

ALTERNATIVE PROSPECTUS



Jesus College

STUDENT UNION



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Welcome to Jesus

Jesus is a warm, welcoming and friendly college. The best of both worlds: Jesus is a conveniently located central college, but just enough off the beaten track to ward away hordes of tourists; a large college, so you don't tread on each other's toes, but small enough to know just about everyone; an old college, with beautiful grounds and buildings, but with a whole host of modern developments to ensure Jesus has some of the most up-to-date facilities in Cambridge.

Jesus is known throughout Cambridge for its friendly atmosphere and vibrant community. Jesuans are a really social bunch. We're a very active college, socially, politically, and physically — with our bar always full to the brim, our student union meetings always impassioned and engaging, and our sports teams dominant.

If you want to really engage with your college community, live just minutes from the centre of town, and make life-long friends then Jesus might just be the place for you.

Access Officer, JCSU



Picking a college

You may be wondering what on earth a college is. Well, your college is simply your base in Cambridge – where you will eat, sleep, and where your social life might be centred. There are loads of fantastic colleges to pick between in Cambridge; it may seem like a daunting decision to make – so we've put together this handy guide to help you make your decision.



Why did you pick Jesus College?

6 When I was deciding which college to apply to, I made a shortlist of the colleges that fitted with the main areas I wanted. Even before I came to visit Cambridge, the fact that Jesus had a reputation for good food, and had free washing machines, meant it was already in my good books. I then visited the four or so colleges on my shortlist on the Open Day, and had the best gut reaction to Jesus - the college's grounds are beautiful and the people showing me around were really nice!

– Ellen, History, Sheffield

Where will I live?

Accommodation is perhaps Jesus College's greatest asset, and it is frequently considered amongst the best in Cambridge.

Most first years will live in Chapel Court, or Library Court, where the vast majority of rooms are en-suite. Both are beautiful on the outside, but also really cosy on the inside.

North Court is another option for first years, and with a slightly longer tenancy is great for students for whom travel is inconvenient. After your first year, the ballot system gives you the choice of where to live (and who with). Many students opt to live in one of the many college houses which are just outside of the main college grounds, and which have a fantastic community feel.

Every staircase has a kitchen or two — which is more often used for socialising than actual cooking! There are also laundry rooms, and storage rooms for leaving your possessions safely over the holidays if you live further afield. Housekeepers visit the staircase most days to clean the kitchen and your bathroom. College accommodation is similar in price to that of many of the other colleges, and any other small bills, such as maintenance, are included in the accommodation bill so you don't have to worry about them!



Where will I eat?

Jesus Caff (our name for college-provided food, many other colleges use 'Hall' or 'Buttery') really is the social centre of the college. The food is brilliant and the menu really varied. An average caff meal might range from around £2-£4. Dietary requirements are also well catered for. Vegetarian options are always available and vegan meals can be made on request.

Speaking of kitchens, the kitchens in first year accommodation have microwaves and hobs, and sufficient fridge space for everyone. But if you want an oven you'll probably have to wait until your second year and you will need to live in one of the college-owned houses.

Like every other college Jesus has Formal Halls, which are basically just cheap three course meals for which you need to wear a gown. Ours are particularly a highlight since they're so cheap (under £7 for three courses isn't bad) and there is one almost every night.

There's a great, relaxed, fun atmosphere.



Facilities

Jesus College prides itself on being a very sporty college (but you don't have to be sporty to study here!) Our sports pitches include rugby, football, cricket, hockey, tennis and many more which can be booked by students and societies alike. The college also boasts a fantastic cardio and weights gym — both of which are free of charge. In addition to this the college boat house is within a short walking distance for those aspiring rowers.

If sport is not your thing, then maybe our music facilities will be more in tune with your needs. The Picken Room, one of our many music practice rooms, features a grand piano and is an ideal space for band practice.

All the college facilities are within a short five minute walk from one another which is super handy, even when you live out in one of the college houses. Also, unlike many other places, the college laundry facilities are completely free. All our mail is delivered to our pigeon holes in the Marshall Room (which is situated in the centre of college) after having been sorted by the porters, making it really easy to keep in touch with those at home.





Social spaces

Aside from its exceptional academic facilities, Jesus also offers a fantastic range of social spaces.

