

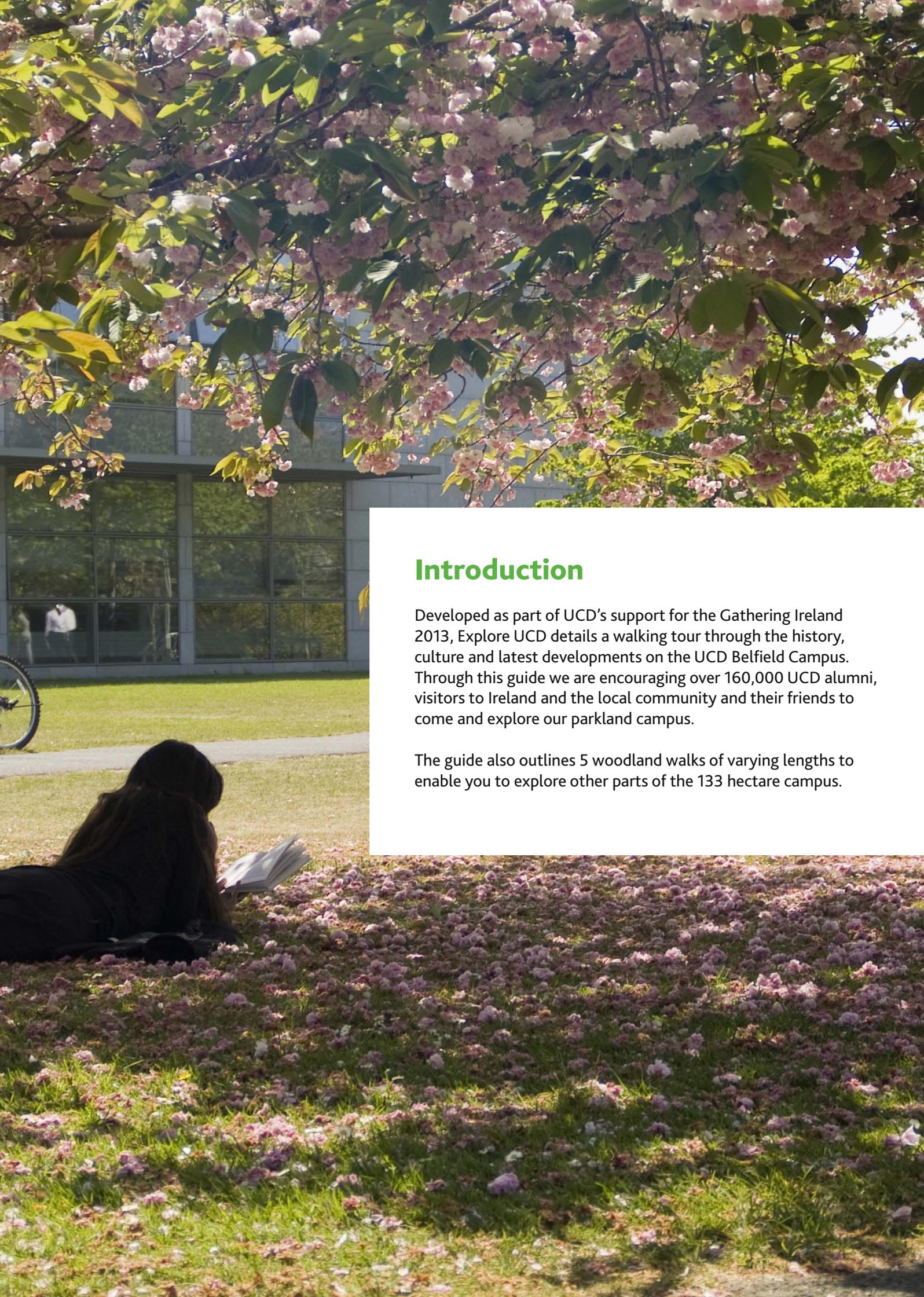


Explore UCD



Campus Walks  
Map and Guide





## Introduction

Developed as part of UCD's support for the Gathering Ireland 2013, Explore UCD details a walking tour through the history, culture and latest developments on the UCD Belfield Campus. Through this guide we are encouraging over 160,000 UCD alumni, visitors to Ireland and the local community and their friends to come and explore our parkland campus.

