SELF-GUIDED TOURS
Feel free to use these self-guided walking tours to discover our spectacular campus. Wear comfortable shoes, as this will help you navigate our campus terrain. Also, we recommend you dress in layers for our variable coastal climate. If you are not taking the campus shuttle to the starting points, please stop by the kiosk at the Main Entrance and purchase a day parking pass (7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. From 1 to 5 p.m., all permits must be purchased at the TAPS Sales Office located in the H Barn.)

If you miss anything on the tour, you can view our virtual tour online at any time: admissions.ucsc.edu/#virtualtour

East Campus Tour
(90–120 minutes)

Highlights: Cowell, Stevenson, Crown, and Merrill Colleges; Humanities/Social Sciences Complex; McHenry Library; Quarry Plaza; Bay Tree Bookstore; Student Union; East Field House (sports facility).

1. From the Main Entrance drive up to the second stoplight. Turn left on Hagar Drive, and drive up the hill, passing meadows and the East Remote Parking Lot. Turn right into the Parking Lot 103A for the East Field House. If you do not have a parking pass, park in one of the paystalls and purchase a permit at the paystation. Your walk starts here. The main physical education and recreation facilities are located here, including a fitness center, a gymnasium, dance and martial arts studios, an Olympic-sized swimming pool, and several playing fields and courts.

2. Turn right out of the parking lot and walk up Hagar Drive, watching for Steinhart Way, which will be on the left. Turn onto Steinhart Way, where you will go by Quarry Plaza on your right. Turn immediately left again onto Hahn Road. In a short distance, you’ll come to Hahn Student Services, a large gray building on your right. It contains offices for Student Housing, Admissions, the Registrar, and Financial Aid.

3. Walk past the North Entry of Hahn (so labeled), turn left and walk along the west side of the building. At the end of the building, turn right, walk across the bridge, and veer right to McHenry Library. Note that toward the end of the walkway you cross over a path; you’ll use this path to return to Hahn. McHenry Library is five stories high and contains group study rooms, a laptop area, the Global Village Café, and “Dead Central,” UC Santa Cruz’s celebrated Grateful Dead Archive.

4. After you have seen the library, find the path under the bridge that you were just on. Follow it through the woods until you reach Hahn Road; turn left and head back up to Quarry Plaza. Cross the street and walk through the Plaza. You will see the Bay Tree Bookstore on your right and Café Ivêta on your left. The Bay Tree Bookstore offers books, computers and software, and an enormous selection of Slug memorabilia. The Bay Tree Building also houses the Ethnic Resource Centers and the Career Center.

5. Walk to the end of Quarry Plaza and climb the right-hand stairs. When you reach the top, you are facing McLaughlin Drive; Hagar Drive is just to your right. Cross McLaughlin at the crosswalk and take the stairs directly in front of you which lead uphill. Climb the hill; at the top, continue straight to the double flight of stairs. Pass straight through the residence hall courtyard to the parking area. Turn right and come to a sign for Crown College. Enter the plaza with the fountain. Follow signs to Banana Joe’s Café, then continue on through Merrill College, passing the Merrill Cultural Center on your left. Veer right and walk through the Merrill quad, ending at the Gate House on your right. You will soon see a traffic circle with sculptures in it ahead on the left. As you stand and look at the circle, take the path on your right that descends down the hill. Take the steps a short way along that path on your left. At the fork, continue down the stairs to your left.

6. When you regain McLaughlin Drive, walk to your right and cross at the flashing light to the Humanities Lecture Hall. Walk down Cowell-Stevenson Road, passing the Humanities Complex immediately on your right. Proceed about another 150 yards down to a traffic circle with a stand of redwoods in its center. Bear right out of the traffic circle down a few stairs to the entry portico to Cowell College. Walk into Cowell College, cross the courtyard, and step to the railing for a great view. On a clear day, you’ll see the ocean from here.