Jesus is now home to West Court, where there is a new JCR (Common Room) with a TV room for film nights, and a games room with a pool table. Across the court is an auditorium which can seat up to 180, and alongside academic conferences will showcase student performances. There is also the modern Roost Café-Bar, serving freshly ground coffee and other hot drinks during the day as well as a range of sandwiches and snacks; a great place to do a little work or meet friends. The bar is open every evening, and serves both alcoholic and soft drinks, including some delicious signature drinks and ale from our in-house brewery, alongside freshly made pizzas and other bar snacks, which are great for when you don't fancy cooking.

Our resident bar team are always up for a chat, and put on lots of events during term time, such as an annual Eurovision party, Nintendo Wii and karaoke tournaments, as well as cocktail-making classes. As well as this, every Saturday evening the student union runs the ever-popular bar quiz with cash prizes for the winning team. For big events, there is the underground bar and function room, with a HD projector, great sound system, and space for all sorts of student events, from 'ents' parties to charity vintage clothes sales.

Lifestyle

There's never a boring moment at Jesus College as there is always something to take part in, with many student societies and events on offer.

Jesus College is renowned for being very good at sport, and its teams are accessible to a range of abilities, with teams often having a first, second and sometimes a third team — so if you've never played a sport before and fancy giving something new a go, there's more than ample opportunity.

If you're looking for something less strenuous Jesus offers a range of musical activities for all tastes and abilities. You can let your hair down at open mic night or whilst listening to one of our talented student bands. Also, the Jesus College Singers (our non-audition choir) always welcome new members to join in.

There are also regular comedy nights, film screenings, and debating clubs. Not to mention regular 'bops', which are themed fancy dress parties which the whole college can attend.

Jesus also holds the annual John Hughes Arts Festival where students get the chance to display their artwork alongside professionals in an exhibition, attend workshops and go to a themed formal hall.



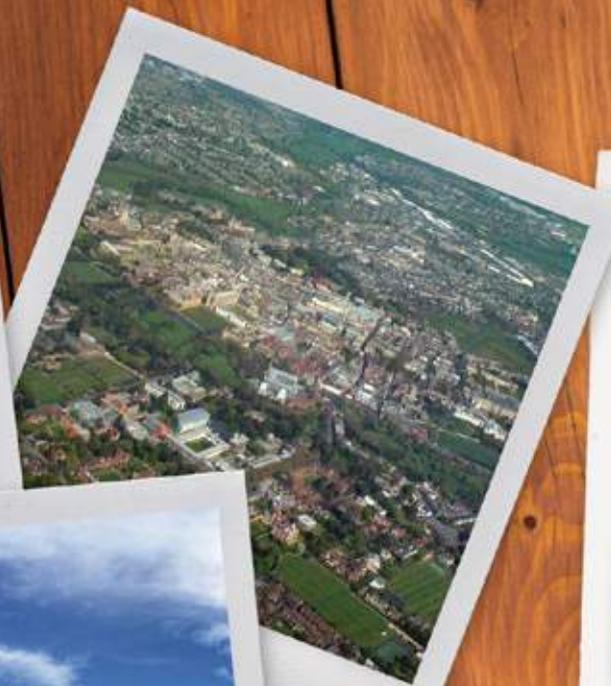
Life in Cambridge

Cambridge is a small city, but it is packed full of things to do. There are two large shopping centres in Cambridge, The Grafton and the Grand Arcade with Jesus located pretty much halfway between the two. Pubs are also plentiful, favourites include the Anchor which looks over the backs of the river, the Eagle where Watson and Crick used to drink when they were residents of the University, and not forgetting the biggest Wetherspoons in Europe, The Regal.

Whilst clubbing will not always give you the variety of a larger city, rest assured you'll still manage to have a good time. Cindies offers mid week cheese whilst if you're more attuned to the indie music then Fez might be more your scene.

There are also a host of music venues from the Corn Exchange to Cambridge Junction, and a range of theatres including the student run ADC Theatre — home to the world famous Footlights.

Cambridge is also full of green spaces, especially the parks surrounding Jesus, where you can find the freshers' fair, bonfire night and the annual strawberry fair at various points of the year right on your doorstep. There's also an indoor vintage fair that visits around twice a term, and a daily market in the square selling everything from vinyl records to sushi.



Learning at Jesus

At Cambridge, most of your teaching is organised by your faculty so you will attend lectures, seminars and lab work etc with students from other colleges. However, supervisions (small teaching classes) will normally take place in your own college with a very small teaching group. If Jesus doesn't have a fellow specialising in your subject area, don't worry they will make arrangements for you to see a supervisor at a different college.

Each student also has a Director of Studies (DoS) who is there to monitor and help you with your academic progress. A DoS is normally only responsible for a handful of students meaning that you get to know one another quite well. This comes in very handy if you ever need to speak to them about a problem, academic or otherwise.