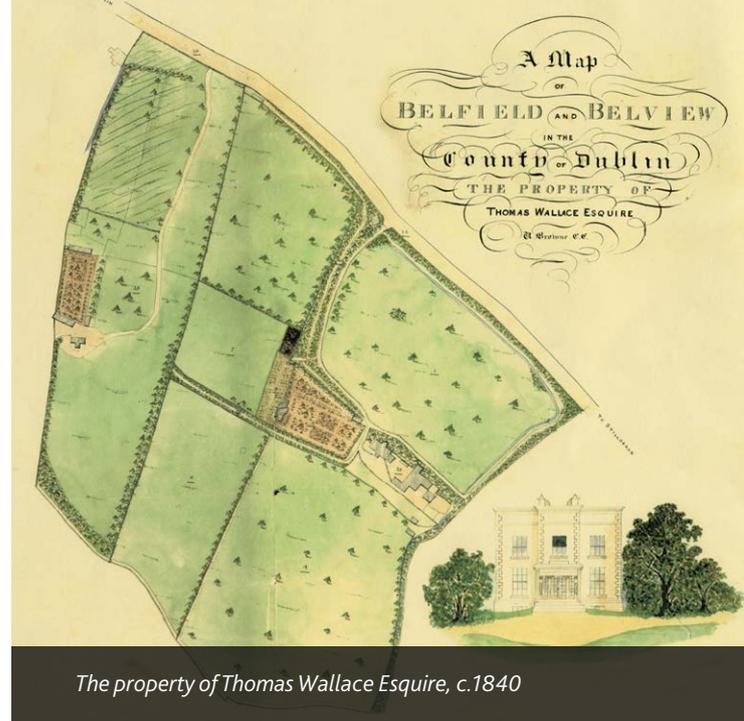
The guide also outlines 5 woodland walks of varying lengths to enable you to explore other parts of the 133 hectare campus.

## Origins of the Belfield Campus

Belfield Campus has its origins in the 12th century, when much of today's campus was associated with Roebuck, or 'Rabo' lands as they were once called. The lands have been passed down over the centuries and distributed across a number of smaller estates, for example Belfield and Merville, which contribute to today's campus parkland setting and mature landscaping.

In 1838, the area around Roebuck was described as "a district chiefly occupied by handsome villas situated in tastefully disposed grounds, many of which command magnificent views of the bay and city of Dublin, the Dublin and Wicklow Mountains, and the beautiful adjacent country".

Since the 1930s, the Belfield Campus has evolved through the purchase of some of these fine estates, evidence of which can still be found through the remaining period houses, archaeological features, woodland boundaries, tree avenues and walled gardens.



*The property of Thomas Wallace Esquire, c.1840*

## Selected Period Houses & Estates

UCD is fortunate to have seven remaining period houses on campus. These add a sense of history, place and heritage amidst the modern campus buildings. In the late 1990s, UCD established a "Programme for the Preservation of Period Houses", which has, to-date, seen the complete restoration of Belfield House, Merville House and University Lodge, partial restoration of Ardmore House, in addition to Newman House in St Stephen's Green and Ligouri House on the Blackrock campus.

### Roebuck Castle

Roebuck became a residence soon after the Anglo-Norman Conquest. By 1261, it was owned by Fromund le Brun, the Chancellor of Ireland. Generations later, in 1466, his descendent Elizabeth le Brun married Robert Barnewall, 1st Baron of Trimlestown. Almost 200 years later, the Civil Survey of 1654-56 noted that the lands of 'Rabuck' extended to some 500 acres. Roebuck remained in the ownership of the Barnewall family until the early 19th century when various parcels of land were sold off.