7. To get to Stevenson College, retrace your steps back out through
the Cowell College entryway and take the sidewalk to the immediate right. Follow it down past the Eloise Pickard Smith Gallery and on to the entrance to Stevenson College. Enter Stevenson. Walk past the Stevenson Café and past the Event Center to another charming quad. Looking toward the ocean, exit the quad down a small set of steps and turn right on the road in front of Casa 9 and Casa 11. Proceed along that road enjoying the meadow view to your left. Continue on until you pass between Apartment 3 (on the right) and the Cowell Provost House (on the left). At the main road, turn left and then in a short distance left again into the Lot 103A where you started.

Central Campus Tour
(45-75 minutes)

Highlights: Science Hill; Colleges Nine and Ten; Jack Baskin School of Engineering.

1. If you are touring during a weekday, stop at the Main Entrance Kiosk to purchase a daily parking permit. (Permits aren’t needed on weekends where you’ll be parking.) Go back out the Main Entrance and turn right onto Empire Grade; take the West Entrance into campus. Proceed up Heller Drive to the Core West Parking Structure, which will be on your right just shy of McLaughlin Drive. Turn right to enter the structure. You are entering the Parking Structure on the west side. Park and take note of what level you are on. On foot, exit through the corner stairs on the east side of the building. Leave the structure stairs at level 1 onto a paved footpath that skirts a small ravine. The footpath ends at Steinhart Way; cross at the crosswalk and find the sidewalk between two small parking areas. Take the five-step concrete staircase ahead of you. Immediately turn left and walk along the concrete corridor until you are under an overpass. To your right is Thimann Labs 8, which houses the Biology advising office; ahead off to the right is a courtyard with a well-known sea lion sculpture. Before that courtyard, take the set of stairs on the left. At the top, a curving path leads to Sinsheimer Labs, which houses the Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology Department.

2. With the curving entrance to your back, enter the brick plaza. On your left you will see the Science and Engineering Library. Turn to the right; Natural Sciences 2 is on your left, and the Natural Sciences Annex is on your right. Walk between these two buildings and descend the stairs.

3. At the bottom of the stairs, take an immediate left, walking under the futuristic “flying buttress” seismic retrofits of Natural Sciences 2. If the building is open, visit the Center for Adaptive Optics on your right to see its unusual open space plan. Past the Center for Adaptive Optics on the right is Earth and Marine Sciences, another building with an interesting lobby.

4. The Interdisciplinary Sciences Building, on your left, is home to Environmental Studies. Walk to the end of it, and turn left. After you pass the building, you will see a pedestrian bridge on your right. Cross the bridge and stay on the sidewalk to McLaughlin Drive. Walk to the right to the intersection with College Ten Road; cross the street. Take the footpath that climbs to your right. Now you are in the complex of Colleges Nine and Ten 7. To the north are the Colleges Nine and Ten Apartments and the International Living Center (ILC). Turn left at the sign for Terry Freitas Café. Climb the stairs, veer to the right, and continue uphill until you come to the University Center on your right. On the ground floor is the Colleges Nine and Ten Dining Commons. Upstairs is Terra Fresca, a lively restaurant open to faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

5. Continue past the University Center; ahead and to the left you will see Social Sciences 2. At the far end of the charming grassy meadow on your right, you’ll see Social Sciences 1. Turn left and walk in front of Social Sciences 2 to the traffic circle. Turn left again and descend College Ten Road back to McLaughlin. Turn right
and stay on the sidewalk, crossing a bridge over the Moore Creek drainage. When the sidewalk ends, take the crosswalk across Red Hill Road, staying on the same side of McLaughlin; then follow the small footpath up a slight hill. Bear left at the fork in the footpath. On your right is the Communications Building, which houses our well-known Department of Film and Digital Media. Bear right at the next fork. Ahead of you is the Engineering 2 (E2) building on the right, and to the left Baskin Engineering. Bear left around the traffic circle and cross the street to Engineering. Follow the roadway, which veers left towards a long flight of steps going up the hill, or veering left into the woods; take the path into the forest.

