



Royal
Agricultural
University



A place to call home

Student accommodation guide

rau.ac.uk

Hello and welcome

Make yourself at home

Whether you choose to live on campus surrounded by the rolling hills of the Cotswolds or off campus in the heart of the town, the RAU is a place you can call home.

The University is large enough that many facilities are on-site, yet small enough to create a close-knit community that inspires students to consider us a home from home. With a population of around 1,100 students, we are more like a community than a campus.

Location

Our stunning campus, which is within walking distance of the bustling town of Cirencester, is surrounded by beautiful countryside and is also within striking distance of urban adventure.

Cirencester is a thriving cultural hub. With plenty of restaurants, unique boutique shops and popular night spots, it's easy to see why so many students never want to leave – even after graduating.

Bath, Bristol, Oxford, and Cheltenham are all within an hour of the University and London is less than 90 minutes away by direct train. The University is a 90-minute drive from London Heathrow and within two hours of Bristol and Birmingham airports.

Living on campus

There are a lot of benefits to living on campus at the RAU. You'll get to know the university and be right in the heart of the action.

The RAU offers catered and self-catered accommodation on campus, just a few minutes' walk to the library and study areas, restaurant, Retreat Café, shop, lecture blocks, Students' Union bar, laundrette, gym and sports facilities. There is also a free shuttle bus to Cirencester and the RAU farms, plus car parking on site.

Student Support

A whole team of welfare and pastoral support staff are available to you whilst living on campus. From our dedicated Student Support Services team and Accommodation Officer to our Student Team Advice Representatives (STARs) and University Nurse – there is always someone close by.



The RAU was again named safest university in England and Wales according to the Complete University Guide



Add a personal touch

You might like to bring:

- ✓ alarm clock
- ✓ bed linen
- ✓ clothes ailer
- ✓ coat hangers
- ✓ coat
- ✓ waterproofs
- ✓ wellies
- ✓ cushions
- ✓ throws
- ✓ rugs
- ✓ cutlery
- ✓ crockery
- ✓ mugs
- ✓ extension lead
- ✓ laptop/desktop PC
- ✓ laundry basket
- ✓ printer
- ✓ towels
- ✓ TV/DVD player and TV licence
- ✓ TV aerial/cable

Already in your room:

- ✓ single bed
- ✓ bedside table
- ✓ chair
- ✓ desk
- ✓ wardrobe
- ✓ kettle
- ✓ lamp
- ✓ noticeboard

Please don't bring:

- ✗ heater
- ✗ candles
- ✗ blu tack

NB: Any electrical items will need to be PAT tested. This is a free service offered on site when you arrive.

Halls of residence

Our range of accommodation on campus includes standard rooms with shared bathroom facilities, ensuite rooms and twin rooms, as well as quiet bedrooms. All accommodation includes a housekeeping service, out-of-hours security and Wi-Fi.

You have the option to stay in full board, half board or self-catered accommodation, with a 35-week contract. There are also some 28-week contracts available, where you vacate your room for 3 weeks at Christmas and 4 weeks at Easter.

Full or half board catering meal options are available in the main restaurant and the Retreat Café, both offering a selection of hot and cold dishes. We can cater for special dietary needs but please advise us of your dietary requirement(s) at the time of booking your accommodation.

Please note accommodation is allocated on a first come, first served basis.

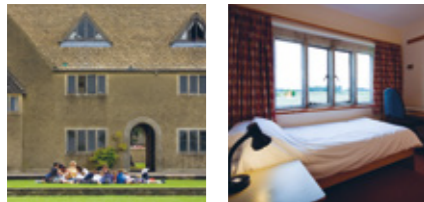
“Vic Hughes was really sociable, where everyone met up in the common room after a day of lectures.”

Freddie, Vic Hughes

Bledisloe Court

59 standard, single bedrooms

These rooms have a light, airy feel with some enjoying views across farmland towards the village of Coates. Bledisloe Court is divided into six houses on three levels. Each house has nine or ten standard, single bedrooms with a wash basin and shared toilet and shower facilities.