Studying at Cambridge is a lot of fun, but also requires some hard graft, meaning you will spend at least some of your time in the library. Which is great news because at Jesus we have one of the best!

Although we are an old college, our library was only built in the 1990s meaning it is light, spacious and has everything you need, from open plan booths, to a dedicated computer room, to private study rooms. You'll also find the majority of the books required for your course and if there is something missing, you can request it for it to be ordered.



Support and welfare

Students at Jesus are represented by the elected Jesus College Students Union (JCSU). The role of the JCSU is to organise events and services for students at Jesus and also to represent our views back to college and other groups within the university. There are many different roles on the committee, from Events to Green Officer, and a number of representational roles including Women's, LGBT+, Mental Health and Disabilities and BME Officers.

Students at Cambridge can access a variety of different forms of support and resources from the University. There is a counselling service, telephone lines and support networks and the Disability Resource Centre to name but a few.

However college also has many different welfare provisions. The JCSU put on welfare events like drop-ins each week where you can privately talk to a member of the JCSU welfare team, and a weekly welfare cake when everyone gets together in the common room to eat free snacks and cake!

There is a team of Tutorial Advisors who students can contact with any issue they might be facing. There is also a college nurse, physiotherapist and counsellor who can provide support and treatments and a college dean who welcomes people of all faiths.

Finances

As well as the standard loans for tuition fees and maintenance you can get from the government, there are a whole host of different grants available from college and the university for those in financial need! The Cambridge Bursary Scheme provides grants of up to £3,500 a year (or potentially more if you're a mature student or a care leaver) to students from low income backgrounds. College also award grants for travelling and studying, music, sport and academic achievement.

Since Cambridge terms are only 8 weeks long, students here don't really have part-time jobs. There are a few opportunities to make some spare cash, like selling event tickets or working at open days but most concentrate on studying or just enjoying themselves instead. Many students also get jobs over the vacation or take part in internships as our holidays are so long.

Not enough to go home for weekend!

- Pay Rent
- Buy Food
- Get Books
- Stationary
- party Saturday!
- Pay Phone bill

Cars/Parking/Clothes

Potential estimated costs:

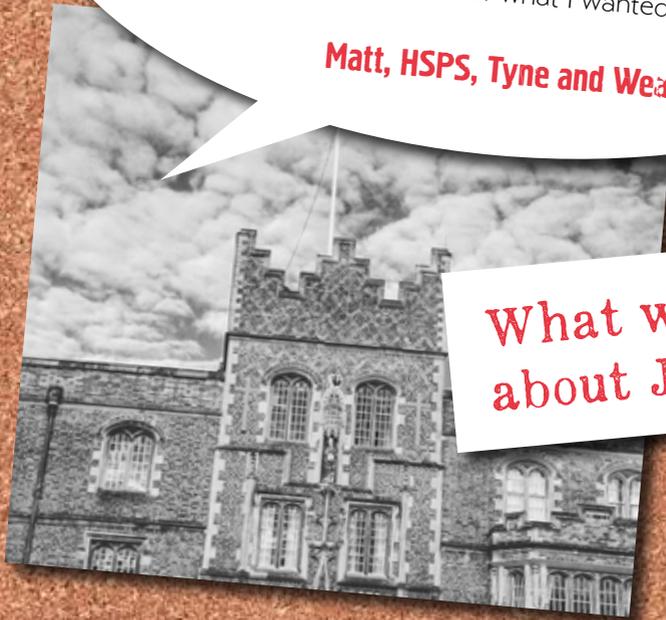
Rent starts from around £100 per week. A meal in Caff might cost you £2.50 upwards, but lots of people self cater. Entertaining yourself is also pretty cheap: pints in the college bar are around £2-3, in local pubs £4, going to a nightclub around £3-5, whilst a theatre trip will set you back £5 or more. Transport is pretty much free as most students walk or cycle everywhere. Books are also free, as college and department libraries will have every book you need!

Ask a student

Why did you choose Cambridge?

"I put a lot of thought into what would be the best place for me to study, considering things like the course, the kind of place that I'd like to live, and the stuff I like to get up to outside of academic work too, and Cambridge ticked all the boxes. I got to move away from home, and my choice of course, HSPS, is unique to Cambridge - pretty much everything was perfect for what I wanted from my uni!"

Matt, HSPS, Tyne and Wear



What would I change about Jesus?