Roebuck Castle was first built in the 13th century. It was an important residence, but it was severely damaged during the rebellion of 1641. Circa 1800, the castle was sold by Nicholas, 13th Baron of Trimlestown, to James Crofton, an official of the Irish Treasury and a commissioner for the construction of Kingstown Harbour. Shortly afterwards, in the 1851 Griffith Valuation, Roebuck Castle is recorded as having "67 acres, 3 rood and 7 perches" with a "land value of £280".

The gothic revival appearance of Roebuck Castle, visible today, was developed by the Westby family who acquired the estate in 1856. From 1943 until 1985, it was owned by the Little Sisters of the Poor before it was purchased by UCD.

### Merville House

Merville House is the oldest surviving estate house on campus. It was built c.1750 for Anthony Foster, Chief Baron of the Irish Exchequer, as a Georgian style two storey country villa. The estate passed to his son in 1778, and became one of many houses owned by Sir John Foster, the last Speaker of the Irish House of Commons.

In the late 1700s, Merville became the property of Sir Thomas Lighton, who had returned to his native land and obtained a seat in Parliament, after a profitable career in India. He was succeeded by the Right Hon. W. Baron Downes, Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

In 1825, the Gardener's Magazine described Merville as "...the delightful villa... is unquestionably one of the best kept places in the empire. The garden is not of great extent, but it contains an excellent collection of fruit trees, which are kept in perfect order." A closer look at the remains of the original high garden walls suggests that the south facing wall was built in brick to better hold heat for plants. It is thought that the semi-circular water feature served the "best private collection of bog plants in the vicinity of Dublin".



*Merville House*

## Merville House (continued)

Freemans Journal, in 1826, references Merville House to be sold: "it is a most desirable residence for any Nobleman or Gentleman whose occupation or taste renders the vicinity of the metropolis necessary or agreeable". Owned by the Dudgeon family from 1890, a riding school was in operation from 1938 until the 1950s when the estate was acquired by UCD.

In recent years the sensitive restoration of Merville House involved the painstaking repair of original features including plasterwork, vaulted ceilings and the retention of original granite arches within the stables. Today, it offers a glimpse of times gone by.

## Belfield House

Belfield House was built in 1801 by Ambrose Moore, and subsequently occupied by the Digges la Touche, Wallace and Lynch families. The house overlooks Dublin Bay, with trees lining what was a former terraced walk above a sunken garden. During the 1830s it was extended to create a mix of Georgian and Victorian features.

The 1851 Griffith Valuation refers to Belfield House with "44 acres, 1 rood and 25 perches" with a "land value of £190". The size of the estate also facilitated some farming and newspaper notices from the mid-19th century mention hay sales: in July 1868 "100 large field cocks of the primest upland herbage hay" were advertised for auction. Similar sales of hay, potatoes, cows, and sundry surplus farming implements were recorded for the nearby Merville estate.

A former well in the grounds was surrounded by twelve large trees, known as the "Twelve Apostles". It was reputed to be a holy place of pilgrimage, with water described as "a magic draught to cure all ailments". The well disappeared in the late 1970s following the development of the Stillorgan dual carriageway.

Early maps also show that most, if not all, of the surrounding estate houses were accompanied by formal gardens. A section of Belfield's walled garden can still be visited today through the original gates.

In 1934, the Belfield estate was purchased by UCD to provide playing fields.

## UCD Woodland Walks

Over 8km of woodland paths have been created and a series of walks developed to open up the beautiful 133 hectare campus to a wider community. Each walk (outlined on the map) has its own unique characteristics. Along the meandering paths walkers will pass many mature trees which compliment areas of new woodland planted as part of the university's programme to maintain and enhance the ecological diversity of the campus.

Approximately 25,000 trees have been planted since 1998. Where appropriate, the species of trees planted reflects those originally planted at the time when the land was in private estates. The intention is to continue to increase this woodland over the coming years with these trees maturing within the next 100 to 200 years.

## Trees and Woodland

The campus retains many of the trees and woodlands of the original period estates from the 18th and early 19th century. Estate woodland is most noticeable on Foster's Avenue, by the Glenomena residences, around the UCD Crèche and along the Stillorgan Road. Remnants of residential ornamental tree planting can be seen at Merville House, Belfield House, Roebuck Castle and Richview.

