



VILLANOVA
UNIVERSITY



GRADUATE
HOUSING GUIDE

Housing Guide

Villanova University does not offer any on-campus housing for graduate students. This Housing Guide is meant to give you guidance in acclimating yourself to the Villanova area, help you find housing, give you tips about moving to the region, and introduce you to the Graduate Student Housing Blog (www.villanovagradinghousing.com).

Villanova's Location

Villanova is located in Villanova, Pennsylvania. Located in Radnor Township, Delaware County, Villanova is a suburb of Philadelphia, approximately 12 miles west of Center City Philadelphia. Villanova is part of a string of small towns known as the "Main Line." The Main Line refers to the suburbs located west of the city along the SEPTA Paoli/Thorndale train line. Some of the towns along the Main Line, include, Merion Station, Narberth, Wynnewood, Ardmore, Haverford, Bryn Mawr, Rosemont, Villanova, Wayne, and Devon. Any of these towns would be no more than a 15-20 minute drive from Villanova's campus. If you are using your GPS, you will want to use "800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085" to locate campus.



Transportation

Villanova's campus is very conveniently located both by car and also public transportation.

By Car

If you plan to bring a car, please be aware that Pennsylvania has some of the highest vehicle insurance rates in the country, as well as a more complicated automobile registration process. If it is at all possible and you do not need to establish residency, you may want to consider keeping your former license and registration. If you do bring a car, you will need to pay for a parking pass each semester at Public Safety in Farrell Hall.

Web-based parking registration is available to all full and part-time graduate students. To access this form you will need your MyNova ID and Password. Once the form is completed on-line the parking permit price is automatically billed to your student account. It's easy and hassle free. To register for parking just go to: <https://novasis.villanova.edu>, click on secure login, and the link, "Personal Information." If you are not sure of your MyNova Password click on "Don't know your Novasis Pin?" This will allow you to acquire your Novasis password information. Permit pick-up is available at Farrell Hall - Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please feel free to contact the Parking Office with any questions at 610-519-6992 or email bridget.meakim@villanova.edu.

The annual parking permit fee for part-time students who do not plan to be on campus during the day is \$50 per year. If you are a full-time student or graduate assistant and plan to be on campus during the day, the parking permit fee is \$100. The permit is good from August –August. This information is current as of 2015-16.

Parking in center city Philadelphia can be expensive and challenging to locate, so even those who do have cars will often take the train for convenience. If you live on the Main Line, it is generally not difficult to find parking near or where you live. However, it is highly recommended that you discuss parking issues with the landlords of housing you are considering, as there are sometimes extra fees involved.

Public Transportation

Living in one of the towns along the Main Line without a car is definitely possible. However, if you do plan to live in the area without a car, please keep in mind that some areas will have more conveniences than others. Ardmore and Wayne, both with stations on the Paoli/Thorndale line, are probably the most conducive to living without a car. In addition, living in certain areas of Philadelphia is also very convenient for commuting to campus by train.

The public transportation service for Philadelphia and surrounding suburbs including Villanova

University is SEPTA (South Eastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority). There are two SEPTA train stations on-campus: the R5 Paoli/Thorndale Regional Rail located between the Mendel Parking Lot and the Springmill Garage, as well as the R100 train/Norristown High Speed line, with platforms at both the East and West Main Lots. SEPTA trains travel to 30th Street Station in Philadelphia, which is located in the center of Philadelphia and serves as a major hub, providing train, trolley and bus service throughout the area, including the Philadelphia International Airport. The 30th Street, Ardmore, and Paoli stations are also direct access points for AMTRAK.

Two SEPTA bus routes also operate along Lancaster Avenue, providing service throughout the Main Line. Check www.SEPTA.org for current train and bus schedules and fares.

SEPTA Transportation

SEPTA Passes can be purchased at the Paoli Thorndale station, located behind Mendel Hall, as well as online at: <https://shop.septa.org>

Paoli/Thorndale Line (formally the R5) Regional Rail Station stops include: Berwyn, Devon, Strafford, Wayne, St. Davids, Radnor, Villanova, Rosemont, Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Ardmore, Wynnewood, Narberth, Merion, Overbrook, and 30th Street Station.

For a full schedule, please visit www.septa.org.

Norristown High Speed Line (Formally the R100)
Station stops include: Wynnewood Rd., Ardmore Junction, Ardmore Ave., Haverford, Bryn Mawr, Roberts Rd. (Rosemont), Garrett Hill, Stadium (Ithan Ave.), Villanova, Radnor, and County Line.
For a full schedule, please visit www.septa.org.

