

# First Year Tours

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## Overview

### History -

- . Founding and construction of UVa
  - Academical village, etc.
  - Fire story
- . Slavery- gardens and/or on the Lawn
- . Coeducation - can talk about this in front of Pav III (door for women)
- . Honor Code (what it is and how it came to be) - at Pav X
- . Civil War history (Room 19 gun under floorboard story, etc.) - at Room 19

### Stories -

- . Think about your best memories as a first year
- . Reassure them that college is FUN
- . Talk about academics - best class you ever took, funny story from class, etc.

### Traditions -

- . Streaking route (they need to know this stuff) - at Homer
- . Purple Shadows / Secret Societies

### Student Life -

- . Activities/Events
- (\*be sure to plug the Colonnades Ball in November\*, Foxfield, football games, Lighting of the Lawn, Trick or Treating on the Lawn, etc.)
- . Sports
  - . Study Abroad

### Cool Places to Take Them -

- . Music Library in Old Cabell
- . Ruffner Bridge
- . Whisper Wall
- . Edgar Allen Poe's room
- . McGregor Room of Aldy
- . Berlin Wall

**\*\*Also be sure to make a plug at the end for UGuides fall tryouts! - tell them to go to [uvaguides.org](http://uvaguides.org) and when info sessions begin!**

## Actual Stops (order is flexible)

### Dorms

Introduction and welcome

### Old Cabell/Music Library

#### Old Cabell - Mural

- Party scene upstairs
- Trick or Treating on the Lawn and Lighting of the Lawn
- Final Exercises, etc.
- You all have so much to look forward to during your time here!

#### Music Library - Arts opportunities at UVA

- A cappella - connect to Old Cabell Sing/Rotunda Sing & Lighting of the Lawn (mention all the different types)
- Orchestra/drama/band/U-Singers, Learn to Groove (arts-based courses)
- Improv comedy groups - Amuse Bouche, La Petite Teet
- First Year Players!!! and Spectrum Theater
- Fralin Museum of Art - attend Final Fridays or become a student curator!

### Lawn - Choose a selection of these stops

#### Homer Statue - Traditions

- Commencement/Final Exercises
- UVa lingo - maybe tease them a bit about it
- Streaking - explain the route, ask for a show of hands of how many people might, *somehow*, already know the route
- Football tailgates - Saturday mornings, every Lawnie will open up their room, in addition to dorm-wide tailgates on Alderman and McCormick and traditional parking-lot tailgates near Scott Stadium
- Painting Beta Bridge
- Spring fest
- Other sports that are actually good - lacrosse, soccer, swimming, and of course BASKETBALL -- ALL SPORTING EVENTS FREE FOR UVA STUDENTS
- TOTOTL and LOTL (if you didn't already mention them inside Old Cabell)
- Foxfield

#### Pavilion X - Honor

- NOT Jefferson's idea - established much later as a result of student-faculty conflict resulting in the fatal shooting of Professor John Davis in 1840 -- Henry St. George Tucker wrote the Honor Code with students in 1842

- The system has changed a lot over the years
  - could originally be expelled for gambling
  - used to be directly student to student
  - more like "gentleman" code when UVa was all-male school
  - pledge → code → committee
- One constant is that it is student-approved and student-led
- Honor Lawn Chats

#### Pavilion VII - The construction of the University

- 1817 - Central College
- 1819 - University of Virginia
- Pav 7 first, Rotunda last
- Philosophy of the University
  - Not just for UVA, but for the nation - connect to presidency
  - Academical village
- Greek/Roman inspiration - 3D architectural textbook and symbolism
- Fire story - the new Rotunda will actually be the 4th

#### Garden 3 OR Back behind Pavilions 4 and 6 - slavery and minority rights

- Slaves built the University and ran it on a daily basis - we know very little about their lives or even their names, but we are learning more and more (talk about history that has been recently discovered)
- Rooms behind pavilions confirmed as slave quarters - renovation work
- Construction of Old Cabell Hall
- Kitty Foster and the free black "Canada" community -- the South Lawn Project

#### How UVa went from its 1850 demographics to its 2015 demographics

- 1950 - Gregory Swanson
- 1955 Bobby Bland entered, 1965 black undergraduates in small numbers -- still faced discrimination after
- 1970s -- the Lawn served as a place for protest - Hereford + Farmington, Sabato and Shannon
- Women - graduate and professional schools in the 1920s, sued in 1970 for admission into College of Arts and Sciences
- point that it was almost entirely students who pushed to diversify the student body
- it took a long time for both women and minority students to fully gain access to all aspects of uva, and is something that we're still working on...

