Walking Tour
Photo Challenge:

Take the self-guided tour of Western’s incredible campus, alone or with a group. Snap selfies, group pictures or show your favourite location along the way!

Submit your pictures with the locations to livingwell@uwo.ca
Entries will be entered into a draw for prizes, and participants will all receive Internal Wellness Reward Points!
1. Medway Parking Lot
As you leave the Medway Parking Lot, look at the northwestern corner for a mature stand of Kentucky pines that were planted in 1939 and Butternuts. A city of London bicycle path runs between the river and the parking lot.

2. University Drive
Looking eastward from this intersection, you will see Elgin Hall, Medway Hall, Sydenham Hall, and Alumni House. These student residences offer comfortable accommodations during the summer vacation period for travelers.

3. University Drive Bridge
Many students catch their first sight of Western at the University Bridge. The bridge was completed in 1935 using a steam-powered excavator and linked the east side of the Thames River with the then new campus.

4. Perih Drive - University Drive Intersection
For many graduates and visitors, the view up the hill toward the University Centre is their most cherished memory of Western. To the northeast is Delaware Hall, a student residence.

5. Coronation Copse
As you walk up the hill, on your right is the Coronation Copse which commemorates the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937. Raspberries and redbuds bloom in May and native geraniums flourish throughout the spring and early summer.

6. Centennial Grove
As you make the turn towards Middlesex College, you will pass through the Centennial Grove, a planting of unique trees and shrubs established in 1978. At the centre of the grove is a large larch tree and there are also Swiss stone pines, a cork tree, a scholar's tree and a hop tree. The grove is home to many commemorative tree plantings.

7. Bellevue Homestead
Located within the forest is the remains of the Bellevue Homestead. The house was built in the 1840s by the Baly Family and was purchased by Mrs. Anne Kingsmill in 1847. Many of the original bricks from the Bellevue Homestead building are still located within the subsurface structure.

8. Middlesex College
Constructed in 1959, Middlesex College houses the departments of Mathematics and Computer Science and the Grad Club.

9. North Campus Building
Housing the Faculty of Information and Media Studies
The North Campus Building (2003) is one of the oldest buildings on campus. The building was under construction when the stone massive of the project added a touch by carving garlands on the building exterior. Although many are covered now, you may see Old Bill with his large mustache, a toadstool and a two-headed garloll. The doorways also have carvings surrounding the framework.

10. John Labatt Visual Art Building
Completed in 1995, this building is home to the Fine Arts Program. The tall stainless steel sculpture Homosapiens, a bronze statue, is the focal point of the Art Building.

11. Jancey Garden
This garden was dedicated to the memory of Plant Science professor Dr. Robert C. Jancey in 1998, and is a joint venture of the Friends of the Garden and the Department of Plant Sciences. A constant display of colour and fragrance is provided by the出境之路, garlic, herbs, roses and other flora. The garden was relocated in the fall of 2007. It is now located at the South Side of the Boton building which was also completed in 2007.

12. St. Mary’s Rock Garden
The St. Mary’s Cement Rock Garden was dedicated in 1991. It is used by the Department of Earth Sciences for laboratory exercises and outreach on rock formation. The oldest rock in the garden is between 2.2 and 2.4 billion years old, while the youngest is about 370 million years old. The sedimentary sequence is in order of age: youngest specimens are at the top and the oldest at the bottom. Please take care on the path, as the incline is steep.

13. Physics & Astronomy Building
Known as the Natural Science Building when it was built in 1924, the Physics & Astronomy Building is one of the oldest buildings on campus. When it was under construction, the stone massive of the project added a touch by carving garlands on the building exterior. Although many are covered now, you may see Old Bill with his large mustache, a toadstool and a two-headed garloll. The doorways also have carvings surrounding the framework.

14. Biology and Geology Building
Completed in 1958, this building is home to the Departments of Biology and Earth Sciences. Walking through this building you will notice a variety of display including rock and plant specimens, geodetic studies, and dinosaur fossils. You can even jump on the floor and register a seismograph reading!

15. Natural Science Centre
Opened in 1965, the Natural Sciences Centre houses the Aylmer and Betty Taylor Library as well as classrooms and laboratories. This building and the Biology and Geology Building to the east are now connected by a 700-seat, state-of-the-art classroom.