105 Bus: Paoli to 69th Street Transportation Center
Station stops include: Cricket Terrace (Ardmore), Ardmore (Suburban Square), Lancaster and Bryn Mawr Avs, Radnor (Chester and King of Prussia Rds.), Lancaster and Wayne Avs (Wayne), Lancaster and Main Avs (Berwyn). For a full schedule, please visit www.septa.org.

106 Bus: Ardmore and Paoli to 69th Street Transportation Center
Station stops include: Ardmore (Suburban Square), Lancaster and Bryn Mawr Avs, Radnor (Chester and King of Prussia Rds.), Lancaster and Wayne Avs (Wayne), Lancaster and Main Avs (Berwyn). For a full schedule, please visit www.septa.org.

Zipcar

Two Zip Cars are available on campus in the East Main Lot. Zip Car is a car share program that allows car rentals by the hour. This program is great for anyone living near campus who doesn't have or want to bring their car to campus, reducing the amount of parking needed on campus. To sign up go

to the Zip Car website. Information and reservations are available at:
<http://www.zipcar.com/villanova>

Housing

Finding an apartment or house can often seem daunting, especially when relocating from another city, state, or country! There are many different apartment buildings and homes for rent throughout the region. On the main line alone, there are four different colleges so many of these apartment complexes are accustomed to working with graduate students. As a rule of thumb, the farther away you live from the Main Line and from Villanova, the cheaper your rent will be. However, this is not always the case and some towns such as Ardmore, Narberth, and Havertown (Delaware County) tend to be a bit less expensive and are very convenient to Villanova. Wayne, Devon, Conshohocken, Manayunk, and King of Prussia are also a little less expensive and are within 20 minutes' drive.

The following approximations are monthly rental rates for the average apartment (not including utilities, although some apartments include utilities in the rent). Please keep in mind these are included to give you a general idea of what you can expect to pay in the area, although some rents will be lower or higher.

Studios/efficiencies:	Starting at \$800
One Bedrooms:	Starting at \$900
Two Bedrooms:	Starting at \$1100
Room Rental:	Starting at \$500

Apartment vs. House

In this area there are many students who will live in a room or “apartment” in someone’s house. The rent in this situation is typically cheaper. In addition, sometimes students will get together and rent a house for a year. The best method for finding this type of option is to check our Graduate Student Housing Blog at: www.villanovagradhousing.com.

Places to Live

Some of the popular areas that our graduate students live are:

- Main Line towns including, Narberth, Wynnewood, Ardmore, Haverford, Bryn Mawr, Rosemont, Wayne, Devon
- Philadelphia (neighborhoods including Center City, University City, South Street, Bella Vista, Fairmount)
- Manayunk*
- Conshohocken*
- King of Prussia/Valley Forge*
- Norristown*

*Not convenient if you do not have a car

For a listing of apartment complexes in each of these areas, please visit this website:

<http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/reslife.html> and click on the link for “off-campus housing.”

Please feel free to contact Emily Hatcher in the Graduate Studies Office if you have any questions or concerns about where to live.

Finding a Roommate

The Office of Graduate Studies hosts an online Graduate Student Housing Blog at www.villanovagradhousing.com. We hope this blog will assist you by providing:

- Online posts of local rental opportunities targeted at graduate students
- A forum for graduate students to connect with other Villanova graduate students for roommates
- A place for our students to post recommendations and advice relating to housing in the area

If you have any questions about the blog, or need help posting your entry, please email gradinformation@villanova.edu

Furniture

Some apartment complexes offer furnished apartments and there are now even companies that offer rental furniture for students. However, these options can be expensive.

If you are looking for used furniture, you should check local thrift shops that often have a great selection. The Bryn Mawr Hospital Thrift Shop (Haverford Ave. in Bryn Mawr), The Junior League Thrift Shop (Lancaster Ave. in Ardmore), and the Pennywise Thrift Shop (Lancaster Ave. in Ardmore) are all excellent options.

For new furniture at reasonable prices, you can visit the Ikea in Conshohocken (about 20 minutes from Villanova). There are also many local malls and shopping centers that include stores such as Target, Bed, Bath and Beyond, or Walmart.

