

REUNION 2024 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

We've put together some basic information, based on what we've been asked in the past, which we hope you'll find useful. If you can't find what you need here, please email <u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u> and we'd be happy to help further.

TICKETS

When is the 2024 reunion?

The 2024 reunion takes place from Friday 28th June - Sunday 30th June 2024. There is also the option to extend your stay on Sunday 30th June evening (checking out Monday 1st July) for an additional fee.

When will tickets go on sale?

Tickets will be available to book from <u>https://www.uwcatlanticexperience.com/reunions</u> from 23rd January, 9am GMT.

What is the deadline to book?

Booking for all reunion weekends strictly closes on <u>Friday 31st May 2024</u>. We hope you can understand reunion events require a lot of planning and service providers set order deadlines, therefore we cannot extend this booking deadline.

What is your refund policy?

If you would like to cancel your booking, you are entitled to a refund until <u>30th April 2024</u>. You can resell your ticket to a classmate of your year group, but we must be notified of this to update the registration details. You can do this by emailing <u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u>.

Can I join a waitlist if accommodation is fully booked?

Accommodation onsite is limited and are often the fastest tickets to sell out. We recommend if you plan to stay on campus to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Each year group is allocated a house, and 2 houses are allocated to families from across all year groups. Should accommodation be full please email us on <u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u> to be added to a waitlist. After <u>30th April</u>, any beds remaining in any of the houses will be opened up to the waitlist for others to book (i.e. if the class of 2014 accommodation is full, but there are spaces in the



1994 house, you will be offered the opportunity to book a bed in this house). Please note, that this does not apply to families - we will not place families in the main year group houses.

What is the cost of tickets?

We offer a range of options, including tickets with onsite accommodation, camping, or staying offsite as well as tiered tickets for adults, children and babies.

Tickets are for the full duration of the weekend from Friday-Sunday. Unfortunately, we do not offer one-day-only passes.

Add-on options are available, including tickets for the Saturday dinner dance and the option to extend your stay for an additional night on Sunday. To book these add-on tickets, you must have a reunion weekend ticket.

To view the full list of tickets available and prices for 2024, click here.

Is funding available if I cannot afford the ticket?

Charity law in the UK indicates that we can only raise funds for our purpose as set out in our Memorandum and Articles of Association. This means that unfortunately, we cannot raise funds to financially support alumni attending the reunion fundraising weekend. Instead, we would recommend speaking amongst your year group to discuss what financial assistance your co-years may be able to support you with.

Has the cost of the tickets increased?

Ticket costs increase year on year to cover inflation of goods and service costs, however, we are committed to keeping this increase as reasonable as possible to encourage as many alumni as possible to attend. For 2024, we have added additional catering into the programme which is also reflected in the costs.

For the first time, in 2024 we have included the option to extend your stay on Sunday night (check-out Monday morning) at an additional fee, but this is not compulsory to reduce costs where possible.

What types of tickets are available?

Tickets are essentially broken down into the following categories:

- <u>Reunion weekend ticket including accommodation</u> Includes meals (excluding Dinner Dance), activities and bed in shared dorm



- <u>Reunion weekend ticket including camping or caravaning onsite</u> Includes meals (excluding Dinner Dance), activities and a camping or caravan pitch - no camping equipment, electric hook-up, water connection or waste disposal available
- <u>Reunion weekend ticket staying offsite</u> Includes lunch and dinner meals (excluding Dinner Dance) and activities. Does not include accommodation
- <u>Saturday Dinner Dance ticket</u> Includes 3-course dinner, 2 glasses of wine, DJ and disco, cheese course
- <u>Additional night accommodation (Sunday evening)</u> Includes Sunday overnight accommodation and Monday breakfast

Tickets for the above categories are further broken down as:

- Adult (ages 18+)
- Child (ages 3-17 years old)
- Infant (0-2 years old)

If you wish to attend the reunion dinner dance on Saturday this will be an additional cost that you will need to purchase in advance (when you book your reunion weekend ticket). Attendees must hold a reunion weekend ticket and be aged 18+ to attend the dinner dance. We cannot accept bookings on the day - and as one of the main events of the programme, often, this ticket sells out so we recommend booking this sooner rather than later.

If you do not wish to attend the dinner dance, there will still be dinner available for those that don't attend the event and a bar will be available in the Glassroom for the evening.

Why do I need to book the dinner dance as an additional ticket?

Throughout the earlier years, the dinner dance was likely included as standard as the reunions were much smaller due to fewer year groups celebrating their decade reunion. The cost of the dinner dance was always included as part of the reunion ticket, which also didn't allow for flexibility for those not wanting to attend. Adding the dinner dance as an option to book allows more flexibility in choosing whether to attend the event and fits within our maximum capacity to cater for a dinner dance.

