Taking a campus tour is the first step to choosing your college of choice

“Test drive” your future school by taking a campus tour

Campus tours are critical in deciding your next four years

Visit your prospective college this spring!

Deciding where to go to college is a huge decision made up of a hundred small ones.

Do you want to stay close to home or move far away? Go somewhere that you will know people or somewhere where you know no one? What about class size? Campus culture? Football school or no?

Making such a huge decision can seem overwhelming, but look at it like buying a car. You may not know exactly what car you want, but you know which features are important. Maybe you know you want a small SUV, leather interior, great gas mileage, and heated seats. Now you just have to find the car that meets that description at a price you’re willing to pay.

And of course, before you buy the car, you’re going to want to drive it. College is no different.

You can’t decide where to live, eat, sleep, and study for the next four years without at least one visit to the campus. A test drive, if you will.

There are just some things you can’t learn from a university website. What’s the vibe on campus? Does it “feel” like the right place? What about the area around campus? At the University of West Alabama, we firmly believe that a campus visit to Livingston will be a critical part of your decision-making process. Here are some things you’ll learn for yourself with an on-campus visit:

- **It’s a beautiful campus.** The University of West Alabama is the perfect combination of town and country life. It’s situated in the middle of Livingston, but the campus is a natural haven filled with tons of trees, a 52-acre lake, and a duck pond with a covered bridge—one of just a few covered bridges left in Alabama.

- **You can “get away from it all” without leaving campus.** College can be stressful, with plenty of class time and homework to occupy your day and your brain. Having a quiet place to escape and be still can have a therapeutic effect, and UWA has plenty of serene spots. Many students like to set up their Enos on campus and simply relax. The school’s natural beauty provides a tranquilizing break in the day—a way to escape school for a bit.

- **The campus isn’t overwhelming.** While UWA offers a full array of courses and a comprehensive traditional college experience, the campus itself is very manageable. Our typical campus tour covers the whole campus in less than an hour, which means you can easily get from one class to another without running at a full sprint.

- **Campus tours aren’t over-the-top.** Even though you can easily get from one end of campus to the other in about 15 minutes, you won’t have to walk on your campus tour (this is Alabama, after all… it’s hot!). You and your guide will be chauffeured by campus van or golf cart, so you also include parents or grandparents who might otherwise not be able to make the trip.
UWA has strong ties to the Livingston community. Half the fun of going away to college is meeting new people, being exposed to new ideas, and growing in the process. UWA is part of a vibrant West Alabama town, not just an isolated university unto itself. Sitting squarely in the center of Livingston fosters a strong connection between the “town” and the “gown” side of the community.

Scheduling a campus tour at the University of West Alabama is as simple as contacting the Admissions Office. Or you can take advantage of the school’s annual **Preview Day**, coming April 7th. You’ll get an in-depth look at campus (at no cost to you, of course) and have the chance to meet the people who staff the school’s Admissions Department as well as the UWA president. You can even meet with representatives – and sometimes faculty members – from your proposed area of study, so you can get the inside scoop on which tracks are available as well as a candid perspective on what opportunities truly exist in your major.

The Preview Day also includes lunch and free tickets to a UWA Tigers baseball game. It’s a great chance to get a feel for the campus, meet some other prospective students, and even talk to a few current students about what life is like at UWA.

Preview Day is 10am – 1pm, and space is limited, so contact the UWA Admissions Office at 1-800-621-8044 to reserve your spot.

Even before you visit the UWA campus, it’s clear the University offers a unique balance of a small campus with a large variety of courses. It offers the weekend fun of college football without the overwhelming influx of fans. And tuition price point is one that stands out from other, larger schools in the state. But a quick drive to Livingston should seal the deal… after all, this is the place you’ll call home for the next four years.