2. Walk five minutes through a grove of trees to Oakes College 9. Enter the Oakes quad by veering left after you leave the woods. Cross the grassy quad, where classrooms and offices are on your left, and descend the stairs at the end of the yard. Turn right and skirt the Oakes Café. Turn right again at the end of the building and then climb the stairs at the end of the building to return to the yard. Retrace your steps to the entrance of Oakes College. As you exit from Oakes, follow the roadway, which veers left after the traffic circle. Turn right just after you pass Building 6 (also on your right), and walk between the Rachel Carson College 12 dorms. Take the second set of stairs to your right, cross a small quad, and continue up several staircases to the arch. When you reach the top, catch your breath by stopping and turning 180 degrees to see the ocean view.

3. Follow College Eight Road out to Heller Drive. Cross at the crosswalk and continue up the path. The Porter Wave sculpture is to your left. Continue along the footpath until you see the restrooms in the Porter Academic Building. Here you can enter the southwest corner of the Porter College 10 courtyard, where you will find the Koi Pond. Upstairs is the Mary Porter Sesnon Art Gallery. Turn left after the Koi Pond to exit the courtyard, and then turn right. Walk between the two residence halls of Porter College, noting the “Cosmic Maypole” in the Porter quad and the many murals reflecting Porter’s creative and artistic traditions, plus its large-scale chess board (chess pieces may be borrowed from the...
Porter College is home to the popular Transfer Community, a living/learning community for transfer students.

4. Continue across Porter-Kresge Road and walk between the Porter-Kresge apartments. At the end of the apartment complex, turn left to get on the roadway, and then turn right. Walk past Parking Lot 147 on the right and Kresge Gardens on the left; look right for the Kresge College sign. The entrance to Kresge is on your right. Enter Kresge, following the climbing path with apartments 111-214 on your left. Keep climbing, going to the right of a small plaza, past Classroom 319 and Classroom 327. You’ll be walking around the Classroom 317/319 Building and up some wide, zig-zagging steps that require some caution. Walk through the long corridor of Bauhaus-style dorms. When you reach the final plaza, turn right down deep stairs, entering the woods. Cross the bridge back to Heller Drive.

5. Use the crosswalk to cross Heller and then continue down McLaughlin Drive, keeping the Core West Parking Structure on your right. Turn right at Steinhart and follow the sidewalk. Stay on Steinhart until you come to Kerr Road; turn right onto the stairs just past Kerr Road. At the bottom of the stairs you will be in the Kerr Hall traffic circle. Follow it around to turn left on Kerr Road.

6. Soon you will come to a vista where, on a cloudless day, Monterey Bay sparkles below you. To your right is the Theater Arts Complex where you can see the Mainstage, Media Theater, and other facilities. To your left is the Elena Baskin Visual Arts Center. The center includes facilities for drawing, painting, installations, photography, casting, sculptural construction, and printmaking. Beyond the Arts Center is a spectacular view of the ocean. Continue walking down Kerr Road to Parking Lot 126, which is where you parked.

7. As time permits, go to the east end of the parking lot and explore the Music Center. Housing the Music Department, the center includes a recital hall, an ensemble rehearsal hall, a performance studio, electronic music studios, a gamelan studio, classrooms, and practice rooms.

### Accessibility

If you have a disability-related need to park close to buildings, you have several options at UCSC:

- You can park in accessible parking spaces (also known as “disabled” or “handicap” parking spaces) if you have a DMV placard or plate.
- You can park in Medical spaces if you have a UCSC Medical parking permit. Medical spaces were created to accommodate those who need to park close due to disability-related reasons, but don’t need the extra width provided by accessible parking spaces. Medical permits are obtained by providing medical documentation to either the Disability Resource Center (for students) or to the TAPS Sales Office (for faculty or staff).
- If you have a DMV placard, you can park in metered spaces without paying the meter fee, or in 10-, 15-, or 20-minute spaces for longer than the posted time.

Please see ada.ucsc.edu for more information on accessibility, including elevators on campus and a wheelchair user’s guide.

**College Eight was renamed Rachel Carson College in the fall of 2016.**

The theme of the college, founded in 1972, is “Environment and Society.” Its new name celebrates that legacy and honors conservationist and writer Rachel Carson (1907-64) for her courage and pivotal role in awakening the public to environmental issues. The renaming was made possible by a gift from the Helen and Will Webster Foundation.