Can I attend the dinner dance without booking a reunion weekend ticket?

No, to attend the dinner dance you must book this alongside the reunion weekend ticket as there is a maximum capacity that we can accommodate for the event. If you purchase a dinner dance ticket without the reunion weekend ticket, the transaction will be cancelled. Dinner dance tickets can only be purchased in advance before 31st May.



Do the reunions make a profit?

Yes. The reunions are a much-needed fundraising opportunity for the College and money fundraised goes directly towards supporting capital projects and future scholarships. After costs, any profit from the dinner dance ticket will go towards future scholarships.

Can alumni from other years attend the reunions?

As long as they are a guest of an alumnus of the celebrating year then that's perfectly fine. However, due to capacity limitations, regrettably, we cannot allow alumni attendance without being a guest as this reduces availability for those who are celebrating their actual anniversary. Should we still have remaining spaces available after <u>30th April 2024</u> we would be happy to release these spaces for other year groups to book. Please email<u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u> to register your interest and you will be added to a waitlist.

What is the provision for alumni from other years to come onto campus in summer 2024?

We will be hosting a range of community events throughout the summer - which mostly fall on a Sunday. Anyone is welcome to attend these. They are often launched around May time. You can find out more <u>here</u>. For alumni-specific visits, please email <u>philanthropy@uwcatlantic.org</u>.

Are there any plans to allow alumni who are unable to travel to the College this summer to join part of the celebrations remotely?

Yes, the presentation by UWC Atlantic Principal, Naheed Bardai, and members of the Leadership Team on Saturday morning will be live-streamed.

REUNION CELEBRATION DINNER DANCE

What is the dress code for the dinner dance?

While there is no official dress code, we recommend smart attire.

Can under-18s attend?

Unfortunately due to the popularity of the dinner dance and limited capacity, the event is reserved for guests aged 18+.

Is childcare available throughout the dinner?

UWC Atlantic does not provide childcare for the dinner dance. We recommend if you are bringing children who cannot attend the dinner dance that you make childcare arrangements.

Can I select where I sit?



There will be tables allocated to each year group. On these tables, you can sit where you choose.

If I do not attend the dinner dance, will dinner be provided?

Yes. If you are not attending the dinner dance and have a reunion weekend ticket, evening dinner will still be available from the Dining Hall. Please see the programme for details.

Will a bar be available on the Saturday night for guests not attending the dinner dance?

Yes. The Glassroom bar will be open on Saturday evening for guests not attending the dinner dance. It will also be available as a quieter area for those who have attended the dinner dance but wish to be away from the loud music.

ACCOMMODATION

How are bedrooms allocated?

When you book, we will allocate you a bed in a shared dormitory (most of which are 4 to a room). You will be allocated a bed in a dorm of the same graduating class, however, if capacities do not allow, you may be in a dorm or house with other class years. This also means you may have other class years in your house if all the accommodation is not booked by your cohort.

Can I choose who to share a dorm with?

If you would like to share with others, you **MUST** book together via Eventbrite. Where this is not possible please email <u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u> as soon as you make your reservation and we will do our best to accommodate your share request. We hope you understand that we have limited administrative capability therefore requests are not guaranteed. Share requests received after 31st May will not be considered.

For bookings of 3 or less this is not a private room, you will likely still have others allocated to your room to fill the remaining beds.

Are dorms mixed genders?

On the Eventbrite booking form, you will be asked if you are happy to share with someone of the opposite gender. If so, you may be allocated a room with others happy to share with other genders.

Dorms on each floor will be a mix of genders, however, we request regardless of whether your dorm is mixed gender or not, please only use the shower/bathroom facilities that are assigned to your gender. This may be on a different floor than your dorm.



Can I book a private dorm?

Unfortunately, due to the high demand of people wanting to stay on campus to experience the weekend to its full potential, we cannot book out private dorms that leave beds unoccupied. If you are a party of 4 people wanting to stay together, then this will be possible (subject to availability) if you book all guests on one Eventbrite booking.

Will I be able to stay in my old dormitory or house?

Houses are allocated by year group or for families. As such, it is highly unlikely that you will be in the same dormitory as when you lived at UWC Atlantic.

Do families stay in a different house?

Yes. Anyone who books a child or infant ticket will automatically be allocated a dorm in the 'Family House'. Dorms in the family house are not shared with other families.

If you have purchased a child or infant ticket, you cannot be allocated to your main year group house. These houses are for attendees aged 18+ only.

How many people can the family dorms accommodate?

