



Girton College



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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“The atmosphere was very welcoming and friendly when I visited at the open day, and I thought the history of the college was very inspiring and something I wanted to be a part of.”

Welcome to Girton

Founded in 1869, Girton College was the first residential college offering university-level education for women. This established us as an institution whose pioneering commitment to equality and diversity changed the educational world. This commitment remains unchanged. The college became mixed gender in 1977, and there are now roughly equal numbers of men and women students. Girton is known for its friendly, open and inclusive atmosphere, which makes our students' experience so special.

Arts
51%



Sciences
49%



Girton College

OUR HISTORY

Look out for this graphic throughout the prospectus to learn about some of Girton's story.

Best of both worlds

At Girton we get to enjoy the luxury of space, peace and quiet. But don't worry, Cambridge city centre is not a world away.

To the city centre



10-12 minutes



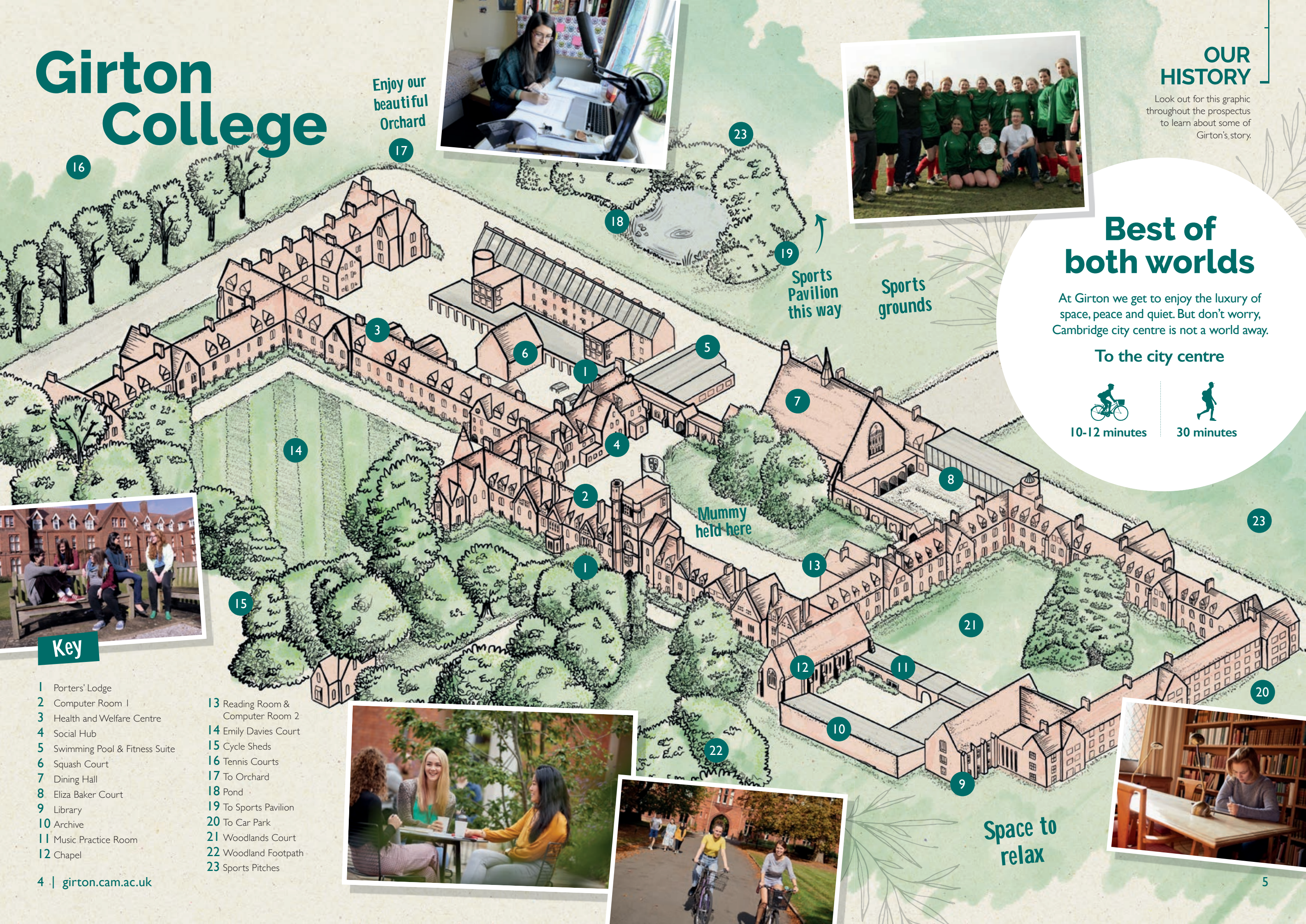
30 minutes



Key

- 1 Porters' Lodge
- 2 Computer Room 1
- 3 Health and Welfare Centre
- 4 Social Hub
- 5 Swimming Pool & Fitness Suite
- 6 Squash Court
- 7 Dining Hall
- 8 Eliza Baker Court
- 9 Library
- 10 Archive
- 11 Music Practice Room
- 12 Chapel
- 13 Reading Room & Computer Room 2
- 14 Emily Davies Court
- 15 Cycle Sheds
- 16 Tennis Courts
- 17 To Orchard
- 18 Pond
- 19 To Sports Pavilion
- 20 To Car Park
- 21 Woodlands Court
- 22 Woodland Footpath
- 23 Sports Pitches

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1869

Only 5 students entered the 'College for Women' when it was founded. Today, Girton is one of the largest Cambridge colleges, with around 500 undergraduate students.

Accommodation

Girton provides accommodation in single study bedrooms for the duration of your undergraduate course. First-years are housed in the main building, while those in subsequent years can choose from rooms in the main site, Swirles Court, or a college-owned house.

In the main college building, there is a wide variety of rooms. Some have period features dating from the earliest days of the college, while others are modern en suites. Swirles Court, built in 2017, is situated in the new Eddington development, and all its rooms are en suite.

“

“Cambridge can be a high pressure environment and living away from the centre in a more relaxed community helps alleviate some of this pressure.”





Student Support

Academic support

