

Guided tour — 2015/2016 handbook for guides

The university has over 10,500 students and 1300 staff, and is organised into three faculties:

The Faculty of Arts and Education, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Science and Technology. The Museum of Archaeology is also part of the university.

Arne Rettedal's House

Arne Rettedal's House was built in 2005

The building was named after the former Minister of Local Government and Labour, Arne Rettedal, an important Rogaland politician who deserves much of the credit for making Stavanger a major hub for the oil industry. Rettedal believed that it was extremely important for Stavanger to have a university, and that land should be set aside to be used for higher education. He was involved in allocating the 1200 decares (1.2 million square metres) site at Ullandhaug to the future university.

➤ **We will start down in the foyer/entrance area.**

Start by saying that the university celebrated its tenth birthday in 2014. Before that, it was the *Stavanger University College*. UiS is now a conglomerate of several colleges in Stavanger.

Go on to say that the building you are standing in is called Arne Rettedal's House, and is constructed in the shape of a triangle, with a kind of *corner tower* on the third floor. The tower marks the position of the building on the campus — like the town hall in a small town.

Here you will find:

- Central administration (rector, directors and staff functions such as the finance department and administration)
- Careers centre
- Guidance centre/admissions office/student administration office
- Media studies
- Drama studies
- Auditoriums
- Cafeteria/reading rooms/computer rooms/group workspaces

- **Go down the stairs to the cafeteria.** You can point out the artwork on the wall above G-001: "Network". The balls are reminiscent of map pins or lights on a control board, and are designed to represent the hive of activity contained in this institution.

In Arne Rettedal's House, **Terry Nilssen-Love** has created the artwork *Network*, which covers one large and one smaller wall with 300 coloured balls, fixed to the concrete in which you can still clearly see the marks left by the reinforcing plates. Many people associate this palette with map pins or pinheads.

- **Show G-001** through the window, or go in if it is open and no lecture is taking place. If you do enter G-001, this is a good place to talk about the various styles of lecture; some are in large auditoriums, while others are in smaller classrooms, etc. Feel free to draw on your own experiences here.

- **Go out through the doors and down to Kjell Arholm's House.**

Kjell Arholm's House

Stop at the arch.

Here you will find:

- Health and social studies; nursing, social work/sociology, child welfare
- Cafeteria
- Reading rooms/computer rooms/auditoriums/group workspaces

Mention the **nursing laboratory**, in which a hospital corridor has been constructed, complete with patient rooms, nurses' station and proper equipment. Unfortunately, we can't show you this because it contains expensive equipment and is kept locked.

- **Exit through the doors in the centre of the building (by the arch)** and move across to Hagbard Line's House. Stop more or less in the centre of the footpath so that **the old schoolroom** is on your left. Explain that this contains the Centre for Student Entrepreneurship.

Point out the gravel sports pitch and beach volleyball court to the right. Also explain that there is a grass pitch on the other side. Point out **the blue portakabins** (Pavilion 9) and explain that this is the home of SMIS — the Student Media Centre. All of the student organisations used to be based in the portakabins, but they have now moved to Studentenes Hus, which we will have a look at soon.

Mention that you can look into the natural sciences room and chemistry room through the basement windows in Hagbard Line's House.

Hagbard Line's House

- **Enter through the doors at the basement, go up the stairs, straight on and out under the footbridge.**

Explain that these buildings contain:

- Teacher training facilities
- Classrooms
- Cafeteria (the only one that is privately run)
- Various rooms like home economics, arts and crafts, etc.
- Swimming pool for sports students

- **Continue on to "Draget" ("The Avenue").** Stop at the crossing where the buses pass. Turn at the footbridge. Point out the Braille writing, which says "I see, I see". This is

taken from Sigbjørn Obstfelder's poem: "I see". The artist is Laila Kongevold, who has several pieces of art on display around campus, which we will also take a look at.

Go on to explain that there are excellent bus connections to campus, and that there are also plenty of facilities for cycling, including the covered bike park which you can see on your right. Continue.

At the corner of Hagbard Line's House there is a new piece of art, which is best seen in context with the new artwork at Arne Rettedal's House and at the top of Kjølvs Egeland's House. The three murals go together to form one work, painted by campus artist Anna Sigmond Gudmundsdottir. She painted these at night, using projectors. The themes illustrate maps, colours and rivers, and symbolise knowledge and creativity.

- **Stop outside Arne Rettedal's House.** Point up towards Hulda Garborg's House and explain that this is the home of language studies and Centre for Learning Environment.
Also mention that The National Centre for Reading Education and research (also called The Reading Centre) - is housed in a building with The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate, located below Kjell Arholm house.
Then point out the student apartments that you can see behind Hagbard Line's House. They have been housing students since 2011.