Family dorms have 4 beds and space for a travel cot. If your family is larger than 4, you will be split between two dorms. To do this, you are required to have 1 adult in each room (i.e for a family of 2 adults and 3 children, 1 adult and 2 children will be allocated the one room and 1 adult and 1 child in the other). If this does not work for your family numbers, we suggest booking accommodation offsite as our facilities are limited.

Can my children stay in the family dormitories and I stay with my year group?

This will not be possible. If you are attending the reunion with your children of 17 years and under, you will need to share a room with them in one of the family houses.

My children are 18 years and above, will I be in the family house?

No - if all your children are aged 18 plus, you must book them an adult ticket and you will therefore be allocated beds in the main houses. If you wish to stay together in a dorm, please ensure you book together on one Eventbrite order. Please note if you are a party of 3 or less, you will likely have another guest allocated to your room.

Do you provide a travel cot?

No. We cannot provide a travel cot. Please ensure you bring your own.

Is bed linen provided?

Bed linen is provided.



Are towels and toiletries provided?

No. Unfortunately, as a College, we cannot provide the same facilities that you would find in a hotel. We recommend that if you wish to have items such as towels, toiletries and hairdryers available due to the limitations of travelling with luggage, you may find a hotel will better suit your needs.

What is included if I book the camping ticket?

The camping ticket allows you to bring your <u>own</u> camping tent and equipment to camp on our grounds and use our shower and toilet facilities nearby in the Sports Hall. Please note there is no access to power.

What is included if I book the caravan ticket?

We will offer an allocated place for caravans to park. Please note, that there is no electric hook-up, water connection or waste disposal available. Please ensure you provide estimated dimensions of your caravan/motorhome so that the space we allocate you is large enough.

Do you recommend any off-site accommodation?

Please find <u>here</u> a list of accommodation in the Vale of Glamorgan.

MOBILITY

I have a mobility issue, can you accommodate special requests?

If you have a mobility issue, please make us aware when you make your booking or email <u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u> and we will do our best to accommodate your request. Whilst we can accommodate many mobility issues, due to the nature of the castle campus some areas are not accessible to everyone. Guests with wheelchairs, electric scooters, crutches, walkers etc may not be able to stay in or visit all buildings on campus and we apologise for any inconvenience.

To suit your mobility needs, this may mean being allocated in a house different to the rest of your year group.

CHILDREN

What do you offer for children during the weekend?

We always welcome children to our reunion weekends. There will be several child-friendly and outdoor activities on offer for a range of ages on Saturday, but we need to highlight that this is not a childcare



provision. Depending on the activity and the age of your child, you may be required to stay with them whilst they are doing the activity. If the activity allows you to leave your child with the activity organisers, we ask please that you collect your child promptly at the end of each session as advised by the activity practitioner.

Can children/infants attend the reunion dinner dance?

Due to capacity limitations, children and infants are not able to attend the reunion dinner on Saturday evening unless they are aged 18+ and hold an adult ticket. This is except for anyone who is breastfeeding who can for this reason take their infant with them. In this scenario, please be aware the event can be loud and does not provide privacy.

For onsite accommodation, where do children stay?

Any reservation that includes a child or infant ticket will automatically be allocated a dorm in the 'Family House'. Dorms in the family house are not shared with other families and are a mix of all the year groups.

If you have purchased a child or infant ticket, you cannot be allocated to your main year group house; these houses are for attendees aged 18+ only.

CATERING

What catering and refreshments are provided?

Guests staying onsite (houses and camping) will be provided with all meals during the weekend (excluding the dinner dance booked separately). If you do not wish to book the reunion dinner dance, dinner will still be provided in the Dining Hall.

Those staying off-site will be provided with the same meals, excluding breakfast.

Light refreshments will be available throughout the day and you will have the opportunity to purchase additional snacks and beverages from our bar.

Can you cater for special dietary requirements?

Please let us know when you book your ticket of any special dietary requirements you have. We can cater for dietary requirements when notified ahead of the reunion weekend.

I am bringing my infant, do you have any highchairs?

Yes, we have several highchairs available for use in the Dining Hall.



PHOTOS

Will there be an official photographer for the weekend?

We love to capture all the highlights of our reunion weekends. There will be a photographer present during the reunion weekend taking the 'official' photos that will be shared with all attendees a few weeks after the event. By attending this event, you are consenting for us to use your image for media and social media purposes without additional permission required from you. If you have any specific objections, please alert us before the event.

LOST AND FOUND

What if I lose something during the weekend?

Please report all lost items to the Welcome Team at Main Reception. Any found items should also be returned here or passed to a member of the event team. We will do our best to retrieve lost items and reunite them with their owners, but we cannot be held responsible or accountable for lost or stolen items. Any items left after your departure may be posted to you, but we will ask you please to cover the cost.

AMENITIES

Does the College have a cashpoint machine?

