InfoLab21
An international centre of excellence for research in ICT, the iconic InfoLab21 houses our School of Computing and Communications, and is the region’s leading centre for ICT research and commercial innovation. Here, we undertake extensive teaching and research collaborations with globally renowned international companies such as BAE Systems, SAP, Cisco, Google, IBM, ARM, BBC, Samsung and Microsoft.

Athena SWAN
We hold an Athena SWAN Bronze Award for encouraging gender equality and diversity in higher education.
Find out more: lancaster.ac.uk/scc-bronze-athena-swan

Welcome to the School of Computing and Communications

At no point in history has Computing and Communications been more central to innovation. Tiny sensor-rich devices, the Internet, data and computation are revolutionising science, healthcare, business and society. Life is increasingly digitally mediated, so having the skills to shape this is essential! Computing at Lancaster University places you at the centre of these revolutions.

Imagine being able to possess the computing skills to bring your creative ideas into a reality. A computing degree will push your ability to solve complex problems, and develop your understanding of how to create software that provides new, genuinely valuable technologies to society.

We are passionate about helping you discover the fascinating and wide-ranging skills and knowledge computing can provide to help you unlock your potential and open up the gateway to meeting real needs.

We are proud of our heritage of offering a balanced programme which combines deeper theory with plenty of hands-on practical experience. This blend equips you for a highly dynamic workplace and ensures immediate value to you and employers upon graduation, as well as a lasting foundation for the future.

We work hard to go beyond the curriculum to offer opportunities to enrich your studies.

Dedicated Knowledge Business Centre staff match you with businesses for placements and internships, or even help you start your own business! Our student-led Computer Science Society’s activities bring in speakers from industry, giving you the latest commercial perspectives. Our world-leading research offers you the chance to push the subject to its absolute limits, and get you involved in exciting projects: for example, one of our students wrote code for the BBC micro:bit, recently distributed to one million Year 7 children throughout the UK (and beyond!)

I strongly recommend you come and discover what we can offer for yourself—Lancaster is a great place to study!

The School and I look forward to welcoming you to Lancaster.

Professor Adrian Friday
Head of School
In our teaching, we’ll share what inspires us about computing, bringing in theory where necessary and focusing on a practical approach to the subject. We link our research to real life problems and you’ll see plenty of examples of these during your degree. We’ll provide pastoral and subject specific support, with a personal Academic Adviser to encourage you to push the boundaries of what you can achieve. Our degrees are accredited by professional bodies to meet the high standards set by industry. All of this means that we have high employability prospects for our graduates.

Dr Paul Rayson, Director of Studies, School of Computing and Communications

Why study Computing at Lancaster?

World-leading Research

We’re #7 in the UK for producing world-leading or internationally excellent research (Research Excellence Framework 2014). Our recognised experts use their knowledge and experience to inspire and equip students with transferable skills for a career in research or industry.

High Quality Teaching

Our courses are taught by international experts who base practical experience on solid fundamentals. We expose students to the next generation of computing systems and methodologies through research-informed teaching.

Careers and Employability

We are #2 in the UK for graduate prospects in Computer Science (Times and Sunday Times University Guide, 2018). We have the facilities and expertise to support you in gaining the skills and experience that you need to succeed in a professional environment.

The Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) Gold status awarded to Lancaster University recognises us for outstanding teaching, an outstanding learning environment and delivery of excellent employment outcomes for graduates. This is the highest possible rating a university can achieve.
Our degree courses offer a wealth of opportunities to enhance your employability and practice the skills relevant to your chosen career, through core teaching and optional modules. There are even Industrial Experience MSci Hons degree courses, where you can gain and apply practical knowledge and skills in a professional workplace. Our undergraduate degrees provide excellent employment prospects and we have several methods to support you to make the right choices about your future.

95% of our graduates go into work or further study within six months of graduating (Times and Sunday Times University Guide, 2018)

Industrial guest lectures are an integrated part of our course delivery. We aim to provide a mix of theoretical teaching alongside real-world practical examples of how technologies are deployed and utilised within a variety of different industries.