#### Room 19 - Civil War history

- UVA was one of 2 schools to remain open -- served as hospital and sometimes armory

- Professor Minor and the white flag -- convinced Confederate generals not to raze the Grounds
- One soldier has died in every Lawn room? Gun found underneath floorboards.
- Sumner beat Brooks with a cane - Jeff Soc sent Sumner a new cane to show solidarity with the South.
- Student body at the time was composed of sons of plantation owners
- Enrollment dropped to ~50 as students left to fight in the war -- only students were either too old, too young, or too wounded to be at war
- African Americans during the war- most stayed where they had been before the start of the war. Additionally, there was an increased effort to separate black and whites. Blacks capitalized on this to create black institutions in the Charlottesville area like the Charlottesville African Church

## Edgar Allen Poe's Room - famous alumni

- Edgar Allen Poe
  - Did he meet Jefferson?! Entirely possible
  - Traditionally students took 3 classes, but he could only afford 2 and eventually withdrew
  - Raven Society cares for this room in honor of Poe
- Georgia O'Keefe
  - Studied art here during the 1920s during a summer session because that was the only session where women could take classes - did not coeducate until 1970; Students still live in her house today (which is on Wertland)!
- Woodrow Wilson
  - Studied here in 1879, but dropped out because of poor health
- Robert Kennedy
- Katie Couric
  - Senior Resident of the Lawn; Remains an active alumnae, visiting frequently and taking pictures with students
- Tina Fey
  - Came and gave a talk last year about the importance of preserving the arts at UVA; Talks about UVA in her book, *Bossypants*

## Berlin Wall

- Study abroad
  - year-long, semester-long, summer session, J-Term and May Terms - flexible with timing and length
  - Traditional study abroad, internships abroad through ISO, SAS - lots of different configurations
  - Accessibility
    - UVA will transfer your existing financial aid to any UVA program

- LOTS of scholarships available
- College, SEAS, Architecture - you may think you can't fit it in, but as long as you talk to someone in ISO early they will help you plan it out! Anyone can study abroad. Lots of programs with no language requirement (Hong Kong's Jefferson Global Seminars, Cape Town, Oxford, etc.)

## **McGregor Room - Library Culture**

- Different library, different vibe: Reserving study space - Clark and Clem
- Quiet floors/Talkative Floors; Printing with CavAd; Snacks and Plus Dollars
- The books and stuff; Point out Special Collections

## **Whisper Wall**

- Have two kids try it out for funsies and tell the rest to make sure they do it

## **Ruffner Bridge**

- Jump and talk about how fun it is to be better than Virginia Tech

## **Back to Dorms with RA - ENJOY YOUR FIRST YEAR!**

- List of 50 things to do in your first year
- Information about events this semester, including UGS try-outs/Colonnade Ball

# 50 Things to do Before You're No Longer a First Year:

1. Streak the Lawn
2. Eat at Runk Dining Hall
3. Go to Trick or Treating on the Lawn
4. Attend Colonnade Ball in November
5. Go to a lacrosse or soccer game
6. Use your Plus Dollars at the dumpling truck
7. Take friends and blankets and go stargazing on the Lawn
8. Pick apples and eat apple donuts at Carter's Mountain
9. Visit Monticello

10. Walk to the Downtown Mall
11. Go to the Farmer's Market downtown
12. Take a lazy afternoon and read on the Lawn
13. Make use of the 21 Box on the Lawn and throw a frisbee or kick a soccer ball with friends
14. Introduce yourself to a Lawnie
15. Sign up for an activity or sport you have never tried before
16. Take a class in a different school (or multiple different schools)
17. Make popcorn and have a movie night in your dorm lounge
18. Learn the words to the Good Old Song
19. Go to a professor's office hours and introduce yourself
20. Hitch a ride home on Safe Ride
21. Visit the gardens in between the Lawn and the Range
22. High-five Dean Groves
23. Attend an event hosted by FYC, Association Council, UPC, or StudCo
24. Introduce yourself to a dining hall employee
25. Eat a bagel from Bodo's
26. Attend Final Fridays at the Fralin Museum of Art
27. Share a secret through the Whispering Wall
28. Jump on Ruffner Bridge and make it wobble
29. Make friends with an upper classman
30. Tailgate before a football game
31. Go to O'Hill for brunch on a Saturday or Sunday morning
32. Attend Fridays after 5:00 on the Downtown Mall
33. Watch the Purple Shadows' ceremony around Jefferson's statue for Founder's Day
34. Attend Tom Tom Founder's Day Festival Downtown in the Spring
35. Go to Trivia Night at Mellow Mushroom (you do not have to be 21 to go!)
36. Paint Beta Bridge
37. Go to Drag Bingo put on by the Queer Student Union
38. Watch a National Panhellenic Council probate initiation
39. Eat a Gus burger at the White Spot
40. Have a dorm picnic on the Lawn
41. Take advantage of the biggest hot tub on the East Coast at the AFC
42. Write a letter to home
43. Check out Pavilion VIII and try to take a class held there
44. Drink hot chocolate at Lighting of the Lawn
45. Learn a new language
46. Use your Plus Dollars at West Range Cafe
47. Check out a book from one of the 17 libraries on Grounds
48. Play on an intramural sports team
49. Go to a musical or drama put on by the University Drama Department
50. Check out the Music Library in Old Cabell Hall