

How to make the most of Open Day Guide for visitors

Visitors to the University of Reading are often surprised at how much there is to see and do at Open Day. Aside from the 320 acres of parkland campus to see, we have some first-class facilities for you to visit and over 50 subject areas for you to find out about! Then, of course, there are the staff and current students to meet, the Halls to visit and the talks to take in. In sum, there's an awful lot going on on the Day and we're conscious that you might like some time to plan your visit before the event.

This brief guide will give you some pointers as to how to make the most of your Open Day visit. We hope you find it useful in your planning.

What you need to know first

1. The University has 2 main campus sites. The main site – where the majority of Open Day activities will take place – is at Whiteknights. Our London Road campus, home to our Institute of Education will also be open for students who are interested in studying one of our Teaching degrees.
2. There are 2 main programmes at Open Day: the *Departmental Programme*, broken down by subject area, and the *Central Talks Programme*:

Departmental Programme

Every academic department has a presence at Open Day and has staff and students available to give one-to-one advice. The Departmental Programme gives the location of the academic staff and students. It also lists any *additional* activities being run in your subject of interest such as talks, demonstrations, workshops or departmental tours.

Central Talks Programme

The Central Talks Programme gives the times and locations of a series of 30-60 minute talks on accommodation, student finance, student life, graduate careers, the library and sports/music at Reading.

3. We have attached an outline Planner for your visit at the end of this document. Please feel free to use it to plan your Day at Reading.

What are the *must-do's*?

1. Focus on your subject/s of interest *first*

Check out whether your department has any timetabled talks or activities on the Departmental Programme and put those into your schedule for the Day. Be prepared to spend at least 1 hour with your department of choice, to allow time for meeting with staff and students and, for example, taking in a talk.

2. Attend some of the general information talks

There may not be enough time to attend all of the general information talks. Aim to pick out a couple you'd like to hear and fit them in around your departmental activities. Be aware that the information provided in all of these 'central talks' is available from the stands in 3sixty of the Students' union.

3. Take a guided campus tour with a current student

You can take an individual campus tour at any time throughout the Day. Guided by our yellow tee-shirted students, they will take you anywhere you want to go at a time that suits you. You might ask for a general campus tour or a tour plus Hall visit or just ask to be taken to your department of choice with a commentary along the way! Tours can be as short or long as you want but, if you are visiting a Hall too, you should allow at least 1 to 1 ½ hours.

4. Visit a Hall of Residence

A cross-section of catered/self-catered Halls is open to visitors throughout Open Day so be sure to visit 1 or 2 whilst at Reading. You can go there with a student guide or follow the colour-coded signs. Be aware also that the Accommodation Office staff have an information stand available to visit in the Palmer Building, if you don't have time for a tour. There are also accommodation talks taking place throughout the Day.

5. Visit some of our wonderful facilities

The University of Reading is in the midst of a huge £multi-million investment plan and has recently opened some excellent new facilities. Don't miss our wonderful Students' Union (RUSU) building with its 3sixty nightclub, radio and television stations, or our new Film, Theatre and Television building (Minghella building). Or our state-of-the-art new Business School. Or our wonderful new gym facilities in the SportsPark. Other facilities you might like to visit include our Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology or the Harris Botanic Gardens.

6. Have a rest and refreshments!

Don't forget to make time for a rest and some refreshments. Take the opportunity to sample one of our catering outlets whilst mulling over what you've seen and what to do next. If the forecast is for good weather, bring a picnic and eat it by the lake.

7. Visit Reading town

Once you've seen everything you want to see at the University, why not hop on the free shuttle coach down to Reading Station and have a quick look around the town? Alternatively, you can park in the Oracle car park in town, signposted from the University.

And finally...

Don't worry if, despite all your planning, you haven't managed to see and do everything you had hoped for at Open Day. There are always lots of other opportunities to visit the University and all offer holders are automatically invited back to the University for a Departmental Visit Day. For information on further visits, please see: www.reading.ac.uk/life/life-visit.asp

Please also feel free to contact us with any further questions you might have. Details are below.

Many thanks for taking the time to visit the University of Reading.

Enjoy Open Day!

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Open Day Planner

Use the space below to plan your visit to the University of Reading.

Time	Activity	Location
9.30am		
10.00am		
10.30am		
11.00am		
11.30am		
12.00pm		
12.30pm		
1.00pm		
1.30pm		
2.00pm		
2.30pm		
3.00pm		