Coad Court

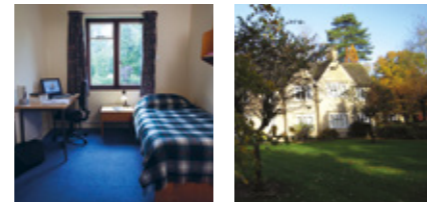
44 ensuite, single and 9 standard, single bedrooms

Coad Court is located centrally within the accommodation buildings and is split into 11 houses. These large, bright bedrooms (some with stunning country views) are either single ensuite or standard single rooms including their own wash basins, with access to shared toilet and shower facilities. Ground floor rooms are available with accessible facilities.

Garden House

11 standard, single bedrooms with shared facilities

Garden House offers quiet, catered accommodation for overseas and postgraduate students. All rooms are standard, single with shared bathroom facilities, a student lounge and a fitted kitchen.



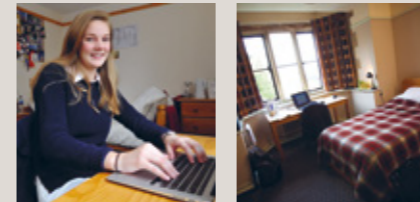
“A modern, self-catered block, right in the heart of everything on campus.”

Rhys, West Lodge

Main Building

33 ensuite rooms

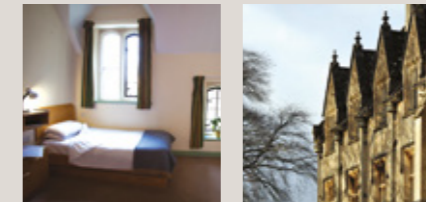
Housed in the oldest part of the main RAU building dating back to 1845 are 33 spacious bedrooms of varying types. All are ensuite single bedrooms, with twin-bedded rooms available on request. There is also a large, airy common room for use by Main Building residents.



George Wing

20 standard, single bedrooms

These 20 single bedrooms are housed in the main building across two floors. All are lovely single bedrooms with their own basin and shared bathroom facilities. There is also a large, shared common room for use by both Main Building and George Wing residents.



Vic Hughes Hall 1 and 2

26 ensuite, single and 26 self-catered, single bedrooms

Vic Hughes Hall 1 is a self-catered block containing 26 quiet ensuite bedrooms, some of which are accessible.

Vic Hughes Hall 2 is a well-lit catered block with airy ensuite bedrooms and a communal lounge area on the ground floor.



Woodlands Lodge 1, 2 and 3

48 ensuite bedrooms

Woodlands Lodge 1 (Quiet Block) contains 13 large ensuite bedrooms with a common room and basic kitchenette for residents to use.

Woodlands Lodge 2 offers large ensuite bedrooms over two storeys, with a common room and basic kitchenette. Some of these rooms may be used as ensuite twin bedrooms if required and accessible facilities are available.

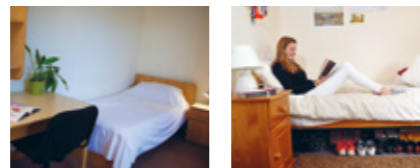
Woodlands Lodge 3 has small ensuite bedrooms, located close to the main teaching blocks. Please note that Woodlands Lodge 3 doesn't have its own common room.



West Lodge

58 ensuite, self-catered, single bedrooms

This self-catered block contains 58 ensuite bedrooms divided across two halls with the added comfort of under-floor heating provided by the University biomass boiler. There is a spacious communal lounge and fully fitted kitchen on each floor. Accessible facilities are available.



How to apply

Once you have firmly accepted a conditional or unconditional offer from the RAU as your first choice, you may apply for accommodation. Applications are processed on a first come, first served basis so we recommend that you get your accommodation application to us as soon as possible.

All applications will need to be made via the online Applicants Portal MyRAU at applicants.rau.ac.uk and you will receive instruction on how to access this once you have been offered a place to study at the RAU and confirmed us of your first choice.