All undergraduate students at Cambridge have a Director of Studies (DoS): an expert in their subject who meets with them regularly and oversees their academic welfare. Your DoS will help you to organise supervisions, the small-group teaching which is at the heart of a Cambridge degree. As you progress through your course, you will have supervisions with specialists from Girton and other colleges.

Girton has an active and vibrant academic life, and students have many opportunities to encounter academics in their own subject and beyond. Girton has a programme of study and life skills sessions to complement your regular timetable of university lectures.



“There is structured support in place for both academic and health issues should I need it.”



Cambridge alumnae Suffragette banner



1911

Girton welcomed its most extraordinary resident – Hermione, a first-century AD Roman portrait mummy. Bearing the inscription ‘Hermione Grammatike’ (‘Hermione, teacher’ or ‘literary lady’) the mummy was acquired through subscriptions and fundraising among students, staff and College friends. Now kept in environmentally appropriate conditions, Hermione is one of the few female Egyptian mummies who has a name and the only one with a known profession.



Pastoral support

At Girton, pastoral support is integrated into our friendly community. All students have a personal tutor – a Girton Fellow outside their subject area who can give confidential advice on any pastoral issues. In addition to this, help is available from Directors of Studies, Tutorial Office staff, and the college Chaplain. Students have access to health advice through the college nurses, and counselling services are readily available.



“The porters are really friendly and there is lots of help in place if you are ever feeling stressed or anxious.”



1928

Virginia Woolf
(1882–1941) was invited by the students of Newnham and Girton to visit and give talks at each College. The redrafted paper she read at the Colleges was subsequently published as *A Room of One's Own*, one of the 20th Century's most influential reflections on gender politics.

Library

& other academic resources



The library has
over 1.5 miles
of bookshelves
to browse, and books
in **over 70 languages**

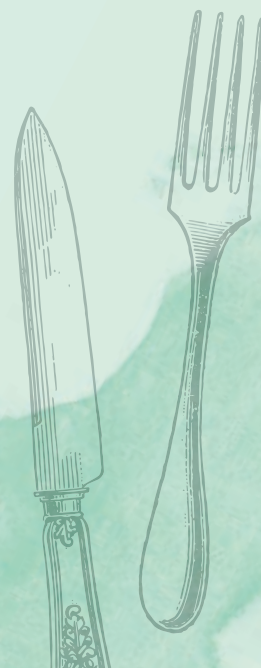
Girton has one of the largest and most comprehensive college libraries, set in a tranquil 1930s building. Alongside its 95,000 books, the library offers access to a spacious IT resource area with desktop computers equipped with specialist software alongside printing and scanning facilities. The knowledgeable library staff are always ready to offer advice on research, writing or IT.

Students at Girton also have access to their faculty libraries and university libraries, as well as collections of articles and ebooks that are accessible from anywhere in the world.



Food & Social Hub

Girton has some of the best food options in Cambridge, with a café and well-equipped kitchens as well as the dining hall.