Knowledge Business Centre
Our Knowledge Business Centre promotes knowledge transfer between our academics and business, and maintains links with over 1000 companies. These extensive connections allow us to offer a wide range of industrially focused services to undergraduate students. This includes industrial projects, organised industry placements, summer internships and short-term, paid consultancy work to assist with your living expenses.

Internships
We provide opportunities for you to gain industrial experience with our internship scheme. The School and the Faculty of Science and Technology offer summer internships to current students and recent graduates which can vary in length from 8 weeks upwards.

Computing graduates are in high demand across an increasingly diverse range of industries. Technology is constantly evolving and our degree programmes help to prepare you for future roles that don’t even exist yet. It’s a really exciting time to become a computer scientist.

Colin McLaughlin, Technology Transfer Manager, School of Computing and Communications

My degree strikes the perfect balance between making the course challenging, yet engaging for all abilities. The enthusiasm lecturers have for their field of study across all modules makes the content a pleasure to learn. I’ve always been especially impressed with how the academic staff treat you like a peer, allowing for a pleasant and co-operative learning environment. This has even led me to undertake a summer internship here at InfoLab21, as well as getting involved with the countless opportunities made available by the Department to those who seek more from their degree.

Edward Thompson, MSci Hons Computer Science (with Industrial Experience)
Teaching

Facilities
We have five newly refurbished labs which you can access 24/7. You’ll also benefit from 10Gbps external internet capacity, open access to our virtualisation cluster and custom built hardware to support your learning. Across the campus we offer free WiFi, free access to Microsoft software through the Imagine Premium programme. You’ll never feel short of technical resources!

Flexibility
Our flexible course structure and specialist option courses enable you to tailor your degree to meet your personal goals. In your first year, you can even choose to study one other subject as a minor, provided you meet their prerequisites. Subjects that are popular with our students include maths, entrepreneurship and languages.

Unique Experimentalist Approach
We offer a unique blend of theory with practical experience. Alongside our informative lectures, we encourage you to experiment and take an active part in our workshops and practical sessions.

Friendly, Personal Experience
Small group teaching and individual tuition sessions reinforce your skills and understanding of one of the most innovative and dynamic subjects taught at University.

Rated Excellent
We received the highest award in our most recent Periodic Quality Review of Teaching, with particular commendation for innovative design and delivery of undergraduate courses.

Accreditation
All of our degrees are accredited up to and including the 2017 intake with future years pending re-accreditation from the British Computer Society (BCS) and The Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET).

Your Degree

Software is everywhere: from the mobile phone in your pocket to the Mars Exploration Rover, software is integrated into all aspects of 21st century technology. Computer Scientists and Software Engineers design, communicate, implement, integrate and test this software on all forms of computing platforms. With this in mind, our courses span a wide range of subject areas from Human Computer Interaction to Digital Systems. We’ll provide you with a unique blend of theory and practical experience, encouraging practical experimentation and hands-on learning through workshops and practical sessions alongside lectures.

These skills will set you up for a diverse range of professional careers.

The School offers an extensive portfolio of high quality options for undergraduate study, taught by a team of over 50 acknowledged world experts in their field. Our three year BSc Hons degrees are complemented by our unique four year MSci Hons courses. The MSci courses extend our BSc degrees to a Masters level qualification with additional organised industrial placements, professional training with our industry partners and advanced academic education all in just one further year.

G 400 BSc Hons Computer Science
G 402 BSc Hons Computer Science (Study Abroad)
G 404 MSci Hons Computer Science (with Industrial Experience)
G 401 MSci Hons Software Engineering (with Industrial Experience)
G 602 BSc Hons Software Engineering
G 601 MSci Hons Software Engineering (with Industrial Experience)

Combined Degree Courses

You can view details of all our course modules by searching online using our undergraduate course search: lancaster.ac.uk/ugscc
Since technology has become a fundamental part of everyday life, studying Computer Science presents many future opportunities. So far, my favourite aspect has been the second year Group Project. We collaborated as team in researching, implementing and developing our own game. The broad range of topics covered here at Lancaster gives students a good foundation to enter a multitude of careers.