16. Medical Sciences Building
The Medical Sciences Building (1964) is home to the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. It is one of several buildings at the north end of campus that houses the departments of Health Sciences and graduate students in medical science and health research labs. The Clinic Skills Faculty (2005) adjacent to Medical Sciences provides clinical practice space to assist future physicians in developing patient care skills. The plant border between the Clinical Skills Building and Medical Sciences Building was planted by medical students in 2007 as a tribute to a classmate.

17. Social Science Centre
Dedicated in 1972, this is the largest building on campus and the home of the Faculty of Social Science (Western’s Faculty of Arts). On the lower level is the Sergei A. Stauer Map Library which houses an extensive collection of maps, globes, atlases and other items of cartographic interest. As you walk along the front of the building, you will see the Stevenson Hall–Laxton Hall building to the east across Oxford Drive.

18. McIntosh Art Gallery
Constructed in 1942, the McIntosh is the oldest university art gallery in Canada. Admission is free, so please come in and see what is on exhibit. Outside the building are two exhibits: the sculpture Homosapiens by Mihó Sawada (1986) and the Western Perogia by Reinhard Reitzenstein (1997), a bronze sculpture created as a commission from the Department of Physics and the Astronomy Building (the perogia was commissioned by popular vote to celebrate the 50th anniversary in 1992). Looking south from the bright red doors of the gallery, try to line up the row of walnut trees at both the front of the gallery and across Ehr Halls and the Engineering South Building. This stand of walnut trees, along with a similar row at the front of Middlesex College, marks the old lane way for Bellevue, a farm owned by the Kingsmill family.

The Beryl Ivey Garden (2004) is a classic design based on concentric circles and four cardinal directions divide the garden into quadrants. The garden honours the late alumna Beryl Ivey BA ’47, LLD ’97 and her outstanding role in the life of the University and Western. The garden has been tranplanted from Mrs. Ivey’s own garden at Benmil, which includes the 18 foot sculpture, Flight, by Gerald Gladstone – it is open during daylight hours from April until the end of November.

Completed in 1971, the D.B. Weldon Library is the largest of the university’s libraries, with a total capacity of the equivalent of 1.6 million volumes – including periodicals, books, special collections and government publications. Dedicated in 2004 is Western’s Archives and Research Collections Centre (ARCC) which provides a secure, controlled environment to preserve research and other important resources. It has a total capacity of the equivalent of 1.6 million volumes. The main entrance is a broad staircase which is a wall containing bronze plaques which recognize the donors of the Renaissance Campaign (1989–1994) and Campaign Western (2000–2004).

21. University Community Centre
Looking north from Weldon Library you will see the University Community Centre, a student-run building housing retail stores, offices, cafes and pubs. The large glass patio at the front of the building is known as the concrete beach and is home to many student gatherings, both formal and informal. Renamed in 2003 to recognize the University’s 125th anniversary, this area now includes additional seating and a pavilion which is wired for light and sound.

22. Smallman Memorial Entrance Gates
Walking along Western Road you will see Brescia University College (1919) to the west, Brescia, a liberal arts college for women, is one of Western’s three affiliated university colleges. Brescia sits upon the highest elevation in London. Heading northward, you will arrive at the Smallman Memorial Entrance Gates on Western Road (1958). To the southwest of the gates is the Richard Ivey School of Business (2013). Between 5,000 and 10,000 vehicles pass through Western’s five entrances each day.

23. Spencer Engineering Building
In this building it is unusual for student-designed and built vehicles, popsicle stick bridges and other engineering projects created by students. Inside the front entrance is a mural depicting the various engineering disciplines. To the east of the front entrance are 14 magnolia trees, each dedicated to one of the female engineering students massacred on campus in 1989.

24. Josephine Spencer Niblett Law Building
Directly north across the road from the Spencer Engineering building is the Josephine Spencer Niblett Law Building (1960). Inside the entrance you will see a large mosaic, again depicting the Scales of Justice. On the second floor is the beautiful John and Dotta K. C. Law Library, housing a collection of 180,000 volumes and 45,000 microforms. At the east side of the building is a patio, with the Scales of Justice depicted in the stonework.