"Jesus formals are an institution, and are one of Cambridge's quirkiest traditions. They're a great chance to socialise and escape studying, and the perfect way to celebrate a friend's birthday. However, on a hot summer day it can get a little warm in the hall! It'd be fun to have dress down formals."

Alex, Economics

What is Freshers' Week like?

Freshers' Week is the best opportunity to meet new people and take time to settle in at the start of the year. Everyone was incredibly friendly, and the casual atmosphere of events organised especially for freshers, such as the college family tea party, and 90s 'bop' certainly helped me feel at home."

Carina, Law, Hong Kong

College Map



Ask a student

What kind of opportunities does studying at Jesus allow you?

"Being a student is about so much more than just studying at Jesus. I have had the opportunity to try out so many new things. I work as a Student Ambassador giving talks in schools and I've also sat on our college Student Union twice. As a languages student travelling to other countries to practice my language skills is quite important and Jesus College has provided me with travel grants on two occasions. What's even better is that everyone can apply for these travel grants!"

**Anthony, Spanish and Russian,
Gateshead**

What is the best thing about living at Jesus?

"The best thing about Jesus is the close, family feel that it has amongst the students. From moving in day on the first day of Freshers' week we were made to feel instantly welcome."

Hannah, Law, Swansea



What are the most important things to consider when choosing a college?

"I recommend writing a list of everything you want from university and college life, in order of importance, and then looking at the colleges and seeing what they offer, and finally checking them out - in person if you can, but you can get a good idea of college character even from online photos! But don't worry if you're not sure, you'll be perfectly happy and settled at any of the Cambridge colleges."

**Lauren, Natural Sciences,
Tyne and Wear**

Top ten things about being a Jesuan

1 People: whether it be the catering staff, the porters or the students, everyone at Jesus is considered a 'Jesuan': warm, kind, welcoming, and above all a whole lot of fun.

2 Atmosphere: Jesus is a super positive environment to live and work in. Everyone enjoys the laid back atmosphere, the friendly vibes, and the sociable feel of the college.

3 Location: Jesuans are really lucky that our college is in such a prime location. Our Porters' Lodge is just minutes from the very centre of town and the college backs onto sprawling fields, so it really is the best of both worlds.

4 Accommodation: frequently cited as amongst the best in the university, our accommodation is in an almost constant cycle of improvement which means it always feels fresh, modern and homely.

5 Food: 'Caff' is the centre of college life, offering fantastically varied food and bringing the whole college together for brunch on Saturday. Not to mention our new café which offers a whole range of delectable treats to try!



6 The grounds: Jesuans love the expansive grounds of the college, whether they want to have lunch in the orchard, take a stroll around the nature trail, or make the most of our many sports pitches.

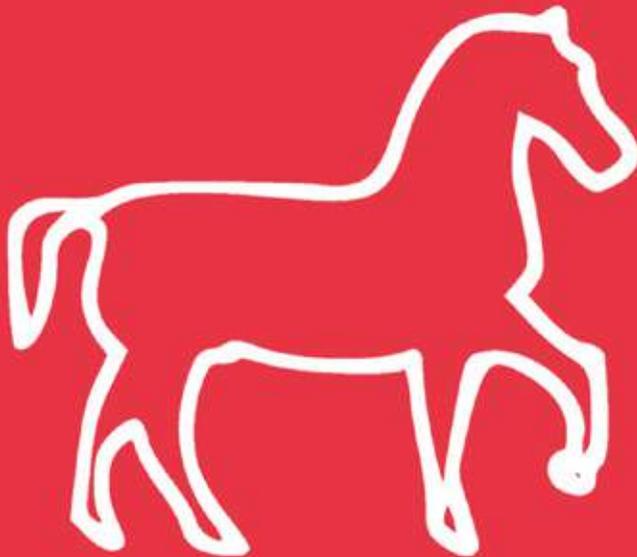
7 Mucking in: There's a real community vibe in college, and we all love to get stuck in. You'll always find our student union meetings full to the brim and the sidelines of sports matches packed with Jesus supporters in red and black.

8 Social life: Open-mic nights, comedy gigs, bops, quiz nights, bar crawls, cheap formals. You name it, we've got it!

9 Feeling at home: Jesus really does feel like a home away from home. Living in such close proximity to your pals in such a friendly environment mean that the friends you leave Jesus with will feel more like family.

10 Quirks: Jesuans are really proud of everything that makes our college unique, such as the endless bank of 'Jesus' related puns. You'll have to pay a visit to find out the rest....

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made by current students to give you an insight into our Jesus College