Monica Plotkin, BSc Hons Computer Science

G400 BSc Hons Computer Science

Our Computer Science degree is designed for students seeking a broad yet rigorous grounding in this innovative discipline, with a strong emphasis on experimental computer science. Its balanced curriculum combines theory and practice with the cutting-edge knowledge and well-rounded professional and technical skills needed for a diverse range of careers.

YEAR 1
- Software Development
- Fundamentals of Computer Science
- Information Systems
- Digital Systems
- Creative Technology
- Fundamentals of Communications
- Operating Systems
- Advanced Programming
- Group Project

YEAR 2
- Databases
- Human Computer Interaction
- Computer Networks
- Software Design
- Social, Ethical and Professional Issues
- Operating Systems
- Advanced Programming
- Group Project

YEAR 3
- Distributed Systems
- Languages and Compilation
- Artificial Intelligence
- Security and Risk
- Third Year Project

Two elective modules:
- Computer Science Seminars
- Advanced Networking
- Media Coding and Processing
- Embedded Systems
- Internet Applications Engineering

Find out more by visiting: lancaster.ac.uk/ugscce

G402 BSc Hons Computer Science (Study Abroad)

If you wish to add an international experience to your degree, a study abroad route is also available. The technical curriculum is identical to our BSc Hons Computer Science degree, but as an integrated part of this programme you take equivalent second year courses at one of our world-class partner institutions in Europe, North America, Canada or Australia. You will still attain your Lancaster BSc within three years, yet also gain international experience that is invaluable in today’s world-market economy.

Find out more by visiting: lancaster.ac.uk/studyabroadscce
Among the many exciting modules, the second year Software Design module stood out for me. Being able to come up with a whole system on our own and develop it into a working product in a year was a very rewarding experience. The best thing about studying here is being able to put all the theories of computer science into practice in our labs and project work.

András Herczeg, BSc Hons Software Engineering

G602 BSc Hons Software Engineering

Our Software Engineering degree is unique in that it is delivered using an innovative ‘design studio’ approach. You will spend a large part of your course engaged in small collaborative group-based teaching. Here you will benefit from extensive first-hand experience of developing real-world systems using cutting-edge software platforms, methodologies, and strategies adopted by the world’s leading software companies. This award winning course (Pilkington Teaching Award, 2014) includes guest workshops from industry that will give you a head start in your career.

YEAR 1
- Software Development
- Fundamentals of Computer Science
- Information Systems
- Digital Systems
- Creative Technology
- Fundamentals of Communications
  OR
- Minor in one other first year subject

YEAR 2
- Core Studio
- Databases
- Human Computer Interaction
- Computer Networks
- Software Design
- Social, Ethical and Professional Issues
- Operating Systems
- Advanced Programming

YEAR 3
- Networked Studio
- Live Studio
- Distributed Systems
- Languages and Compilation
- Security and Risk

One elective module:
- Internet Applications Engineering
- Artificial Intelligence
- Embedded Systems

Software Design Studio

Our Software Design Studio is a space for our students to work intensively on conceiving, designing and developing software products together. It is also a space for teaching, with an emphasis on practical experimentation and hands-on work. The studio is fitted with facilities to allow you to work in groups for extended periods of time. The feedback from our students is outstanding (ranked 5/5 in student evaluations).

Find out more by visiting: lancaster.ac.uk/ugscce
Third Year Projects

In your third year of study, you will complete the Third Year Project which is a substantial individual project normally involving the principled design, implementation and evaluation of a significant piece of software, experimental study or theoretical work. You can choose your topic from a wide selection put forward by our academic staff or you can collaborate with an industrial company on the project.

Helena TendeDez, MSci Hons
Computer Science

The Project
I spent two weeks at the BBC in MediaCity observing and understanding their agile development processes. My third year project focused on how agile development works in industry, where I gained insight into how large-scale organisations apply software development practices to keep up with changes in technology and business requirements.

Highlights
Conducting my research at the BBC in MediaCity was an amazing experience where I could see how software was developed in a real industry setting. I was able to see how elements taught in my course were also used and relevant in practice. I’ve learnt about various different research methods, and how to collect and analyse large amounts of data. From speaking to product owners to developers, my communication skills have improved and prepared me for working in industry.