To secure your room, you'll need to pay a £200 pre-payment, via MyRAU. You should receive confirmation of your accommodation by the end of August, which you will need to accept or decline within 14 days. Once you have confirmed your accommodation offer, we will contact you with further details such as hall of residence, how to pay and the terms and conditions of residency.

Accommodation fees 2020/21

The charges below are an annual rate, given as a guide only. Please visit: rau.ac.uk/university-life/accommodation/living-on-campus for the most up-to-date information.

Standard occupancy contract 20 September 2020 – 23 May 2021 inclusive.**

Room type	Location	Annual price Half board*	Annual price Full board	Annual price Self-catered
Standard single	George Wing Main Building, Bledisloe Court, Coad Court, Garden House	£5,985	£6,755	N/A
Large standard single	Bledisloe Court	£6,195	£6,965	N/A
Ensuite single	Coad Court, Vic Hughes 2	£7,455	£8,225	N/A
Ensuite single	West Lodge, Vic Hughes 1	N/A	N/A	£5,670
Large ensuite	Woodlands 1 and 2	£7,665	£8,435	N/A
Small ensuite single	Woodlands 3	£7,245	£8,015	N/A

*Half board is based on 14 meals per week (breakfast and dinner).

**Term time occupancy contracts are available in some rooms.

Living off campus in accommodation rented by you

Looking to find private rented accommodation? Our student accommodation team provide help and advice to students looking to rent accommodation with landlords that have a good track record in Cirencester and the surrounding areas.

Visit the RAU student lettings website urbanfox.info to view the student properties and house shares currently available or contact the accommodation team, based on campus in Old House at accommodation@rau.ac.uk.



FAQ's

How do I decide which type of room I would like?

Look at your budget, you will see that there are a variety of room types available at the RAU at different costs; you will need to choose a room that is affordable for you. Have a think about whether you would be happy sharing your toilet and showering facilities or whether you would prefer your own ensuite bathroom. If you would like to share a bedroom with another student, we do have a limited number of twin rooms available.

Am I guaranteed accommodation?

We endeavour to offer first-year undergraduate students' accommodation on campus; however, we cannot guarantee this. Accommodation applications are dealt with on a first come, first served basis so it is vital that you apply for accommodation online via MyRAU at the earliest possible opportunity. We have a limited number of rooms in a quiet block on campus and, whilst there is not such a strong demand for these, they are also dealt with on a first come, first served basis. If you are not allocated accommodation on campus, our Accommodation Office will support you in finding alternative accommodation in Cirencester or the Cotswolds surrounding villages.

Will I get my first choice?

MyRAU will ask you to list the room types on offer in order of your preference; you can then choose your catering type. Every effort is made to allocate your first choice of room type (taking into consideration your preferred halls of residence); however, as the forms are dealt with on a first come, first served basis, if all the rooms are allocated, you will be allocated your second choice and so on.

How much do I have to pay to secure a room in halls of residence?

A pre-payment of £200 will be required to confirm your application which will be deducted from the annual accommodation fees due.

Will my pre-payment be refunded if I choose not to come?

The pre-payment is deducted from your annual accommodation fees. It will only be refunded if your place is conditional and the conditions are not met or if we are unable to offer you accommodation.

Do I need a TV licence?

If you're planning to watch TV programmes live, or on demand, you must purchase a TV licence. Visit tvlicensing.co.uk to find out more.

Can I have guests to stay?

Guests are welcome for a maximum of three nights but must be registered at the Porters' Lodge. The University has a duty, under fire regulations and for security reasons, to keep an accurate register of all persons living, or staying as occasional/overnight guests in residential buildings

Is there a launderette on campus?

There is a launderette available for use by all students located between Bledisloe Court and Coad Court.