We're sorry, we don't have cash withdrawal facilities on campus; the nearest <u>ATM</u> is Llantwit Major. Our bars will accept Visa/Mastercard payments and we recommend you pay via card where possible as we aim to reduce the amount of cash on campus.

Is WiFi available on campus?

Yes, information about accessing our guest network will be displayed around campus when you arrive.

Will the College shop be open?

Indeed it will. There will be a range of branded gift items on sale in <u>Atlantic Emporium</u>, the proceeds of which go towards various initiatives in the College. Please note that we do not hold a stock of basic toiletries and sundry items, so would recommend you to bring your own (shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste, paracetamol for example). You will also be able to purchase these in the main shops in Llantwit Major if required.



Where can I find further information about what's going on during the weekend?

The Atlantic Emporium college shop will also be a centre point for information during the reunion weekend.

What First Aid will be available?

The Welcome Team is available to direct any questions or queries and assist in providing emergency first aid 24/7. If you require special personal assistance, please make plans to bring a care provider and let us know so that we might be able to support you further.

Is there a smoking area?

In line with Welsh Government legislation introduced in 2021, it is against the law to smoke on school campus grounds. You must leave the campus to smoke, including e-cigarettes.

TRANSPORT

Is there transport from Llantwit Major train station to UWC Atlantic?

Here are the local taxi numbers:

- Andy Cars: (+44) 1446 796 777
- JD Cars 01446 711460,
- A-Z 01446 747555
- Bridgend Taxis 01656 662477
- Business Drive Wales 01446 621251

Taxis are limited so we do recommend you pre-book and share if possible.

What is the best way of getting to UWC Atlantic from London?

The easiest way to get to UWC Atlantic from London is by taking a train from London Paddington to Bridgend. From here you will be able to get a taxi to the College.

What is the best way of getting to UWC Atlantic from Cardiff Airport?

The easiest way to get to UWC Atlantic from Cardiff airport is by taxi. Flight Link takes bookings and can be contacted on (+44) 1446 728500. You can also catch the 303 bus which takes you directly to the college. Please note on Sunday's there is a limited bus service available.

Is group transport provided?



The College does not provide group transport, however, in the past class groups have arranged this independently. The coach hire company the College uses is <u>Creigiau Travel</u> should you want to make your own arrangements directly with them.

Is there parking on campus?

Yes, complimentary on-site parking is available for guests staying on or off campus. Parking is on a grass field, so please consider this.

REGISTRATION

Where do I check in when I arrive on campus?

You will be greeted by a team of event staff at the main entrance who will check you are on the event attendee list - please have your Eventbrite confirmation barcode ready. If you are arriving by car, they will direct you to the parking field, otherwise, you will be directed straight to the Arts Centre registration area.

Registration takes place in the Glassroom inside the Arts Centre and is a busy but essential part of the check-in process.

All guests must register their attendance and will be asked to confirm their details. All guests will be given a welcome bag, and resident guests will be given their accommodation keycards.

We ask for your patience and cooperation to ensure the process is as smooth as possible and politely ask that you vacate the area to the drinks reception tent on the Top Lawn once you have checked in. This will support us to avoid congesting the registration area.

Resident guests will not be told which house they are in until registration, so we recommend that you leave your luggage in the car until after you register. We will not be able to accommodate room swaps on the day.

Registration is open from 2-7pm but a member of staff will remain until 10pm for late arrivals. After this time, the Main Reception will register any late arrivals. If you will not make the official 2pm-7pm registration, please email us to let us know at <u>reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com</u>



ACTIVITIES

Are the activities listed in the programme compulsory to attend?

No. We have put together a programme that offers a variety of optional activities for you to enjoy, however, all activities listed are not compulsory to attend and it may not be possible to attend them all. Should you wish to spend the weekend socialising with peers, or visiting the local area, that is completely your choice.

I would like to attend one of the planned activities such as the ideas hub and castle tour, how do I book?

You are not required to pre-register for the ideas hubs, presentations or leisure activities. More information on these will be provided nearer to the time.

Due to limited availability and high demand, you will be required to register to attend a castle tour. A booking link will be sent nearer to the time.

I would like to contribute to the programme, how do I get involved?

Each class year will be asked to nominate a lead person for the following parts of the programme:

- Class Reception (this is first offered to the class rep)
- Swimathon
- Tree planting

If you want to get involved, please contact us at philanthropy@uwcatlantic.org.

What activities are available and are they included?

There are a range of activities included in the programme at no additional cost. Appropriate wear is required for these activities such as swimwear, trainers, etc depending on the activity. There is no option to purchase swimwear or footwear at the College shop. All safety equipment will be provided. For physical activities, you may be required to complete a participant safety form.