Aidan Lennie, BSc Hons
Computer Science

The Project
I created ‘CATBIT’ – a digital collar for tracking a cat’s location. Unlike existing products, my design is small enough to fit on a cat collar, while still allowing it to work long-range with a long battery life. The project stages included: background research on existing products, hardware, software and communication protocols; system design and development; and testing and evaluation.

Highlights
Gaining an in-depth knowledge of world-leading long-range communication protocols was fascinating. I have developed the foundation and potential to build this system into a real, profitable product. More than just a prototype, I now have the core blocks and almost all information needed to push this idea forward.
Industrial Experience MSci Hons Degrees

In Years 1-3 you will study the same modules as the BSc programmes (see pages 11-13) and in Year 4 you’ll undertake a 10 week placement with one of our partner organisations where you will have the opportunity to apply the theory and practical skills you’ve learnt during your degree. As well as developing your professional experience, you’ll also study Masters-level modules and complete a 7 week project in collaboration with a carefully selected industry partner. This combination will undoubtedly give you an advantage in the global job market.

G404 MSci Hons Computer Science (with Industrial Experience)

G601 MSci Hons Software Engineering (with Industrial Experience)

- 4th year moves to Masters-level taught modules in emerging technical areas such as scalable cloud computing, big data processing and interactive design
- Undertake advanced professional training sessions with our partner companies
- Complete a 10 week placement at one of our 1000 ICT related partner businesses, gaining invaluable first-hand experience of working in a collaborative, professional environment

YEAR 4
- Organised Industry Placement
- Fourth Year Project
- Advanced MSc Modules:
  - Professional and Research Methodology
  - Advanced Human Computer Interaction
  - Elements of Distributed Systems
  - Data Mining

"The course enabled a seamless transition from university to the real-world as I was able to put the skills learnt throughout my degree into a practical environment, which made me a more attractive candidate for employers and I had multiple job offers. The final year allowed me to become a more confident programmer and being able to create and develop software that would be used by others was extremely satisfying."

Daniel Garrett, MSci Hons, Computer Science Graduate

Find out more by visiting: lancaster.ac.uk/ugsc

Teaching and Contact Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Computer Science (lecture)</td>
<td>Minor Subject (lecture)</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Computer Science (workshop)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>Software Development (lecture)</td>
<td>Software Development (workshop)</td>
<td>Minor Subject (workshop)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample timetable and study hours are illustrative of the first year of study for BSc/MSci Computer Science or BSc/MSci Software Engineering students who take one minor subject.
From Studying, to Securing a Graduate Job: Christopher’s Experience

Name:
Christopher McGowan

Course:
BSc Hons Computer Science (2016); MSc Computer Science (2017)

College:
Pendle

Why Lancaster
I chose Lancaster University as the course offered me a deep understanding of a broad range of computer science modules. The ability to be taught from first principles, specifically the fundamentals of computer science and the fundamentals of software development, was a huge selling point to me.

Favourite part of the degree
I really enjoyed the variety of modules studied, especially in Part 2 as this allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the field of computer science. My Artificial Intelligence module was so insightful, providing knowledge of genetic algorithms and how they can be used to solve various complex problems. I have also enjoyed how approachable the lecturers are in the School and their willingness to help and dedicate their time to you.

Next Steps
The School of Computing and Communications has prepared me greatly for employment by not only teaching me the fundamentals of computer science, but teaching me advanced cutting-edge techniques and research that has enabled me to stand out from the crowd. Prior to graduation, I secured a full-time graduate scheme job at British Telecommunications (BT), working in software development. This entails designing and implementing software for millions of customers all around the world, and I can’t wait to get started!

Advice to first years
Don’t be afraid to ask questions if you don’t understand. You’re not expected to know everything and be an expert. Staff are more than willing to talk with you and answer queries. Seize every moment and get involved in extra-curricular activities too – computing related or not!
## Combined Degree Courses

If you are seeking even more breadth in your studies, we offer a range of multi-disciplinary degrees that combine key subjects from Computing and Communications with those from another discipline. These degrees are managed by other academic departments within Lancaster University, but are strongly contributed to by the School of Computing and Communications.