Services

Automobile Repair & Service

- **Bryn Mawr Getty**, 596 Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-525-7065
- **D'Avico Auto Repair**, 388 W. Lancaster Ave., Radnor 610-687-6266
- **Garrett Hill Auto Service**, 854 Conestoga Rd., Bryn Mawr 610-527-2673
- **Midas**, 733 Haverford Rd., Bryn Mawr, 610-527-3811

- **Plisinski Brothers**, 1227 Lancaster Ave., 610-525-9694

Banking

- **Bank of America**, 646 Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-542-5085
- **Citizens Bank**, 363 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne 610-688-5454 (multiple locations in the area)
- **PNC Bank**, 18 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-520-5151 (multiple locations in the area)
- **Santander Bank**, 2 Aldwyn Ln., Villanova 610-526-6379
- **Wells Fargo**, Villanova University, Dougherty Hall 610-527-0726

Laundromats

- **Rittenhouse Place Laundromat**, 58 Rittenhouse Place, Ardmore 610-649-9775
- **The Laundry Room**, 909 Conestoga Road, Rosemont 610-525-9755
- **Narberth Laundromat**, 103 North Narberth Avenue, Narberth 610-664-9085

Utilities

- **Verizon FIOS** 1-888-300-4184*
- **Comcast Xfinity** 1-800-934-6489*
- **PECO Energy** 1-800-494-4000

- **Pennsylvania Car Registration** 1-800-932-4600 if you are in PA or 1-717-391-6190 if you are outside PA
- **Aqua Pennsylvania** 610-525-7300 or 1-800-711-4779

*Oftentimes, you can find cheaper packages if you order your services online.

Grocery Stores

The Main Line area offers a wide array of food shopping options that will suit any dietary needs.

- **ACME Supermarket**, 601 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-525-1950
- **Super Fresh Supermarket**, 250 E. Lancaster Ave, Wynnewood 610-896-7090
- **GIANT**, 50 E. Wynnewood, Rd, Wynnewood 610-642-5206 OR 550 E. Lancaster Ave., St. Davids 610-989-0781
- **Whole Foods**, 821 Lancaster Ave, Wayne 610-688-9400 OR 339 E. Lancaster Ave., Wynnewood, PA 610-896-3737
- **Trader Joe's**, 112 Coulter Ave., Ardmore 610-658-0645
- **The Farmer's Market**, Suburban Square, 120 Coulter Ave., Ardmore
- **Lancaster County Farmer's Market**, 389 Lancaster Ave., Wayne 610-688-9856
- **Reading Terminal Market**, 12th and Arch St., Center City Philadelphia

- **MOM's Organic Market**, 1149 E. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 484-385-0220
- **H-Mart (Korean Supermarket)**, 7050 Terminal Square, Upper Darby 610-734-1001

Places to Eat

The Main Line and Philadelphia is known for its excellent restaurants and variety of types of food. In every town you will be sure to find anything from sushi and tacos to five-star fine dining and everything in between. This provides you with a list of some Villanova student favorites, but we encourage you to try as many places as you can while at Villanova.

Breakfast/Brunch

- **Ardmore Station Café**, 6 Station Rd., Ardmore 610-642-3889
- **Nudy's Café**, 292 E. Conestoga Rd., Wayne 610-687-1345
- **Sabrina's Café**, 50 E. Wynnewood, Rd., 484-412-8790

Brew Pubs/Bars

- **Flip and Bailey's**, 900 Conestoga Rd., Rosemont 610-527-4826
- **Great American Pub**, 4 West Ave., Wayne 610-964-9535

- **Gullifty's**, 1149 E. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-525-1851
- **Iron Hill Brewery**, 60 Greenfield Ave., Ardmore 610-228-2280
- **John Henry's**, 98 Cricket Ave., Ardmore 610-726-9193
- **Kelly's**, 1107 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-520-9344
- **Mad Mex**, 50 E. Wynnewood Rd., Wynnewood 484-417-6932
- **Not Your Average Joe's**, 49 St. James Pl., Ardmore, PA 484-708-1500
- **The Grog**, 863 Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-527-5870

Coffee Shops

- **Cosi**, 761 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-520-5208
- **Holy Grounds**, Villanova University Campus (CEER, Connelly Center, Bartley Hall, Falvey Library)
- **Melodies Café**, 2 E. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore 610-645-5269
- **Saxby's**, 346 Lancaster Ave., Haverford 484-416-3781
- **Starbucks**, Locations in Bala Cynwyd, Ardmore, Bryn Mawr, Wayne
- **The Gryphon**, 105 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne 610-688-1988

Diners

- **International House of Pancakes**, 130 W. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore 610-642-2555
- **Minella's Main Line Diner**, 320 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne 610-687-1575
- **Ruby's Diner**, 5 Coulter Ave., Ardmore 610-658-3287



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Information enclosed is current as of 2015-2016. Villanova University makes no representation whatsoever regarding the housing, landlords or roommates listed through this booklet. Students are responsible to inspect the property and negotiate lease terms with any landlord and/or roommate. Villanova University has not inspected or investigated these properties, landlords, or roommates in any way and is not endorsing any specific properties, landlords, or roommates. Villanova University disclaims any responsibility, among other things, for the condition of any premises, terms of any lease or agreement, treatment by any landlord or roommate, or compliance with any applicable local zoning ordinances.