

SCRIPTED WALKING TOUR GUIDE

Maeser Building

"We're now in front of the BYU Maeser Building — one of the most iconic and historic spots on campus. Built in 1911, it's named after Karl G. Maeser, the first principal of Brigham Young Academy and a foundational figure in BYU's history. It's home to the BYU Honors Program and hosts some of its classes and events. It's beautiful architecture makes it a favorite for graduation and wedding photos."

Testing Center

"Inside, there's a silent testing space, and during finals week, you might even see lines out the door. Pro tip: mornings are less busy. You can also use the BYU app to view a live feed of the testing center lines to help you determine the best time to go take your test."

Joseph Smith Building (JSB)

"This is the Joseph Smith Building! Home to the College of Religious Education, the JSB hosts many religion classes. You'll likely have a few classes here. Inside, you'll find a statue of Joseph Smith praying in the Sacred Grove, reflecting BYU's spiritual foundation. The JSB also features an incredible mural in the main lobby that reflects BYU's mission to connect faith and intellect."

Walking Toward the Kimball Tower

"You may have noticed the 'Tree of Wisdom' statue. Many students tap the tree before an exam for good luck — whether it works or not, we'll let you decide."

"As we walk north, notice the **Benson Building (BNSN)** to the right—home to chemistry and Biochemistry. The study room in there is known as the "fishbowl." Fun fact: the atrium here often has live plants and rotating science exhibits. Just south of it is the **Life Sciences Building (LSB)**, one of the newer buildings on campus and a favorite for biology majors."

"We are now walking into the **Kimball Quad**—this quad is a great place to study. And to the right is the **Eyring Science Center**, The Eyring Science Center even has a planetarium you can reserve for FHE nights or buy tickets and go with a friend. Cool, right?"

Walking between the Library and HRCB

"We're passing the **Harold Clark Building (HRCB)** and the **MARB (Martin Building)** which is just south of it. These buildings house language and international studies programs. With so many returned missionaries, BYU has one of the most diverse language programs in the country."

“Up on your right you’ll see the ‘First Child’ statue (the Family Statue) in front of Marigold Quad to the south east. This area is named after Marigold Saunders, who generously donated her entire estate to BYU. In the winter, you might spot the statues dressed in scarves and hats — a campus tradition to ‘keep them warm.’”

Wilk Way

“This narrow section between the Library and the Wilkinson Center is called Wilk Way”

Brigham Square (in front of WILK)

"This concrete jungle is **Brigham Square**—a major student gathering place. You’ll often find club booths, service projects, or even spontaneous dance parties here."

Wilkinson Student Center (WSC)

"We’ve arrived at the Wilk! This is the center of student life. It has a food court, lounges, the BYU Store, info desks, and lots of student offices and events. Many clubs meet here and it’s a great place to just hang out."

Walking toward the Library

"Ahead of us is the new Performing Arts building, home to music, theatre, and art. It is scheduled for a full opening Fall semester of 2026. While it’s being renovated, many performances still occur around campus. BYU’s performing groups like Vocal Point and Living Legends are internationally known."

"In front of us in the **ASB Quad**, which sits right above the library. You’ll notice plenty of seating here — a perfect spot to relax, study, or take a break between classes. The large pyramid-shaped skylights you see let natural light shine down into the library’s basement floors."

"Ahead of us on our left is the **JKB (Jesse Knight Building)**. It’s home to the Office of First-Year Experience, where you can go for support adjusting to college life, and it also houses the **BYU Police Department**. If you ever need help or lose something, their lost and found is incredibly effective!"

“Notice the **Talmage Building** to your left—fun fact: this is home to BYU’s top-ranked animation program. There’s even a statue of Kung Fu Panda inside!"

Harold B. Lee Library (HBLL)

"Welcome to the academic heart of campus. The HBLL is six levels of study space, books, digital media, and study rooms you can reserve. Head up to the atrium if you want a

beautiful spot to study, or down to the iconic periodical spots. The librarians will give us a more in-depth tour."

Walking into the JFSB Quad

"We are now entering the **JFSB Quad with the JFSB (Joseph F. Smith Building)**, this is a humanities hub and also home to the Education in Zion exhibit, which traces the story of faith and learning at BYU."

"To our right you will see the statue of Chief Massasoit, a leader of the Wampanoag tribe who helped the Pilgrims in the early 1600s. It was given to BYU in the 1950s as a gift from the people of Utah to represent friendship and gratitude."

BULLET POINT REFERENCE GUIDE FOR PEER MENTORS

Notable Stops:

- JSB: Religion classes, mural
- EB: Engineering, innovation labs
- Testing Center: Largest in the U.S., early tests = shorter lines
- HBLL: Study rooms, atrium, campus resource, Freshman HUB
- WSC: Cougar eat, BYU store, clubs, hub of student life, resources

Buildings to Point Out While Walking:

- BNSN: Life Sciences
- LSB: Biology
- ESC: Planetarium for FHE or individuals
- KMBL Quad: Study-friendly spot
- MARB, HRCB: Language & international programs
- JFSB Quad: Humanities, Education in Zion
- TMCB: Animation & Computer Science, Kung Fu Panda statue
- Brigham Square: Clubs, events
- ASB: Enrollment Services, Financial Aid

- Flag Pole: Anthem plays at 7:30 AM & 5:30 PM

Traditions & Campus Culture to Mention:

- FHE Groups
- Devotionals on Tuesdays
- True Blue Foam
- Honor Code (no alcohol, modesty, honesty)
- Service culture (missions, volunteering)
- Scenic views of Wasatch Mountains
- Tree of Wisdom (tap before exams!)