### GG14 BSc/ GG1K MSci Hons Computer Science and Mathematics

**Department:** Mathematics and Statistics

Studying for a combined honours degree in Computer Science and Mathematics at Lancaster gives you the opportunity to learn in two of the country’s leading teaching and research departments. Lancaster’s Department of Mathematics and Statistics is reputable and highly ranked, specialising in both pure mathematics and statistics.

Your degree unites the fundamentals of computer science - including languages and logic, systems, communications and software engineering - with pure mathematics concepts, including algebra and analysis. Lectures and tutorials are combined with projects and practical laboratory sessions where you can put theory into practice.

Additionally, MSci students write a substantial dissertation in their fourth year under the supervision of a member of staff from one of the departments. On completion of this four year degree, you will have Masters-level proficiency in mathematics, computer science, research methods and professional skills.

### GN52 BSc Hons Management and Information Technology (MIT)

**Department:** Management School

Lancaster’s MIT degree has been created in partnership with business professionals to give you the ability to apply IT to business situations, evaluate technical knowledge and confidently take on project and team management in IT-related business scenarios. The degree includes a one-year industry placement. The Tech Partnership, a UK-based network of employers, supports us in finding placements among companies who endorse the programme, including BA, BT, Deloitte, Accenture, Fujitsu, HP, IBM, P&G, Morgan Stanley, Xerox, Peugeot, Land Rover, Glaxo and Unilever.

You’ll study core modules from the School of Computing and Communications and the Management School which include, Management and Organisation, Disciplinary Perspectives of Information Systems, Software Development and Information Systems.

I would recommend this course to anyone who wants the best of both worlds of management and information technology. Once I’d been introduced to this degree course at a Lancaster Open Day, and discovered that the course offered a year in industry, I knew instantly that Lancaster was the place I wanted to study at.

Karl Mulcahy, BSc Management and Information Technology, IBM

### GR41 BSc Hons French Studies and Computing

**Department:** European Languages and Cultures

Lancaster’s combined Language and Computing degrees are taught jointly by the Department of European Languages and Cultures and the School of Computing and Communications. These degree schemes include a year spent working or studying abroad in a French, German or Spanish speaking country, depending on which language you choose to study.

These courses aim to increase your fluency while exploring the country’s social, historical, political and cultural background as well as its European and global context. In computing, you’ll focus on developing professional skills, including extensive study of software and systems development.

For more information on these degrees, please contact the appropriate department: lancaster.ac.uk/ugscc
Get Involved

There are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved in extracurricular activities that will enrich your degree and enable you to pursue your interests in computing outside of your classes.

**Dedicated Society**

Our Computer Science Society is a group of like-minded individuals who share a common interest in computing. The student-led society organises talks, hackathons, regular meet-ups to explore and share ideas as well as course support in computing and communications. It also offers its members networking opportunities with potential employers, as well as a forum for discussing issues and topics around computing.

"We build robots, break networks, run hackathons and have our own social room. As a society we thrive on having a diverse membership, so whatever your preferred language, framework, architecture, platform, or interest, you’ll feel at home.

Alex Jung, President of the Computer Science Society"

**Compete**

Take part in hackathons, programming and business competitions such as the Barclays Technology Challenge. Teams are allocated a real-world business scenario by Barclays and their partners (BBC and American Express Merrill Lynch) and are tasked with finding solutions, including creating prototypes and a commercial plan. The winners are selected by an expert panel of judges and win a prize which includes work experience opportunities.

**Innovate**

The University’s ‘Innovation Hub’ provides you with the opportunity to develop technological ideas that could enhance the student experience, and we encourage you to get involved with developing solutions. Previously our students have supported the development of the iLancaster app, a free mobile app delivering Lancaster University services, resources and information.