25. Alumni Hall
The name of this building commemorates the thousands of alumni who contributed to the cost of its construction in 1967. It is filled to capacity each spring and fall for convocation. Alumni Hall also hosts concerts, performing artists and varsity sporting events.

26. Power Plant
Built in 1954, the Power Plant continues to supply heating and cooling to buildings throughout the campus, though it no longer uses coal for fuel. This main plant and its satellite plants have a total capability of heating and cooling approximately 8.5 million square feet of building space throughout campus.

27. As of January 2022, Wellness & Well-being services have moved to the newly renovated Thames Hall, which brings all our services together under one roof including physical therapy services, family practice clinics, SERT, Mental Health Support, Student Support and Case Management, and more.

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28. Fowler-Kennedy Sports Medicine Clinic 3M Centre
Renowned for its sport rehabilitation program, this centre provides treatment for all levels of athletes, from amateur enthusiasts to Olympic and professional athletes such as Marnie McBean and Eric Lindros.

29. University College
University College (1923) was one of the first buildings to be constructed at Western. The 126-foot high Middlesex County Memorial Tower is a London landmark. Inside the tower is a water tank (no longer used). The stained glass windows belong to the recently restored Conron Hall, formerly known as Convocation Hall, where graduation ceremonies were held until 1952. In front of the College are two large trees, a copper beech tree and a gingko tree. The latter is the first dedicated tree to be planted at Western. It has been moved three times due to construction.

30. International Graduate Affairs Building
The glass walls of IGAB reflect the surrounding sky and vegetration. The adjacent welded-alumini sculpture is Toronto Field by Patrick Thibert (1988).

31. Sky Observation Platform
This unique sculpture was commissioned from Doug Mitchell by the University’s McIntosh Art Gallery to celebrate the Millennium and the 2001 Canada Summer Games. The two large arcs respectively define the north/south longitudinal line of the celestial sphere and the celestial equator (the path the sun and the planets follow at the equator). Under the arcs is a concrete ring, inside of which is a map of the Earth's surface. Under the dome are two large trees, a copper beech tree and a gingko tree. The latter is the first dedicated tree to be planted at Western. It has been moved three times due to construction.

32. Talbot College Music Building – Paul Davenport Theatre – von Kuster Hall
Talbot College is home to the Don Wright Faculty of Music. The Paul Davenport Theatre (formerly Talbot Theatre) was completed in 2009. It hosts over 200 annual performances which include Wind Ensemble Concerts, dance troops, as well as being the summer home of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. It is attended by more than 32,000 people annually and is used and enjoyed by staff, faculty, and visitors. The Music Building houses the Music Library and some departments of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

33. Labatt Health Sciences Building
Established in 1981, the Sherwood Fox Arboretum encompasses the entire campus. One of several dedicated planting areas is located between the tennis courts and the playing fields. Working with the Sherwood Fox Arboretum and ReForest London 150, a student-led environmental club – are focusing on restoring a portion of this area to its native Carolinian life zone through a Naturalization Project.

34. Thompson Arena Student Rec Centre
As you leave the parking lot and cross Huron Street, look to the west to J. Gordon Thompson Recreation & Athletic Centre, with its unique cables supporting the roof. The facility hosts concerts, trade shows and conventions as well as hockey and other sporting events. The Student Rec Centre houses a 50-metre pool along with other recreational facilities.

35. Essex and London Residences
London Residence was completed in the fall of 2006 and many upper year students make their home here during the school year.

36. Alumni Stadium
Completed in the fall of 2000, the stadium is home to many of Western’s varsity sports teams. An all-weather playing surface and eight-lane track provide a multi-use facility that is used by Western students, school boards and other sports associations.

37. Millennium Park
This path continues south, with two impressive vistas overlooking the Thames River, located just off the main path. Take time to rest and enjoy the natural beauty of the river and its surroundings. From here you can continue on the path as it drops around to the other side of the stadium, or backtrack to reach the next point of interest. You may continue southward for an extended walk, or turn north to complete your walk.

38. Alumni River Walk
The Alumni River Walk (2004), was funded by alumni in support of the University’s 125th anniversary celebration. The walkway is constructed of limestone screenings and follows the Thames River from the Visual Arts parking lot south, to where it joins the pathway which continues past TD Waterhouse Stadium and links up to Western Road.