Dining Hall

There is a wide choice of meals including vegetarian and vegan options, a salad bar, and delicious puddings. The kitchens can also accommodate a variety of dietary requirements. Brunch and roast dinner on Sunday are among the most popular meals of the week.

During term time there is a formal dinner served in the College hall most Thursday nights, at which students can entertain friends from other colleges, invite family and celebrate special occasions.

Social Hub

The Hub offers breakfast and light meals throughout the day. Students and staff often pop in for a quick coffee, or meet friends here to study or socialise. In the evening, the Social Hub transforms into a bar area, where students can relax and hold social events.

Every corridor has a well-equipped communal kitchen and cooking together is something students enjoy, especially on a Saturday evening.



1941-2

Between 1941-2, the college produced over 19 tons of potatoes as part of the war effort.

Girton was the first women's college in the University to become a co-educational institution in November 1976, and since then has been open to the admission of all genders.

A student committee called the JCR organises a wide range of social and welfare events and initiatives to ensure that students feel heard, welcomed and supported in their time at Girton. This includes a college parent scheme, which links new undergraduates with returning students who show them around and act as a friendly face.

Any undergraduate can stand for election; everyone can vote. The JCR helps decide the allocation of funds to College clubs and societies as well as providing a democratic forum for comment and debate.

Boat Club

From May Bumps to the termly boat club dinner, Girton College Boat Club offers its members a wide range of activities both on and off the water. With senior and novice crews for both men and women, the club is open to students of all capabilities. The college rowing community is like no other. It must be, to make those early mornings worthwhile!

Netball

Whether you're a beginner or an expert, netball at Girton caters for all abilities. We have two ladies' teams in the intercollegiate system in different divisions, with the first team coming 6th in division 2 and the second team 6th in division 3 last season. Matches take place every weekend throughout the Michaelmas and Lent terms.

Tennis Society

The Girton Tennis Society promotes tennis among all students by bringing together experienced players and beginners who practice at Girton's brand new courts and compete with other colleges to improve technique and have fun!

GADS (Girton Amateur Dramatic Society)

GADS produces high quality shows each term performed in both Girton and central Cambridge. Both seasoned thespians and those with no experience are welcome to get involved in all areas of theatre, including acting, directing, producing, stage management and more!

Past productions include: "Freshers- A Musical" (Michaelmas 2018), "Pinocchio - A Girton Pantomime" (Michaelmas 2018), "Black Comedy" (Easter 2019), "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Easter 2019).

Choir

Girton Choir is one of the most accomplished, committed and exciting choirs in Cambridge. The benefits of membership are wide-ranging and exciting; the limited time commitment is not only compatible with almost any Tripos subject, it also allows serious musicians a great deal of scope to be pro-active in the College's vibrant and innovative musical life.

Student Societies

- Girton Medical and Veterinary Society
- Girton College Christian Union
- Girton College Board Games Club
- Girton Poetry Group
- Girton Catan-Soc
- Girton Amateur Dramatics Society (GADS)
- The Cartwright Mathematics Society
- Girton FemSoc
- Girton MML Society
- Girton College Music Society (GCMS)
- Girton Engineering
- Girton College Natural Sciences Society
- Reword Zine
- Girton Quizzing Society
- Marble Magazine
- Islamic Society
- Girton History and Politics Society
- Girton Architecture Society
- Girton College Law Society
- Girton Tea Society
- Girton Origami and Puzzle Society
- Joan Robinson Economics Society
- Baking society
- Girton Astronomy Society

A flavour of five of our student societies can be found opposite!



Societies / Sports

We offer two gyms, a wide range of on-site sports facilities, and an indoor heated swimming pool.



2013

The Ash Court residential wing provides 50 student en-suite bedrooms, gym facilities and an indoor swimming pool. The college set ambitious environmental targets to ensure the building yields extremely low levels of energy consumption, and won the Schueco Excellence Awards 2014 for Sustainability.

Grounds & facilities

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“The community here is fantastic, and everything is so inclusive. I also enjoy that sports pitches and other facilities are all on college grounds.”

An advantage of our location is space and Girtonians make full use of this. All of the outdoor areas are available for students to enjoy at any time.

The college has a ‘Green Girton’ initiative and takes seriously the need for environmental responsibility. We are proud that our efforts have been recognised through university-wide green impact awards.

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“The distance from town leads to a really good division between lectures/supervisions and social life in a way that central colleges don’t really get.”





“The people at the college, staff and students, have really helped give me a positive experience. I love the community atmosphere.”





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To the city centre



10-12 minutes



30 minutes

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Cycling and
walking route