Then show "Vannspeilet" ("Water Surface") outside Arne Rettedal's House. "One raindrop" is written here in Braille.

- **Go up towards Studentenes hus** and explain that it was officially opened in September 2011. Most of the student organisations are based here. StOr (the student council) and the student priest can also be found here. Talk about your own experiences with Studentenes Hus.
- **Go into the new community building** that was completed in the summer of 2015. This is Elise Ottesen-Jensen's House.

Elise Ottesen-Jensen (1886–1973) was one of Scandinavia's most important campaigners for equality. She is also known for her work on issues including sex education and contraception. Ottesen-Jensen ("Ottar") was born into a vicar's family in Høyland near Sandnes. She is one of the most prominent people to come from our region in the last hundred years.

With 4800 square metres over three storeys, this is one of UiS' newest buildings and provides offices and teaching space.

- **Go into the auditorium if it's available.** This room seats 646 students.

- **Continue. Point out Ellen and Axel Lund's House** and explain that the School of Hotel Management, tourism and economics are based here. It contains auditoriums, computer rooms, etc.

The Norwegian School of Hotel Management was established in 1912 and was then known as the Norwegian Hotel College. The school is now part of the University of Stavanger. The school opened in Bergen in October 1912. In 1915 it moved to Kristiania. The school then moved to Sola in 1952, where it was run by the Sola Strand Hotel, and to Stavanger in 1973 where it shared premises with other colleges. The school became a college in 1982, and in 1994, it became part of what is now the University of Stavanger.

Cookbook museum in the basement: Ingrid Espelid, who is also patroness to the museum, opened this in 2012. It contains more than 3000 cookbooks. Here you can find the first ever Norwegian cookbook, which was published in 1845, and many other gems.

- **Continue into the foyer of Kitty Kielland's House.**

Kitty Kielland's House

Here you will find:

- International office
- The bookshop, which can provide most of what you need for your studies
- Student Welfare Association (SiS) services:
 - Accommodation — student accommodation
 - Health — you can get financial assistance for major medical/dental expenses. Other services are psychologist and a public health nurse.
 - Culture — financial support for various events
 - The SiS provides financial support and assistance to societies and teams
- **Go out again and stop at the orange wall with the Braille writing.** This says, "This place is so strange", taken from Obstfelder's poem. Explain that we will now be going into the biggest building on the campus. We will be looking at the library and a petroleum lab.

- **Go into the main entrance of Kjølvs Egeland's House.**

Kjølvs Egeland's House

- **Go into the library.** Stop at the counter and explain that the library contains specialist literature for all of the study programmes at UiS, as well as journals/periodicals, newspapers (in the basement), group work facilities, computer workstations and other workstations. The staff are all qualified and knowledgeable library technicians who are always happy to help. The library is open to anyone, but you have to be 16 to get a library card.

Now open 24 hours a day!

The University of Stavanger (UiS) was the first to open its library 24 hours a day. The university library is staffed on weekdays from 8:00–18:00 and on weekends from 11:00–17:00. During these hours, students and staff will be able to get guidance and assistance from the library staff. Outside these

hours, you will need your student or staff card to get in. Security staff monitor the library at evenings and weekends.

- **Go out of the library and stop at the start of the board walls.** Explain that we will now be going past the **biggest cafeteria**. Along the walls, you will see posters from many of the various organisations and teams that belong to UiS.
- **Stop at the Book Café.** Talk about what it is like to be a student; that it is important to take breaks, have a social life and relax every now and then. The Book Café is a popular facility. Mention that we may be able to have a look at **Tjodhallen** if it is available. Tjodhallen is our events hall, and is used for the opening ceremony and other ceremonial events and exams. If it is open and no exam is taking place, you can explain this inside the hall.
- **Continue straight on towards the west exit. Go almost to the end and up the stairs, go left and left again, and into the Petroleum Lab (not the lab on the right!). Stop so that the students can look into the lab.** Explain that this is only one of many labs at UiS and students in the Petroleum Engineering department use it. You can also explain that UiS works closely with business and industry, and that a great deal of research takes place here. Equipment is often sponsored by private industry, which means that we can conduct our research using modern tools and methods.

➤ **Point out Ivar Langen's House**

The new laboratory is named “Ivar Langen's House”, after the University of Stavanger's first rector. It was built in 2014. The concrete lab, as it is known on campus, is home to a number of teaching facilities, workshops and laboratories for the Department of Mechanical and Structural Engineering and Materials Science, and the Department of Industrial Economics, Risk Management and Planning.

