on November 8, 1930, with a seating capacity of 21,769. Further construction in 1949, 1965, and 1982 raised the seating capacity to 72,000. In 1991, the addition of the North End Zone brought the capacity to more than 84,000 seats. In 2002, a $50-million renovation added 62 suites, 3,000 club seats, and a new press level for 300 media representatives for a total seating for 90,000, making Florida Field the largest stadium in the state and one of the largest and loudest in the country. One of the most exciting events in the stadium is Gator Growl, the largest student-run pep rally in the world that occurs the night before the homecoming game.

Did you know?
In 1911, orange and blue were chosen as school colors and the alligator as the varsity football team’s nickname.
The Stephen C. O’Connell Center, which covers 3.6 acres, or approximately 296,000 square feet, is actually a building within a building. The ceiling of the concourse, or outer perimeter, is stretched tight to energy-saving earthen berms.

The O’Connell Center was built in 1980 mainly to serve as an academic, athletic, recreational and entertainment facility. There are scheduled activities from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. Up to 1,500 students a day take physical education classes while many more take advantage of the facilities for recreational swimming, martial arts, weight-lifting, and other activities. The Center is home to the 2006 and 2007 NCAA Champion men’s basketball teams and the highly successful women’s basketball and gymnastics teams. Both the women’s and men’s swim teams, which train at the O’Connell Center, are among the nation’s top competitors. Various events are hosted in this building, including concerts, philharmonic orchestras, international swimming meets, basketball games, circuses and fairs, and graduation ceremonies each semester.

**Did you know?**
UF’s athletic program has ranked among the nation’s top five in 12 of the past 17 years and is the only Division I program that has ranked among the top 10 athletic programs in the country in each of the last 23 years.
Florida Museum of Natural History, among the top 10 U.S. natural history museums, houses more than 25 million specimens of amphibians, birds, butterflies, fish, mammals, mollusks, reptiles, vertebrate and invertebrate fossils. Museum visitors will encounter exciting traveling and permanent exhibits that explore the state's unique habitats and rich cultural history. Open Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sundays and holidays, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission is free. Located at SW 34th Street and Hull Road on the western edge of campus.

McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Environmental Research houses one of the world’s largest and most complete butterfly collections. Opened in fall 2004, its collection – more than 4 million species and growing – is second in size only to the Natural History Museum in London. The Butterfly Rainforest, an outdoor, screened, 6,400-square-foot living exhibit, features hundreds of live butterflies in a setting of lush, tropical foliage and flowers. The centerpiece of the indoor butterfly exhibits is the Wall of Wings – a structure 210 feet long and nearly three stories high that showcases more than 13,000 butterfly and moth specimens and photographs. The William W. and Nadine M. McGuire Center is located at the Florida Museum of Natural History.
Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
This state-of-the-art facility features a 1,700-seat proscenium hall as well as a 200-seat, multi-purpose Black Box Theatre. Each year, the Phillips Center presents more than 80 performances, with artists, ensembles and attractions from many countries. The Phillips Center is located in UF’s Cultural Plaza at the intersection of SW 34th Street and Hull Road.

The Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art has a permanent collection that encompasses more than 6,000 original art works. It is open from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday, and 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Mondays and state holidays. Admission is free. Located adjacent to the Florida Museum of Natural History.

University Art Gallery is an essential component of the teaching, research and service mission of the UF School of Art and Art History. The gallery’s exhibitions bring current ideas in contemporary art to UF students and the community. The gallery is open Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays. Admission is free. The gallery is located at the intersection of SW 13th Street and 4th Avenue in Building B of the UF Fine Arts complex.
FACILITIES TO VISIT

The Baughman Center, overlooking Lake Alice, is a peaceful setting for meditation. The pavilion, which seats 96 people, is built of natural Florida cypress, the roof of tongue-and-groove yellow pine and copper, and the interior of southern yellow pine planking. The building’s cross section is reminiscent of ancient basilican cathedrals, complete with three aisles and a sloping roof. The pavilion is open Monday – Thursday from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., and Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is free. Located at the intersection of Museum and Radio roads.

Emerson Alumni Hall, the University of Florida’s alumni center, is located across from Ben Hill Griffin Stadium at the intersection of W. University Avenue and NW 20th Street. The building, which opened in August 2002, provides a visitor’s center for the University of Florida’s 280,000 alumni. Visit the Heritage Room’s display of UF memorabilia and audio/video presentations. Open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday, as well as on home football Saturdays.

The Cancer and Genetics Research Building, one of the newest buildings on campus, is a 280,000-square-foot facility that houses the Genetics Institute, the Interdisciplinary Center for Biotechnology Research and the C.A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory. Genetics Institute scientists on a typical day are likely to be searching for solutions to perplexing human and animal health woes, analyzing ways to increase the yield of important crops or probing the structure of a plant
that existed millions of years ago. Researchers are based in the College of Medicine and throughout the Health Science Center, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering and beyond, ranging even to the College of Law. The facility is located at the intersection of Lemerand Drive and Archer Road.

**The McKnight Brain Institute** of the University of Florida is one of the world’s largest research institutions devoted to the challenges resulting from brain and nervous system disorders. The university’s brain institute research and educational programs incorporate more than 300 faculty from 57 academic departments and 11 colleges. The Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute is located at the UF Health Science Center.

**UF’s Historic District**, on the northeast section of campus, includes buildings on the National Register of Historic Places: Anderson Hall, Bryan Hall, Buckman Hall, Dauer Hall, Fletcher Hall, Flint Hall, Griffin-Floyd Hall, Infirmary, Leigh Hall, Murphree Hall, Newell Hall, Peabody Hall, Rolfs Hall, Sledd Hall, Smathers Library, Thomas Hall, University Auditorium, Walker Hall and Women’s Gym. Other buildings on the National Register are the Police Station (formerly WRUF Radio Station) and Norman Hall (formerly P.K. Yonge Laboratory School).
Maps of the entire campus are available in the Welcome Center.