The University of Illinois campus can seem enormous! So we’ve enlisted some help from some of your fellow graduate students to show you all their favorite spots. On this map, you’ll find some of their favorite places to grab a snack, snap the perfect picture, and gaze at the stars. And you’ll learn about the amazing things that graduate students have done throughout the university’s rich history. Whether you’re in Champaign or remote, join us for a jaunt around the Graduate Student’s Guide to Campus.

1. The **Graduate College** is located on Green Street in the heart of Campustown. Make sure to check out our window decorations for Graduate Student Appreciation Week! The Graduate School was established in 1892 (the name was changed to the Graduate College in 1947) and has since been supporting graduate students throughout their time at Illinois.

2. **Alma Mater** (affectionately known as Alma) is one of the most important landmarks on campus. This 10,000-pound bronze statue stands at the corner of Green and Wright Streets. She was designed by the sculptor Lorado Taft (who earned his master’s degree from Illinois in 1880) and was dedicated in 1929. Alma is wearing doctoral graduation robes and she is joined by her attendants, Learning and Labor. During the days leading up to graduation, Alma is a popular photo destination—her line of students stretches far down the street.

3. The **Bardeen Quad** (also referred to as the Engineering Quad) is on the north side of campus, stretching between Green Street and Springfield Avenue. It was named for John Bardeen, an Illinois professor who is the only person to have won a Nobel Prize in physics twice (in 1956 and 1972). This quad is home to the Grainger College of Engineering and there are many things to take in. Enjoy the landscaping around Boneyard Creek and find the iconic statues of Grainger Bob and Quinn—the Quintessential Engineer. Check out the Grainger College of Engineering’s video tour series, or take a stroll using the university’s walking tour guide.

4. The **Main Quad** is the center of campus and stretches from the Illini Union to Foellinger Auditorium. It was a fixture on campus by 1905 and was labeled as one of the most beautiful and iconic American college quads by *Business Insider*. There are 15 buildings on or near the Quad, and some sites to look out for include the Eternal Flame, the Lincoln Hall Gateway, and the Graduate Student Appreciation Week banner hanging on the Illini Union!

5. **Noyes Laboratory** is home base to the Department of Chemistry, which actually spans four buildings (most of which are connected by underground tunnels). The need for so much space largely stems from the number of graduate students! One of the first graduate degrees awarded at Illinois was in chemistry in 1903. By the time the East Chemistry Annex was constructed in 1951, Illinois had the most graduate students of any chemistry department in the world. One noteworthy chemistry alum is Charles Getz (MS, ’34, PhD, ’38) who created the instant whip cream machine—the technology used to create Reddi-wip.

6. **Foellinger Auditorium** stands on the south end of the Main Quad and was constructed in 1907, which was the university’s 40th anniversary. Known then as the Auditorium, the facility had 2,500 seats and could hold the entire student body at once. It was designed by Clarence H. Blackall, who received his master’s degree in architecture from Illinois in 1880 (*the Library has a copy of his hand-written, hand-sketched thesis*). One distinct feature of Foellinger is the pineapple that sits atop the dome, which is an architectural symbol for hospitality.

7. The **Observatory** was constructed in 1896 and is one of two campus locations designated as a National Historic Landmark (the other being the Morrow Plots). The research done in this building and the telescopes and tools were key to the development of the field of astronomy. Periodically, the Department of Astronomy holds open houses where the public can visit the facility, learn about astronomy, and look through the telescopes.

8. The **Morrow Plots** were established in 1876 and are the oldest experimental crop field in the Americas and the second oldest in the world. They were designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989. Research on the Morrow Plots helped with understanding crop rotation, soil nutrient depletion, and the effects of fertilizers.

9. **Bevier Hall** is located off of Goodwin Avenue and is home to the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition. There are a few places inside where you can grab lunch or a snack. Bevier Café and The Spice Box are both student-run restaurants.

10. The **Krannert Art Museum** (KAM) is the second largest general fine art museum in the state of Illinois and contains items from the 4th century BCE to the present. Graduate student artwork is often on display, especially at the end of each semester. One of the events the museum is best known for is *Yoga at KAM*, which is held virtually this semester.

11. The University of Illinois is home to the **Arboretum**—10 gardens that span 57 acres of campus. Located off Lincoln Avenue, the Arboretum is a great place to escape the bustle of the campus and community. Take some time to stroll down Cherry Tree Allée, look for wildlife in one of the ponds, and enjoy the beautiful scenery—all of which is cultivated and cared for by campus and community members. Nestled in the Arboretum is **Japan House**, which allows students to learn more about Japanese culture through tea ceremonies, classes, workshops, and performances. Check out this [online tour of Japan House](https://example.com).