In the late 18th century, ornamental conifers were in fashion and a representative collection, including Western Red Cedar, Giant Redwood, Sawara Cypress and Monterey Cypress remain close to Ardmore House. Tall mature Lime trees, originally part of an estate boundary, line the road from the N11 entrance to the Daedalus Building. More fine Lime trees stand in front of the UCD Quinn School including both mature and recently-planted trees.

Tree-planting accompanied the development of the university in the 1960s and 1970s and placed more emphasis on the year-round use of the campus. Pink-flowering Cherries, yellow-flowering Laburnum and white-flowering Horse Chestnuts are conspicuous in April and May. Purple-leaved trees such as Norway Maple, Copper Beech and Purple Plum are striking in summer and can be seen by O'Reilly Hall and the path to the N11 entrance. Grey-foliaged Weeping Pears, with dome shaped appearance, are evident close to O'Reilly Hall. Weeping Willow, Beech and Japanese Maples offer striking colours of gold and orange in autumn. In winter, white-stemmed Birch and Paper Bark Maple are particularly noticeable at Merville House.

In recent years, large parts of the boundary woodland have been augmented with native woodland trees such as Birch, Alder, Oak and Willow. Similar planting can also be seen near the Glenomena and Merville residences and the UCD Oakmount Crèche.

## Birds and Insects

The woodlands, wetlands, wildflower meadows and mowed grass areas around the campus provide a variety of habitats for birds, mammals, insects and other wildlife. Most of the common woodland birds breed on campus.

The woodland walk provides views of some birds that are seldom seen in gardens, such as Sparrowhawk, Stock Dove, Long-tailed Tit, Goldcrest, Willow Warbler, Chiffchaff, Treecreeper and Bullfinch, with Waxwing, Siskin, and Brambling as possible winter visitors. Holly Blue, Orangetip, Speckled Wood, Tortoiseshell and Peacock butterflies avail of the variety of plants found in the woodlands and wildflower meadows of the campus, as do many wild bees. The wildflower meadows also provide food for Woodpigeons and Finches, such as Goldfinches, Greenfinches and Linnets.

A great variety of wildlife is present on the various lakes and areas of wetlands on campus. Common waterfowl such as Mute Swan, Mallard and Tufted Duck and also Moorhen, Black-headed Gull and Pied Wagtail can be seen on open water. Birds such as Grey Heron, Teal, Kingfisher and Water Rail may be present, especially in winter. The Common Chaser Dragonfly is also evident and occasionally the large and impressive Moorland Hawker Dragonfly breeds on campus.

In winter, the playing pitches can attract coastal wading birds, such as Curlew and Oystercatcher to feed. Fieldfares and Redwings can also be seen. In spring these birds are replaced by breeding Blackbirds, Song Thrushs and Mistle Thrushs, collecting worms to feed their chicks.



*Sparrowhawk photographed on campus*

## UCD Sculpture Trail

The UCD Sculpture Trail comprises public works of art, donated or commissioned, that form an integral part of the urban fabric of the university, enriching the sense of place and the physical beauty of the natural environment. Varying in style and material, the collection is representative of national and internationally renowned artists.

### Selected Sculptures

Hibernia with the Bust of Lord Cloncurry (1844) - John Hogan (1800-1858) was a leading Irish sculptor working in Rome from 1824-1849. Lord Cloncurry, a prominent patron of the arts in Ireland commissioned this work in spring 1841, with it finally arriving in Ireland in 1846 to be exhibited to great acclaim at the Royal Exchange (now the City Hall). It entered the UCD collection with the purchase of Lyons House in 1963. The work is one of the finest examples of Irish neoclassical sculpture. It is made from marble and can be seen in the glazed porch of Belfield House.

Forme in Mutazione (c.1987-1990) - Giorgio Zennaro (1926) is a leading Italian exponent of the Concrete Art movement. Concrete Art is a form of abstraction that dismisses any analogies to nature or the natural world. This work was donated by the late Italian Ambassador to Ireland Dr Francesco Carlo Gentile. Constructed of inox steel it can be viewed beside the UCD lake.

