

REUNION 2025 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 reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com and we'd be happy to help further.

TICKETS

When is the 2025 reunion?

The 2025 reunion takes place from Friday 27th June - Sunday 29th June 2025. There is also the option for those who have booked a residential reunion ticket to extend their stay an additional night on Sunday 29th June evening (checking out Monday 30th June) for an extra fee.

When will tickets go on sale?

Tickets will be available to book from https://www.uwcatlanticexperience.com/reunions from 20th January 2025, 9am GMT.

What is the deadline to book?

Booking for all reunion weekends strictly closes on <u>Friday 31st May 2025</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 2025</u>. You can resell your ticket to a classmate of your year group, but we must be notified to update the registration details. You can do this by emailing reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com.

What is the cost of tickets?

We offer a range of options, including tickets with onsite accommodation, camping and staying offsite. Ticket prices vary for adults, children and babies.

Tickets are for the full duration of the weekend from Friday to 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 ticket options and prices for 2025, 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 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.

What types of tickets are available?

Tickets are essentially broken down into the following categories:

- Reunion weekend ticket including accommodation
 Includes meals (excluding Dinner Dance), activities and bed in shared dorm
- Reunion weekend ticket including camping or caravaning onsite

 Includes meals (excluding Dinner Dance), activities and a camping or caravan pitch no camping equipment, electric hook-up, water connection or waste disposal available
- Reunion weekend ticket staying offsite
 Includes meals (excluding breakfast and Dinner Dance) and activities. Does not include accommodation
- <u>Saturday Dinner Dance ticket</u> *Includes 3-course dinner, ½ bottle of wine per person, cheese table, DJ and disco until 2am*
- Additional night accommodation (Sunday evening)
 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)



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 the financial sustainability of the College.

Can alumni from other years attend the reunions?

The reunion is a busy celebration and we prioritise alumni and their families of the celebrating years.

Alumni of other year groups are able to book as follows:

- As a guest of an alumni of the celebrating years
- If spaces are remaining after 30th April.

Please email reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com with any queries.

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

We host a range of community events in the summer - anyone is welcome to attend these. More information can be found on our Atlantic Experience <u>website</u>. For alumni-specific visits, please visit <u>www.uwcatlantic.org/alumni/returning-to-campus</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.

DINNER DANCE (SATURDAY)

How do I book the dinner dance ticket?

If you wish to attend the reunion dinner dance on Saturday, you must purchase in advance (ideally, when you book your reunion weekend ticket) via Eventbrite. The dinner dance ticket appears under 'add-ons'.

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

Attendees must hold a reunion weekend ticket to attend the dinner dance. If you book the dinner dance ticket at a later stage than your reunion weekend ticket, please ensure you use the same name on both tickets as these are cross-checked. If a dinner dance ticket is booked in a name that does not match with a reunion weekend ticket, you will be notified and the ticket will be cancelled and refunded.

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.

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.

Can I join the disco later in the evening after the formal meal?

Once 80% of the dinner dance tickets are sold, we will release a number of disco-only tickets for entry after 10:30pm. These tickets are priced at £15pp and will contribute to the reunion fundraiser. We're only able to offer these tickets once the event is nearly sold out to ensure that the primary costs of the evening are covered. A minimum age of 18 applies.

ACCOMMODATION



Can I join a waitlist if accommodation is fully booked?

Accommodation on-site is limited and is often the fastest-selling ticket. If you plan to stay on campus, we recommend booking as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Should accommodation be full please email us on reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com to be added to a waitlist. If new beds become available we will contact individuals in order on the waitlist.

How are beds and houses allocated?

Each year group is allocated a house, at least 2 houses are allocated to families from across all year groups and then there is an overflow house for individuals from any year group.

After <u>30th April</u>, any beds remaining in any of the houses will also be opened up to the waitlist for others to book (i.e. if the class of 2015 accommodation is full, but there are spaces in the 1995 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.

Can I choose who to share a dorm with?

If you would like to share with others, please book together via Eventbrite. Where this is not possible please email reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com 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 can book a female-only, male-only or a mixed-gender dorm. Mixed-gender dorms mean you may be sharing a room with people of another gender and allows us to accommodate more people staying on campus. Couples of the opposite gender are also allocated to mixed-gender rooms unless otherwise requested to be separated.

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 or email as per the instructions above.

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. On some occasions, there may be space for an additional mattress on the floor in the room.

If your family is larger than 4, you may 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?

We welcome all guests to campus and we will do our very best to accommodate any mobility needs. If you have a mobility issue, please make us aware when you make your booking or email reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com so that we can better understand and assist your requirements.

Whilst we can accommodate many mobility issues the nature of the castle campus makes access to some areas difficult. Guests with wheelchairs, electric scooters, crutches, walkers etc should also know by the nature of the castle some floors are uneven or cobbled.

If you wish to stay on campus, some of our accommodation has accessible toilets and showers. To suit your mobility needs, this may mean being allocated in a house different to the rest of your year group. Please contact us so that we can discuss this further with you.



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 the activities are 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.

What childcare options do you offer?

The College does not arrange childcare for the reunion weekend. Should you wish to arrange your own, please find below some mobile childcare options (please note the College does not endorse these companies and you should do you due diligence checks):

- https://www.facebook.com/littleducklingsbabysitting1
- https://www.nannykate.co.uk/other-services/wedding-childcare/
- https://www.facebook.com/PopUpPlayVillageCardiff

If you are arranging childcare please inform us to grant them access to site.

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 dinner on Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and Sunday (excluding the Saturday 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 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.

Where do we have meals?

Meals take place in the Dining Hall unless otherwise specified during the times advertised. Meal times are exceptionally busy and we ask that once you have finished eating you vacate the Dining Hall to make space for others to eat.

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. We recommend you have cash to pay for your taxi. From Bridgend to the College, it is approximately £25 one way.

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. Please keep us informed if you do arrange group travel so we can prepare for a group arrival.

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 to speed up this process. 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 2-8pm 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-8pm registration, please email us to let us know at reunions@uwcatlanticexperience.com

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, how do I book?

You are not required to pre-register unless otherwise stated. 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.

What are the CAS activities?

CAS (creativity, activity, service) is a core component of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme studied at UWC Atlantic today and is designed to develop students beyond academics by engaging them in meaningful extracurricular activities that foster personal growth, creativity, physical well-being, and community engagement.

You will have an opportunity to experience CAS as part of the reunion programme - more details will follow.

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.