

Open Days

Getting Around Durham

Be ambitious.
Be you.



Travelling to the University

We strongly encourage all visitors to use public transport. Parking in Durham city and at nearby Park and Ride car parks is limited and we are unable to provide University parking unless you have access needs.



Please let us know, when you book, if you or someone in your party has an access need so that we can help support you during your visit. Whether you need access to specific facilities, or require to be seated at the front of a lecture theatre, we are here to help. The easiest way to do this is by ensuring you complete the Additional Needs information during the booking process. If you did not complete this, please contact us [durham.ac.uk/study/ask-us](mailto:enquiries@durham.ac.uk) to inform us of any access requirements.

If travelling by rail



Durham is well served by rail links from major cities across the country. The East Coast mainline service from London King's Cross can take less than 3 hours and express links operate from Manchester, Sheffield and Leeds with cross-country links from Scotland, the Midlands, and the South West. Durham Railway Station is well-placed within the city, with a lot of the University facilities within walking distance. We are running free shuttle buses from the train station to the Lower Mountjoy site throughout the Open Day.

If travelling by bus/coach



There are several express coach services daily from most major cities. The number 6, X12, 56 and 57 all stop near the Lower Mountjoy site.

See arrivabus.co.uk for timetable details.



If travelling by air



Durham is 26 miles from Newcastle Airport and 24.3 miles from Durham Tees Valley Airport. Both have regular domestic and international flights. Newcastle Airport is linked to Durham City by rail services. Durham Tees Valley Airport is 6 miles from Darlington Railway Station, which has regular connections to Durham.

If travelling by car



Durham City centre is two miles from the A1(M). Leave the motorway at Junction 62 on the A690 Durham - Sunderland road and follow signs to Durham City centre. Please check your route for roadworks, which may cause delays. We strongly recommend using the [Park & Ride](#) facilities highlighted on the following page.



Struggling to find accommodation in Durham? Why not stay in Newcastle or Darlington? Regular trains take less than 20 minutes and we provide a free shuttle bus from Durham Train Station to the University!

Staying in Durham

Staying overnight? Durham has a range of accommodation available both in the city and across the county.

We recommend visiting: thisisdurham.com/accommodation for information on B&Bs, guest houses, and hotels in the area. Alternatively, you can call the Visitors' Centre: 03000 262626 for more information on where to stay.



In addition to providing information on accommodation, [This Is Durham](#) provides a wealth of information about getting to and travelling around Durham.

Explore the area

If you want to visit Durham City in your own way, you can also undertake a self-guided tour using our Durham University Tours App.

Our app 'Durham University Tours' is available to download in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store now! This will enable you to take self-guided tours, either in-person around the city or remotely from the comfort of your own home. The app provides a range of tours so that you have multiple options to choose from.



We will have condensed versions of this Open Day Guide available on the day, but we'd recommend downloading a digital copy to your phone beforehand so that you have it available.

Free shuttle buses



Free shuttle buses will operate at regular intervals starting at 08:30 and finishing at 16:30, however they are dependent on traffic around Durham. Please ensure you check with the ambassador at the bus stop to confirm which bus to use for your intended destination. Additionally, all of our shuttle buses will have an ambassador on board, so please don't hesitate to ask for advice on where to get off.

Route 1: Train Station

Durham Train Station > Framwellgate Bridge (for Waterside Business School) > Palatine Centre Stockton Road > Rushford Court (College of St Hild and St Bede)

Route 2: College Hopper

John Snow College > South Road > Durham Students' Union > St Cuthbert's Parson's Field > Palatine Centre

Route 3: City Hopper

Upper Mountjoy (for Maths/Computer Science/ Psychology/Biology) > Palatine Centre > Durham Students' Union > Sports and Wellbeing Park

Don't worry if you don't know which stop is best! Speak to any of our staff or student ambassadors around the city who will be able to help you to find your way. We do find that during the Open Days (due to so many attendees and congestion) it can be often be faster to walk if you can. This way you also get to experience realistic travel times that our students have to factor into their days - and you also get to see more of Durham (which although we're biased, we think is a pretty amazing city!)

Approximate walking times

We've put together the table below to give you approximate walking times between some of our main buildings. Our buildings are spread across the city, however everything is within walking distance.

Please note these are approximate timings only and may vary. Durham is hilly and has cobbled streets so please factor this in when planning your routes, especially if you have anyone with accessibility needs.

	Train Station	Market Place	Students' Union	Palatine Centre	Teaching & Learning Centre	Waterside Business School	Sports and Wellbeing Park
Approximate walking times in minutes (based on Google Maps)							
Train Station		13	19	28	29	14	37
Market Place	13		13	21	23	7	30
Students' Union	19	13		11	13	18	23
Palatine Centre	28	21	13		5	27	15
Teaching & Learning Centre	29	24	16	5		28	19
Waterside Business School	14	5	15	27	28		34
Sports and Wellbeing Park	37	30	23	15	19	34	

Parking



Thousands of visitors are expected at each event. Using public transport, or Park and Ride facilities, will make your day easier.

Parking in Durham and near to our main buildings is very limited. A lot of the car parks are permit-holders only and the city is only small - so please try to plan your parking prior to the event! We've included some of our recommendations on this page.



Public parking

We strongly advise visitors to use public transport such as rail to travel to Durham. At each of our Open Days we expect more than 10,000 visitors. Should you choose to drive you are advised to arrive early (before 09:00).

Public car parks within walking distance of the city centre are:

- The Gates (DH1 4SJ)
- Prince Bishop's Shopping Centre (DH1 3UJ)
- Sidegate (DH1 5SY)

Please note there is a parking charge to use these car parks.

For more information on car parking please visit durham.gov.uk and search for Durham City Car Parks.

Park and Ride

Public transport runs from the Park and Ride car parks into Durham city. One ticket must be purchased for each passenger (£2.20 per person) when using these facilities, you must use the bus provided. Park and Stride is not permitted. Park and Ride sites close at 19:00 and vehicles will be locked in overnight if still on-site at this time. We recommend arriving at the Park and Ride a minimum of one hour prior to your first session as roads may be congested.

- Belmont: DH1 1SR – The bus leaves Belmont Park and Ride at 00, 15, 30 and 45 minutes past the hour.
- The first bus is at 07:00 and the last bus is at 18:30.
- Sniperley: DH1 5RA – The bus leaves Sniperley Park and Ride at 10, 25, 40 and 55 minutes past the hour.
- The first bus is at 07:10 and the last bus is at 18:35.

Not all Park and Ride facilities have been listed due to their limited capacity.

Park and Ride sites are operated by Durham County Council.

Durham County Council Road and Transport Information

Please visit durham.gov.uk/transport for more travel information including public bus timetables, blue badge parking, roadworks and road closures and more.

