On and Around Campus: Neighborhoods To Explore

Case Western Reserve University stands as a centerpiece among some of the most exciting and stimulating communities in Cleveland, from University Circle and Uptown—which intertwine with the campus and boast some of the city’s most energetic and culturally robust areas—to bustling neighbors like Little Italy, Coventry Village and the Cedar-Fairmount district. Whether you are staying at Case Western Reserve or just visiting, the campus and surrounding neighborhoods offer several cultural, social, retail and dining options. Find out more at case.edu/visit.

UNIVERSITY CIRCLE: THE CULTURAL HUB OF CLEVELAND

Case Western Reserve’s campus is in the heart of University Circle, named the #1 arts district in the country by USA Today. Our neighborhood is home to more than 50 of the world’s finest cultural, medical, educational and social-service institutions—all within one square mile. The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Western Reserve Historical Society’s Cleveland History Center and Cleveland Botanical Garden provide not only entertainment, but also academic collaborations that give our students ample opportunities for hands-on training. Cleveland’s health corridor is also a mainstay of the area, with Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center and the Louis Stokes Cleveland US Medical Center as important partners with the university’s health sciences departments. But University Circle’s offerings don’t end with museums and hospitals. You’ll find dining options from the sandwich shop/live-music venue Cosmic Dave’s Rock Club to the chic French bistro LilBobots. We also have hangouts like The Jolly Scholar and The Coffee House at University Circle. The circle’s park-like setting also gives visitors a chance to enjoy green spaces on the Nord Family Greenway, Wade Oval or the art museum’s lagoon. universitycircle.org

Neighborhoods Around Campus

1. UPTOWN

Home to the university’s Barnes & Noble campus bookstore, the vibrant outdoor gathering space at Toby’s Plaza, the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and a variety of retail shops and restaurants, Uptown is one of the city’s most vibrant urban residential and commercial districts. uptowncleveland.com

2. LITTLE ITALY

You don’t have to have Italian heritage to enjoy the treasures of Little Italy. Pick your pizza or pasta pleasure at any one of nearly two dozen eateries. Indulge in some retail therapy in one of the area’s art galleries and boutiques. Bask in the neighborhood’s unique heritage, which thrives with family-owned businesses and retains the flavor of its original residents—skilled stone cutters and craftsmen from Italy. Just don’t forget to top off your visit with a decadent dessert from one of the authentic Italian bakeries. littleitalycircle.com

3. COVENRY VILLAGE

Just up the hill from campus, Coventry Village is an eclectic block that offers visitors everything from Thai food and milkshakes to vinyl records and book readings. Coventry has a unique 1960s vibe that makes visitors fall in love with its quirkiness—and keeps them coming back for more. Search for one-of-a-kind clothing pieces at Avalon Exchange. Browse CDs and classic vinyl at Record Revolution. Enjoy book clubs and author readings at Mac’s Books. One on vegetarian delights at Tommy’s. Or catch a rock show almost any night of the week at the Grog Shop. coventryvillage.com

4. CEDAR-FAIRMOUNT

Antiques, food, cocktails, jazz and art, oh my! From phenomenal crépes and pastries at Luna Bakery and Cafe to to customized tacos at Barrio, the Cedar–Fairmount district offers plenty of options. Plus, independent bookstore Appletree Books, yoga and pilates studios, salons, groceries and more make Cedar–Fairmount an attractive destination. cedarfairmount.org

5. CEDAR-LEE

Just 2.5 miles east of campus, the Cedar-Lee commercial district in Cleveland Heights is home to more than 150 businesses, including neighborhood anchor Cedar Lee Theatre where visitors can enjoy art, independent and mainstream cinema, and summer concert and performance venue Cain Park. cedarlee.org

6. SHAKER SQUARE

At the intersection of Shaker Boulevard and Rapid Transit rail lines sits the country’s second-oldest shopping district. Shaker Square, three miles south of campus, offers everything from six screens at Atlas Cinemas Shaker Square to the mission-driven French dining experience (the subject of an Oscar-nominated film) at EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute.

7. DOWNTOWN

The Case Western Reserve campus is just five miles east of downtown Cleveland, where more entertainment awaits. Home to professional sports teams the Browns, Cavaliers, Guardians (formerly the Indians) and Monsters, downtown also maintains the legacy of Cleveland’s musical roots with The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and popular concert venues that host international and local acts. The Theater District brings more performances to life, while favorites East Fourth Street and the Warehouse District offer trendy dining options, bars and a thriving nightlife. downtowncleveland.com

Transportation

Around Campus

The Circle Link, the campus circulator and other shuttle routes make all of campus, University Circle and Little Italy accessible to students and visitors. Signs are posted at each stop, or check out case.edu/visit for route maps and travel information.

Area Neighborhoods

The Greater Cleveland RTA offers more than 10 bus routes and the red line rapid to service University Circle —and many of our students can ride for free, using just their CWRU IDs. Use Google Transit to plan your trip on public transportation at maps.google.com

Contact Information

case.edu
university main line: 216.368.2000
Public Safety
emergencies: 216.368.3333
non-emergencies: 216.368.3300

CWRU and University Circle

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