Rendezvous (2008) - Bob Quinn (1948) had a successful career as a graphic designer. Since 2002 he is a full time figurative sculptor working mainly in bronze. The work is in bronze and stone and situated beside the UCD lake.

Na Fánaí Fuachtmhara (2009) - Kevin O'Dwyer (1953), born in New York, has been based in Ireland since 1987 and is director of Sculpture in the Parklands in Co. Offaly. This sculpture was

commissioned in connection with the Sixth World Archaeological Congress held in UCD. Inspired by incised chevron motifs found in the megalithic tomb at Fourknocks, Co. Meath, the sculptor has incorporated this ancient symbol into a series of contemporary architectural forms in stainless steel. Located opposite Belfield Church.

Life-Force (2012) - Craig Blackwell, Scottish-born, lives and works in county Meath. Life-Force is a fusion of cutting edge industrial techniques, utilised by the maritime and aviation industries, with an aesthetic sensibility and a sensitive affinity to its immediate surroundings. It is built around a stainless steel structure by means of a layering technique using epoxy resins and is located beside the UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology.

Joie de Vivre (2012) - Jill Pitko an American by birth, is now based in Dublin where she works in bronze and other alternative mediums. The 4.5 meter monumental piece of bronze and stainless steel, compliments the progressive architecture of the new UCD Student Centre. It features a colourful figure caught in an outstretched free gesture leaping over a geometric arch. Popsicle Red, Sunset Yellow, and Freedom Blue are familiar colours in Jill Pitko's work where the "human figure" is the only traditional aspect.

## UCD Facts & Figures

1

Ranked within top 1% of higher education institutions world-wide

124

Number of nationalities within the student body

133

Hectares making up the woodland campus

457

Million euro won in externally funded research in the last 5 years

1854

Year founded by John Henry Newman

5,360

Number of international students on main campus

7,483

Number of graduate students

30,870

Total number of students

50,000+

Number of trees on campus

160,000+

UCD alumni

## Tours

### Explore UCD

The tour outlined in this guide can be self-guided, although not all locations will be open to the public due to prior commitments. During late spring and early summer 2013 a series of guided tours, led by UCD Student Ambassadors, will be available free of charge.

To view the tour timetable and book a place please visit [www.ucd.ie/gathering](http://www.ucd.ie/gathering)

*Tour kindly sponsored by Bank of Ireland.*

### UCD National Folklore Collection

The National Folklore Collection is home to one of the largest collections of oral and ethnological material in the world. It comprises a large selection of books, manuscripts, audio recordings, videos and photographs, drawings and paintings dealing with Irish life, folk history and culture. The collection is open to the public at certain times. As part of UCD's support for the Gathering 2013 a series of guided tours are being organised.

For details please see [www.ucd.ie/gathering](http://www.ucd.ie/gathering)

*Tour kindly sponsored by Bank of Ireland.*

## On Your Walk

For the safety and comfort of all, please remember the following on your walk:

- Keep to the path in wooded areas
- Keep your dog on a leash at all times and clean up after it
- In an emergency call UCD First Response Room on 01 7167999
- And don't forget to enjoy a cup of coffee from numerous locations on campus

Visit [www.ucd.ie/campusdevelopment](http://www.ucd.ie/campusdevelopment) to learn more about:

- Origins of the Belfield Campus and UCD's Period Houses
- Programme for Preservation of Period Houses
- Woodland Walks
- Campus Sculpture Trail

For visitor information go to [www.ucd.ie/visitors](http://www.ucd.ie/visitors)

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# Explore UCD

●●● Approximately 2.5km, duration 75-90 minutes (see map on page 9)

## Lobby, Gerard Manley Hopkins International Centre (Restaurant Building)

Named after the former UCD professor and poet, this building is home to UCD International and Global Lounge, the first dedicated space for international students on an Irish campus. The Lounge is used as a social and cultural orientation space for UCD's 5,000 plus international students, as well as an information centre for UCD students travelling overseas.