The laboratories are flexible and can be used for various purposes in structural engineering and offshore studies. A special electron microscopy laboratory has also been built. This means illuminating an object with electrons instead of light, which enables us to view it at greater magnifications than what is possible using only light. Students also manufacture reinforced and non-reinforced concrete here, as materials and also as structural elements. They test the material to find out the best possible way to make it, and learn what it can tolerate in terms of compression and tension. There are also bigger rooms used for constructing large models of structures and buildings in various materials.

SiS Sports Centre

- **Go up and into the SiS Sports Centre** and stop in the foyer beside the climbing wall. As you enter, it is polite to ask for permission to show the students the climbing wall and sports hall. We have not been refused yet, but they prefer that we ask first. If the weather is bad, the students will have to take off their shoes, if they don't want to do this, you can just stay in the reception area.

Let the students look around a little if you go all the way in. Explain that the climbing wall is one of the biggest in Rogaland (14 metres) and that the students can climb it themselves if they have a climbing certificate (“brattkort”). There are regular courses on offer.

- Go in through the door to the sports hall, and stop roughly in the middle.

Explain that the SiS Sports Centre was voted Norway's best student sports centre in 2011, and has a very high satisfaction level. Explain that much of the sports science teaching takes place in the hall, and that it is also used regularly by all of the student sports teams and anyone else who needs to use it.

The centre is open to anyone, but you have to be 16 to become a member. Students can join for NOK 225 per month. Talk about your own experiences if you have used the centre for any sports or training needs.

- When you exit, make sure to thank the staff behind the counter for allowing you to visit.
- Go over to "**Flagghøyden**" ("Flag Hill"). At the top, you will find two benches with Braille writing. On one of these, it says "The grey blue clouds", and on the other, it says "The white sky" from Obstfelder. From here, you can see the **student accommodation** at the end of the car park. You can mention that students from Rogaland Art College have decorated this. The buildings are covered by a "Statement"—*Contemporary Emergency*—and a design inspired by old Norwegian knitwear patterns.
- Go back down "**Draget**" ("The Avenue") to Arne Rettedal's House, which is where the tour ends. Now that you are back, thank the students for visiting and wish them luck with choosing their studies.

The people behind the names of the houses

- **Arne Rettedal's House (built in 2005).** The building was named after the former Minister of Local Government and Labour, Arne Rettedal, an important Rogaland politician who deserves much of the credit for making Stavanger a major hub for the oil industry. Rettedal believed that it was extremely important for Stavanger to have a university, and that land should be set aside to be used for higher education. He was involved in allocating the 1200 decares (1.2 million square metres) site at Ullandhaug to the future university.
- **Kjell Arholm's House (built in 1995).** Named after the late Kjell Arholm, a distinguished politician from Stavanger who was passionate about education. He ran the regional College Board and was a member of the Hernes Committee on education policy-making.
- **Hagbard Line's House (built in 1972).** Hagbard Line has given his name to the institution—Stavanger Teacher Training College—which he ran in a way that made him a national, academic and pedagogic innovator in professional teacher training.

- **Hulda Garborg's House (building was taken over by UiS in 2003).** Hulda Garborg (1862–1934) was well known as a versatile and productive author who was extremely popular in her day. The negative attitudes of her contemporaries to female authors forced her to publish several of her works anonymously. Hulda Garborg is also famous for her marriage to poet Arne Garborg from Jæren.
- **Ellen and Axel Lund's House (built in 1986).** The building was named after Ellen and Axel Lund, who in 1951 left the Sola Strand Hotel to a foundation whose aim was to run a tourist hotel in association with a hotel management college.
- **Kitty Kielland's House (built in 1991).** This house was known as the Service Building for many years, but in 2006 it was named after Kitty Kielland (1843–1914). She was the first great Norwegian female landscape painter. Kitty Kielland was from Jæren.
- **Kjølv Egeland's House (built in 1974).** Kjølv Egeland (1918–1999) literary critic, biographer and politician. He was the director of Rogaland College from 1969–1974, and Minister of Education and Church Affairs under Odvar Nordli from 1976–1979. He was the father of former Under-Secretary-General of the UN, Jan Egeland.
- **Elise Ottesen-Jensen's House (built in 2014/15).** Elise Ottesen-Jensen (1886–1973) was one of Scandinavia's most important campaigners for equality. She is also known for her work on issues including sex education and contraception. Ottesen-Jensen was born into a vicar's family in Høyland near Sandnes. She is one of the most prominent people to come from our region in the last hundred years.
- **Ivar Langen's House (2014).** The laboratory building is named after the first rector of UiS, Professor Ivar Langen, who was rector from 2003 to 2007, and in four years went from being rector of a college to rector of a university. Langen came to Ullandhaug in 1986 as a professor II after working for Statoil. In 1994 he became a full time professor of mechanical engineering. After his period as rector, he brought himself up to date in his field, and since 2010 he has been professor emeritus at the Department of Mechanical and Structural Engineering and Materials Science.