Welcome to Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, and the heart of the Hokie Nation!

Adjacent to the Jefferson National Forest, Virginia Tech is situated on 2,600 acres between the beautiful Blue Ridge and Alleghany Mountains. Tech offers its students internationally recognized faculty experts and academic programs, leadership and research options, and endless opportunities for experience, recreation, and fun — all in a picturesque setting.

We are so pleased to have you visiting with us today. Please explore the Visitor and Undergraduate Admissions Center if you have any questions before or after your visit. Please remember that this brochure serves as simply a guide. Although this tour starts at Burruss Hall, feel free to use the guide to suit your needs. For example, if you’re hungry, start with lunch at a dining hall or downtown, and begin the tour from there. If you are parked by Cassell Coliseum, you are welcome to begin by touring the athletic facilities.

We encourage you to see as much of campus as possible while you are with us today; we want you to have a genuine experience of our Hokie world. However, if you are pressed for time or something does not interest you, you are more than welcome to pick and choose what you would like to see. Enjoy your tour!
Burchard Hall (K-4, 171) is an underground studio space for students in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. The pyramids on the plaza allow natural light into the studio spaces. At the back of the plaza, Cowgill Hall (K-3, 172) also houses student studios, offices, and galleries for the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. Many of the college’s programs are consistently ranked in the top programs in the country.

Burruss Hall (L-4, 176), named for former university president Julian Burruss, is the main administration building on campus. It also contains a 3,003-seat auditorium, a venue where major events such as commencement, presidential speeches, concerts, and arts shows are held. Burruss, like many of the buildings on campus, features a native limestone, which we lovingly named “Hokie Stone.”

In front of Burruss is the April 16 Memorial, which features 32 engraved Hokie Stones that honor the memory of the Hokies who lost their lives in 2007.

McBryde Hall (M-3, 151), home to the Departments of Computer Science, Mathematics, and Sociology, but most students will find themselves with at least one course in this building at some point during their time at Virginia Tech. McBryde Hall was also named for a former university president, John McLaren McBryde. He laid the foundation for Virginia Tech as we know it today by heading changes such as adopting the university motto of *Ut Prosim* and changing the school colors to orange and maroon.

On the corner of the Drillfield stands McBryde Hall (M-3, 151), home to the Departments of Computer Science, Mathematics, and Sociology, but most students will find themselves with at least one course in this building at some point during their time at Virginia Tech. McBryde Hall was also named for a former university president, John McLaren McBryde. He laid the foundation for Virginia Tech as we know it today by heading changes such as adopting the university motto of *Ut Prosim* and changing the school colors to orange and maroon.

The upper level of War Memorial Court is a special place to Hokies. The eight limestone pylons are etched with the names of Virginia Tech students and graduates who have died in battle, beginning with World War I. The cenotaph in the middle honors the university’s Medal of Honor recipients.

War Memorial Chapel (M-4, 181) is located underneath the Pylons and is entered from the Drillfield. The chapel is available to students, faculty, staff, or visitors who need a calm, quiet place to get away from the everyday bustle of life.

The sculptures on the eight pylons represent Brotherhood, Honor, Leadership, Sacrifice, Service, Loyalty, Duty, and *Ut Prosim*.

The university’s motto *Ut Prosim* is Latin for “That I May Serve.”
October 1, 1872

The university first opened as an all-male, all-cadet, land-grant institution by the name of “Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College”. A few name changes, civilians, and female students later, the official name is Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Upper Quad is home to the Corps of Cadets and represents many of the oldest buildings on campus, which were made of brick before we adopted Hokie Stone. When the school first opened, all students were admitted as cadets. Now, the co-ed program consists of more than 1,000 cadets and represents all branches of military ROTC. Upper Quad also houses the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, particularly the English and Communication programs in Shanks Hall (N-2, 6).

The Center for the Arts is a newly-constructed facility serving Blacksburg and the New River Valley. It includes a 1,260-seat performance hall, visual arts galleries, amphitheater, four-story experimental cube, and multiple studios to support the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology. The center also houses a multimedia studio, production control room, newsroom, and associated classrooms to support the Department of Communication.

Squires Student Center (N-4, 180) is a hub of student activity. Inside is a food court, an art gallery, several stages and theater production spaces, and offices for student publications such as the college’s newspaper and campus radio station. BreakZone, a recreational center inside Squires, provides students with access to a bowling alley, billiard tables, ping pong games, and more. Squires is a great place to find out about events going on around campus or information about groups in which students might want to be involved.

New to Blacksburg is the College Avenue Promenade, a pedestrian-friendly area of downtown. This provides students with direct access to The Lyric Theatre, restaurants, coffee shops, and shopping within walking distance of campus. It also serves as a gathering place for exhibitions, performances, and festivals like the annual International Street Fair.
In addition to traditional housing, Virginia Tech offers four unique types of living-learning communities: academic major learning community, enhanced-learning-communities, residential colleges, and themed housing.

You are now in the residential side of campus. Just up the hill from Owens Dining Hall (N-5, 195) is Prairie Quad, a collection of newer, suite-style residence halls. Other residences on campus are styled in a traditional hall style, with community bathrooms on each floor. Room styles vary from one residence hall to another, but most rooms are intended for double-occupancy.

Cassell Coliseum (N-8, 187) has been seating 10,052 Hokie basketball fans for more than half a century. The round arena projects Hokie Spirit and makes it an ominous court for any opponent to play.

Next door is the Hahn Hurs Basketball Practice Center (N-7, 197) for men’s and women’s basketball. Feel free to tour the front gallery of the programs’ history during the building’s usual operating hours.

Worsham Field in Lane Stadium (N-9, 185) is the home of our beloved Hokie football! Lane seats up to 65,632 fans, making it the largest stadium in the commonwealth of Virginia. Besides the traditional stadium necessities like concessions and seating, Lane Stadium also hosts Virginia Tech’s Hall of Fame museum, which honors outstanding Hokie history and athletes. Hokie Fans take pride in making Lane Stadium one of the loudest and most intimidating fields in college football.

Dietrick Hall (M-7, 189) offers a variety of dining options to fit almost any schedule. Upstairs, D2 serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner, in an all-you-care-to-eat setting. D2 offers everything from a fresh salad bar and made-to-order sandwiches to Brazilian food and Mediterranean vegan selections. Downstairs, DXpress offers grab-and-go items and caters to late-night schedules. Deet’s Place, with its vast pastry, coffee, and ice cream selections, is the perfect spot to both study and enjoy a gourmet treat.

War Memorial Gym (M-6, 182) is one of two primary gyms open to students on campus, other than the smaller gyms located in select residence halls. War Memorial includes locker and shower facilities, an eight-lane pool, a weight room, multi-purpose group workout rooms, and multiple courts for basketball, volleyball, raquetball, wallyball, and squash.

The Drillfield is considered the center of the Blacksburg campus and the divider between academic and residential life. Between classes, the grassy field is covered in students on their way to class. For students not in class, the Drillfield is a great place to sit and relax or start a pickup round of frisbee.

Thank you for visiting us today! We hope you enjoyed your experience and we will see you again soon!