**Travel**

Our Students’ Union offers a subsidised opportunity for you to expand your academic horizons and enrich your personal story. Computing students have travelled to New York and Boston as part of ‘Your Global Exploration’, meeting local students, visiting companies, taking part in technology challenges and exploring the cities.

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We have an enthusiastic team of student ambassadors who provide support at events and help with the important work that we do in the local community. You could help to inspire children to learn programming, computational thinking and encourage the next generation of computer scientists. Our students have been involved in a nationwide network of volunteer-led after school coding clubs for children aged 9-11.

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Entry Requirements

We welcome applications from prospective students from a broad academic background.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>International Baccalaureate</th>
<th>BTEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G400 BSc Hons Computer Science</td>
<td>AAB</td>
<td>35 points, with 16 from best three HL courses</td>
<td>DDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G602 BSc Hons Software Engineering</td>
<td>AAB</td>
<td>35 points, with 16 from best three HL courses</td>
<td>DDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G402 BSc Hons Computer Science (Study Abroad)</td>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>36 points, with 16 from best three HL courses</td>
<td>DDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G404 MSc Hons Computer Science (with Industrial Experience)</td>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>36 points, with 16 from best three HL courses</td>
<td>DDD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G601 MSc Hons Software Engineering (with Industrial Experience)</td>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>36 points, with 16 from best three HL courses</td>
<td>DDD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- All our courses require GCSE grade B (grade 6 equivalent) Maths and GCSE grade C (grade 4 equivalent) English Language
- G402 (Study Abroad) requires A level Mathematics or Computing
- For students entering on non A level pathways, evidence of strong performance in Science/Mathematics at GCSE Level will be expected
- A mix of BTEC and A level subjects is welcome
- A level General Studies is accepted provided you are studying at least three other A level subjects

We strongly support the Computing A level
Applicants studying the new Computing A level will be considered to receive a lower offer.

Apply only once
If we’re unable to offer you a place on our Study Abroad or MSci degree programmes, we will automatically consider you for our BSc degree programmes. You do not need to include both degrees on your UCAS form.

Please see lancaster.ac.uk/ug-entry-requirements or contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office at ugradmissions@lancaster.ac.uk or call +44(0)1524 592028 for information about qualifications not listed here.
Life on Campus

Lancaster University is diverse, varied, international, exciting and vibrant; you couldn’t ask for a better student experience.

Our students love the campus atmosphere. Just three miles from Lancaster city centre and set within 560-acres of picturesque parkland, Lancaster University offers the best of city, countryside and coast. You will find shops, banks, and a wide range of places to eat, plus a doctor’s surgery, pharmacy and private dentist all conveniently located on campus. You won’t have to venture far to find a varied social life with 9 college bars on campus, plus a cinema, theatre and art gallery. Take time out from your studies to exercise at the £20m sports centre, explore the woodland trail around campus or relax with a barbeque overlooking the duck pond.

Open Days and Campus Tours

Join us at one of our Open Days or Campus Tours where you will be able to experience our bustling campus that’s buzzing with activities and events. You’ll have the freedom to explore every part of our 560-acre site and find out as much as you can about Lancaster University.

In addition, you can meet with staff and students from the School of Computing and Communications to help you to build a picture of what it might be like to study here, and you’ll find that even grabbing lunch or a drink on campus will give you a feel for whether the University is right for you.

Campus Tour Extras

The University also offers Campus Tour Extras with a drop-in session to the School of Computing and Communications. You will have the opportunity to see our award-winning student accommodation, a range of social venues, our library and study areas and a lot more. After the tour, you’ll also get the chance to meet one of our academics in our iconic Computing and Communications InfoLab21 building. Here, you can ask any questions you may have about the courses we offer.

Applicant Visit Days

If you are offered a place on one of our degrees, you’ll be invited to visit the University, have a full campus tour and spend the day meeting academic staff and students in the School of Computing and Communications.

This is a lively and informative event giving you the opportunity to see our facilities close-up, experience demos of some of the exciting research we undertake and speak to current students and staff about the course and life at Lancaster University. We aim to give you a real flavour of what it’s like to live and study here.

Visit Us

Book a campus tour online at: lancaster.ac.uk/visitus

Start your journey…