## UCD Quinn School of Business

Ireland's leading undergraduate business school is located in this purpose-built facility that provides students with the full benefits of technology for learning. The new Innovation Corridor (level 1) comprises the Deloitte Data Analytics Lab equipped with Bloomberg terminals and is complemented by engagement with Bloomberg professional staff, who contribute to teaching in business analytics, management, finance and accounting.

## UCD Sutherland School of Law

The largest and most diverse Law School in the country, which recently celebrated its centenary, will from September 2013 be located in this new state-of-the-art building. The new building creates modern and innovative spaces for the learning and practising of legal skills and includes an innovative Clinical Legal Education Centre and moot court, where students learn how to present cases in a courtroom setting.

## Merville House (Nova UCD)

Home of Nova UCD, the hub for new ventures and entrepreneurs, the concept for this period house restoration was to keep the original house as the centrepiece of a suite of innovation support facilities that surround it. Opened in 2003, the complex provides incubation accommodation for knowledge-intensive companies originating from UCD research and companies wishing to locate within the university.

## Belfield House

Located within Belfield House is the UCD Clinton Institute of American Studies, named after the 42<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States. The house has several fine reception rooms which hold part of UCD's twentieth century Irish art collection and are used as reception rooms for visiting dignitaries. The glazed porch contains one of the finest examples of Irish neoclassical sculpture, Hibernia with the Bust of Lord Cloncurry.

## UCD Engineering & Materials Science Centre

Opened in 1989, the centre is home to three of the six schools in the UCD College of Engineering and Architecture. Large laboratories are on the lower levels with lecture theatres upstairs. UCD Engineering offers the widest range of engineering disciplines in Ireland from the traditional disciplines to emerging areas such as Biomedical and Energy Systems Engineering. The historic steam beam engine which forms part of the building display was originally installed in the John Jameson Distillery in Bow Street, Dublin in 1884.

## Natural Water Feature & Biodiversity Habitat

Constructed to cater for storm water attenuation, this newly developed area also provides a habitat for local wildlife and an amenity area for the campus community. A total of 22,000 plants comprising native shrubs, aquatic plants, spring bulbs and trees have been planted around the perimeter to help attract wildlife and enhance bio-diversity. Covering an area of 6,000m<sup>2</sup>, the water body holds in excess of 9 million litres and is of sufficient dimensions for colonisation by the existing Belfield swan population.

## Newman Building & UCD James Joyce Library

The Newman Building, designed by Andrzej Wejchert (who also developed the original campus masterplan) opened in 1970 and was originally known as the Arts-Commerce-Law Building. Today it houses the UCD Colleges of Arts and Celtic Studies, and Human Sciences as well as the National Folklore Collection and UCD Classics Museum. The adjacent UCD James Joyce Library is the largest building on campus, with some 1.5 million books and journals, approaching 2,500 study places and 2 million visits annually.



# Explore UCD

●●● Approximately 2.5km, duration 75-90 minutes (see map on page 9)

## UCD Lake

Developed in the 1970s the lake is a key amenity feature on the campus and covers 7,000m<sup>2</sup>, holding approximately 7 million litres of water. Around the lake are placed several public works of art (Form in Mutazione, Rendezvous and After Image) that comprise the UCD Sculpture Trail.

## O'Reilly Hall

This *aula maxima* for the university accommodates a wide range of functions including conferring ceremonies, conferences, musical performances and formal dinners. Over 8,000 UCD students graduate annually in the hall and many will have their photo taken on the lawn in front of the lake.

## UCD Science Centre

The first buildings to be constructed on the Belfield campus in the early 1960s are now being redeveloped in a €300m project. This development represents the largest physical capital investment in science in the history of the State. Phase 2 opens in late 2013. The UCD Science Centre will accommodate 2,000 undergraduates, and 2,500 Masters and PhD students and researchers - the largest science community in Ireland. The building will also offer dedicated public engagement spaces where visitors can witness science and research in action and experience the joys of discovery.