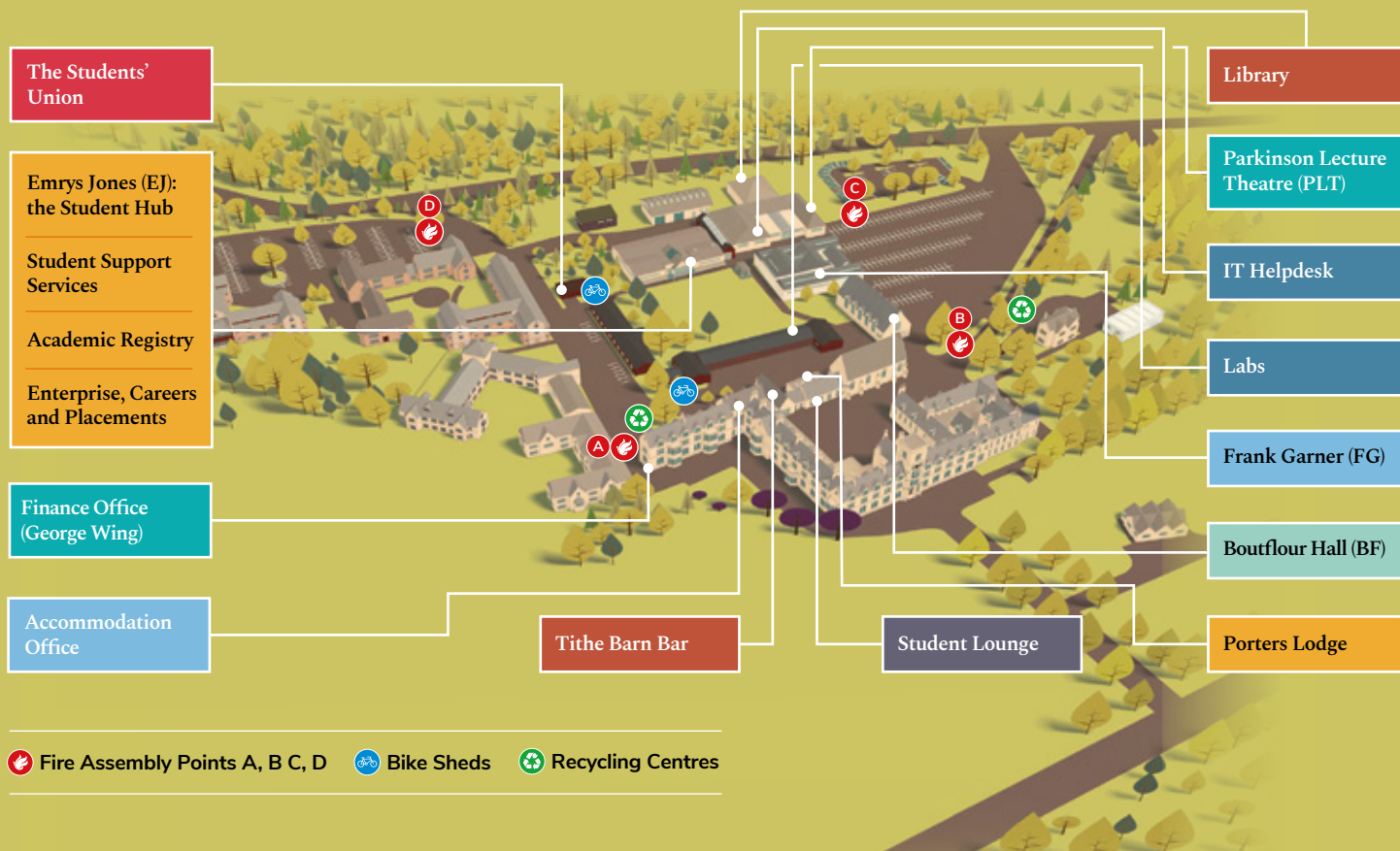
How many weeks of the academic year will I pay for?

There are two options:

35 weeks – Your bedroom is allocated to you for the entire academic year. Your meal plan is operational until the end of each term. If you choose to remain in residence you can purchase meals/snacks as required. Please note that during the University Christmas closure the catering outlets are closed.

28 weeks – Main Building bedrooms are available during term time only and must be vacated with all belongings removed for the Christmas and Easter vacations.

Campus map



For further information:

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