



Sam Houston State University

Visitor Center Self-Guided Tour

Welcome to Sam Houston State University! We are happy that you are interested in our campus, and we hope you will enjoy your self-guided tour. Just follow the path on the map and stop at each marked number to complete your tour!

Stop 1: Your first stop is right here in the **Visitor Center**. The Visitor Center offers guided campus tours on weekdays by appointment. If you would like to come back, you can make an appointment with us by calling **(936) 294-1844** or emailing **visitsam@shsu.edu**. Please proceed out of the Atrium door (facing the Wendy's) and follow the sidewalk to Stop 2.

Stop 2: Before Stop 2, you passed the Evans complex on your *right*. The Evans Complex is where the departments English and Foreign Languages hold their classes. Continue to Stop 3. To your *left* is the Thomason Building, where Agriculture and Industrial technology are held. As you make your way to Stop 3, you will see an entrance to the Sam Houston Press, the campus copy center.

Stop 3: The Bobby K. Marks Administration Building is the yellow structure in front of you at Stop 3. This building houses the office of the university president, James F. Gaertner, and other administrative offices. To the *left* of this building is the Dan Rather Communications building. This is where Communications, Photography, RTV and Journalism classes are held. It also contains our television station (channel 7), radio station (90.5, The Kat), and campus newspaper.

Stop 4: Stop 4 is at the top of a staircase, but don't worry, you won't be going downstairs. From this height you can see the Sam Houston Memorial Museum and its adjoining park (left) *across Sam Houston Ave*. To the *right* of the museum, through the trees you can see Jackson-Shaver Hall. You may look up any of our residence halls and take virtual tours at **www.shsu.edu/reslife**.

Stop 5: On your way to Stop 5, look *left* and down the hill and you will see Academic Building II, where the Family and Consumer Science Department holds classes in Interior Design and Fashion Merchandising. You can also see the freshman dorm Sam Houston Village *across Sam Houston Ave*. At Stop 5 look *north* to see the single-sex residence halls. These are Belvin-Buchanan, Elliott, Estill, and King halls. The slanted basement windows mark Café Belvin, a cafeteria-style dining location on campus.

Stop 6: As you walk to Stop 6 you will pass through the Old Main Memorial, the remnants of the second building built on campus, now an outdoor classroom and a venue called "The Pit." You will also pass by Austin Hall as you walk *south*. Austin Hall was built in 1851 and serves as an historical symbol for our university. As you continue to the next stop you will end up in front of the fountain. To your *left* is the Lowman Student Center which serves students with a book store, art gallery, convenience store Burger King, Pizza Hut, Chick-Fil-A, Quiznos, Einstein's Bagels and offices like Student Activities and the Bearkat OneCard office.

Stop 6.5: This stop offers views of the Music, Theatre, Criminal Justice, University Hotel, and LEMIT buildings. Refer to the map for their locations. The George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center in particular contains a police academy and courtroom.

Stop 7: As you stroll through “The Mall” area towards Stop 7 on your *right* will be the Smith-Huston Building. This is where Business classes are held, but also Management, Marketing, and Advertising classes as well. On the *left* you see Academic Building 1 where Political Science, Computer Science and Sociology classes are held. In the glassed-in corner of this building (closest to the library) you see an example of a computer lab. This lab in particular is the 24-hour lab. At Stop 7 you see the Newton-Gresham Library which is the university library, but also contains a computer lab, study rooms, and copy center.

Stop 8: This stop takes you right by the Teacher Education Center. Teaching has been important here at Sam Houston since our beginning as the first teacher training school in the southwest United States in 1879. If you look *east* you can see Bowers Stadium where the Bearkats play football, and behind which is the Baseball/Softball Complex. If you look *right* you can see Bernard G. Johnson Coliseum, where all of our Basketball and Volleyball games are played and graduation ceremonies are held.

Stop 9: Across Bowers Blvd and to the left you can see the Health and Kinesiology Center. In addition to taking health and kinesiology classes, this is where students can workout. There is a 34-foot rock wall, ten thousand square feet of weights and elliptical machines, 8 racquetball courts, 4 basketball courts, an eighth mile indoor track, and outside a heated pool and tennis courts. Behind this building you can see Raven Village, an apartment-style dorm for upperclassman. To the right of the Health and Kinesiology Center is White Hall, a co-ed dorm.

Stop 10: You will turn *right* in front of Academic Building IV. This classroom building holds the departments of Psychology, Philosophy, History, and Library Science. On the first floor you can find the Testing Center and the Honors and Academic Scholarships Office. Also in this building is the SAM Advising and Mentoring Center, where many students go as freshman to be advised about what classes to take before they register for classes. (Students interested in Criminal Justice degrees will go to that department to be advised.) To your far *left* is Academic Building III where the ROTC and Dance departments reside.

Stop 11: You will pass the Lee Drain Building on your *right*. This is where Mathematics, Biology, Geology, Geography, and Pre-Professional Program classes are held. Your last stop will put you between the Farrington and Estill Buildings. The Farrington Building on your *left* contains classrooms for Physics and Astronomy and also the Writing Center, Reading Center, and Math Lab which offer various kinds of tutoring. If you look ahead of you *across Bowers Blvd* you see the Chemistry and Forensic Science Building. To your *right* is the Estill Classroom Building, where you can find the Admissions, Financial Aid, and Cashier’s offices. Beyond the Chemistry and Forensic Science Building is the Art Complex which you can’t see, but is made up of 6 buildings. There is a building for every discipline of art, 2 galleries, a kiln, and a sculpture garden.

This concludes your tour of Sam Houston State University. We hope you enjoyed your “mini-tour” and invite you to visit again and talk to us in person about any questions or concerns. You may contact the university toll free at **1-866-BEARKAT** (232-7528) X 1844 or online at **www.shsu.edu/visitor**. Thank you again, and we hope you had a great time touring SHSU!