## UCD Veterinary Sciences Centre

Construction began in 2000 on this purpose-built teaching, research and veterinary hospital facility, with the discipline relocating from its previous site in Ballsbridge. The UCD School of Veterinary Medicine is the only centre for veterinary education in Ireland, one of the leading veterinary schools in Europe, and is also accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. The UCD Veterinary Hospital acts as a referral centre for all veterinary practices in Ireland, treating all species and sees approximately 6,000 animals annually.

## Woodview Lakes and Biodiversity Habitat

Forming part of the UCD Woodland Walks, an initiative developed circa 2010 to open up UCD's parkland campus to a wider community, this part of the campus incorporates many features of ecological importance such as water features, a pine copse, wildflower meadow and the Millennium Oak Walk. Over 8km of woodland paths have been developed and 25,000 trees planted to further develop biodiversity on campus.

## UCD Health Sciences Centre, Conway Institute and Charles Institute

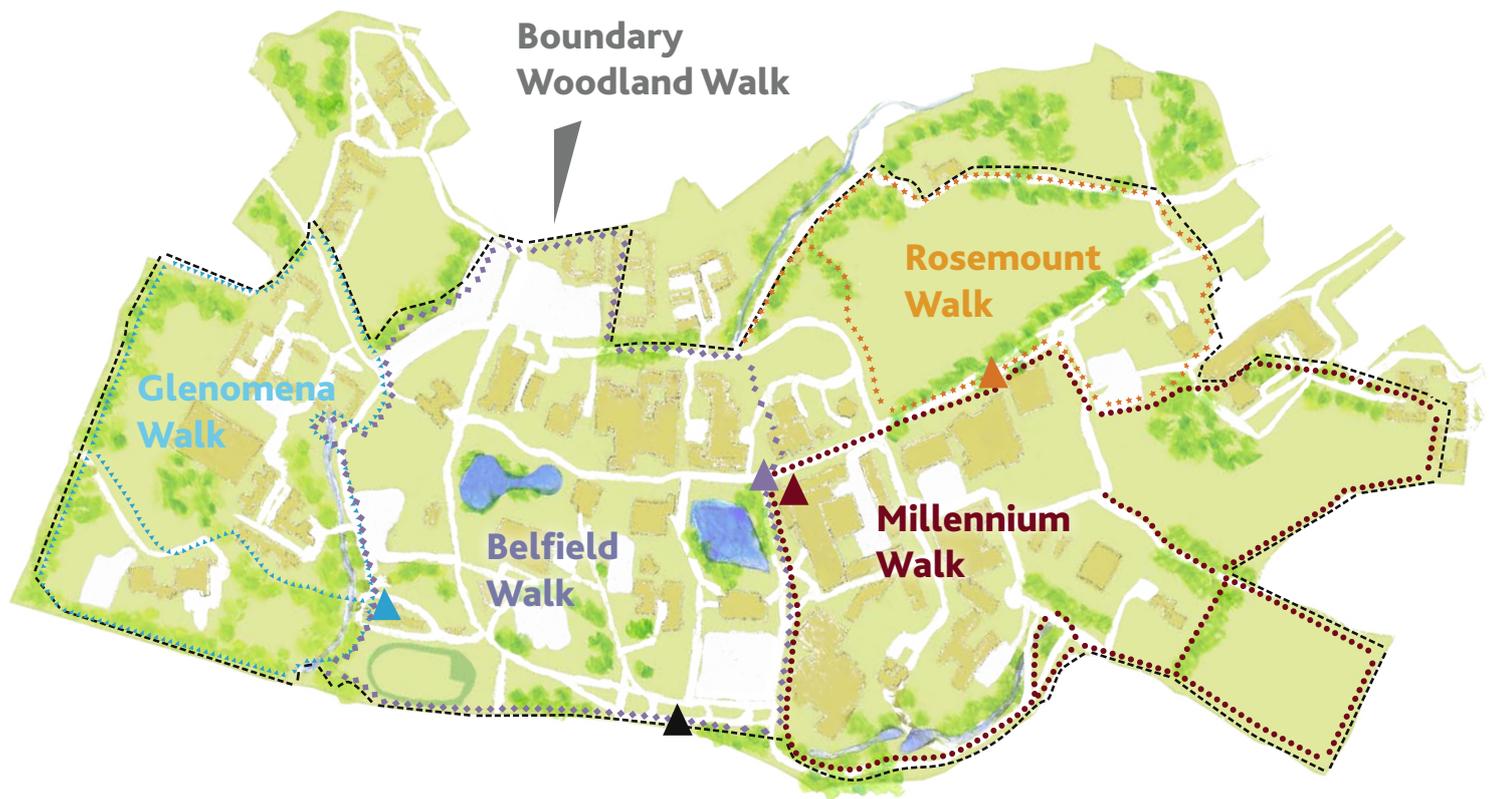
The UCD schools based in the Health Sciences Centre deliver undergraduate education in health sciences, medicine, midwifery, nursing, physiotherapy, public health and radiography as well as a wide range of graduate programmes. UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular and Biomedical Research is a community of over 550 researchers from all over the University and its associated teaching hospitals who are exploring cell and systems biology to develop creative solutions for human diseases. The Charles Institute is the first academic institute devoted to dermatology in Ireland.

## UCD Student Centre

The €50 million UCD Sport and Fitness complex, which includes the country's third Olympic-sized swimming pool, opened its doors in June 2012. It also offers a tournament-grade debating chamber, cinema, theatre and state-of-the-art gym. The development is built between the Sports Centre and Student Centre, linking the two buildings to make the entire complex a focal point of student life and recreation on campus, while supporting the activity of approximately 100 student societies and 60 clubs.







## Other walks you might consider

### ● ● ● Millennium Walk - 3.2km, duration 35-40 minutes

Following a meandering double line of oak trees, this path stretches from the UCD Bowl to the back of the UCD Veterinary Sciences Centre, and incorporates the UCD Newstead Precinct and the lakes and wild meadow at Woodview. The walk includes many features of ecological importance such as a pond and filter beds, a pine copse and wildflower meadow. This area has become a valuable habitat for wildlife and has a broad range of biodiversity. A Garden Ash Walk, Plane Walk and Cherry Grove are visited along this path.

### ★ ★ ★ Rosemount Walk - 1.8km, duration 20-25 minutes

This walk begins and ends at the UCD Sports Centre. It links the UCD Water Tower, Rosemount (UCD Environmental Research Station), UCD Oakmount Crèche, the Arboretum and the O'Kane Centre for Film Studies situated at the Magnetic Observatory. The Arboretum is a living museum containing many rare and unusual trees dating back to the original Rosemount estate. The university continues to add specimen trees and has developed a woodland meadow in this area. A Birch Walk runs down the side of the Magnetic Observatory.

### ◆ ◆ ◆ Belfield Walk - 2.4km, duration 30-35 minutes

Encompassing the academic core of the campus, this walk begins and ends at the entrance to the UCD James Joyce Library and forms a green link between the heart of the campus and the woodland periphery of the former estates. This walk passes O'Reilly Hall and the lake which is home to a number of wildlife species including swans, ducks, fish and a range of other aquatic based wildlife. The Elm Walk and Walnut Grove also feature along this path.

### ▼ ▼ ▼ Glenomena Walk - 1.9km, duration 20-25 minutes

This walk joins 3.6 hectares of established woodland on campus including Belfield Wood which runs alongside Belfield House, Merville Wood which is located alongside Merville House (NovaUCD), and Foster's Avenue Wood. The path includes the tree lined avenue to Merville House and the Lime Walk.

### ■ ■ ■ Boundary Woodland Walk - 6.2km, duration 60-70 Minutes

Bringing the walks together, the 6.5km Boundary Woodland Walk extends around the perimeter of the campus to form a path linking the original and recently developed woodland areas with the wider campus landscape. Starting at the N11 entrance, this walk reveals some of the hidden treasures of the campus, such as the wildflower meadow and lakes at Woodview, the Arboretum, UCD's growing collection of sculpture, a diverse array of wildlife, and many of the original period houses.