Welcome Tigers!

If you are reading this page while in India, Perfect!!! This will give you a gist on student life in Auburn. If you have found this page while you have already been here for a while, well, it’s never too late to catch up on some facts, figures and things to look forward to for the rest of your stay in Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now known as Auburn University.

So, if you are still wondering “whether I have made the right decision or not?”, we are pleased to tell you that you have indeed made the right decision like many of us! Well, Auburn is not quite what you could have imagined while sitting in your 17th floor hideout in a big metropolitan in India, nor is it like a small vacation town sitting in the middle of nowhere. Auburn is a college town sitting near the crossover to Georgia, located 2hrs (drive time) away from Atlanta, 2hrs from Birmingham, Alabama’s financial capital and just 40 min away from Montgomery, the state capital. Yes, you got it right, the vastness of this country will make you measure distance in the units of time. Now that you know where you are going to be (or where you already are) it’s time for the most important piece of information, and that is Auburn Football.

No, it’s not what you imagine; it’s unlike what any Indian student would imagine before coming here. While you might be familiar with the norms of American Football (and NOT Rugby) what you could not have imagined is how deep the spirit of football runs within the students of Auburn University. American College Football is way bigger than Indian Premier League and much older than the very first international Cricket World Cup and amidst this history, Auburn football is currently, literally sitting right at the helm of all the College Football in the south eastern part of United States. Auburn University is currently the South East Conference (SEC) Champions. We have been the SEC Champions 3 times in the past and been the National Champions twice. This much of a history lesson should be apt for now. If you still can’t fathom the magnitude of Auburn Football and ask yourself ‘why such a hype?’, just try shouting “War Eagle!!” to anyone you come across on the roads while in Auburn, and you will understand it.

Now, we understand that it is of paramount importance for you to know how much is the living expense, which are the areas to live in and who I be staying with. The good news is that, the living expenses in Auburn are pretty low and reasonable. The bad news is that there are not many Indian Students, currently there are just over 200 Indian students. But wait, that also means that you could really know almost all of us here. While you could really get away paying just nearly $370 for rent, water and electricity if
you stay with a friend in a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, a decent sized hall and a kitchen
apartment, you could also just be paying $420 for rent, water and electricity for a 1
bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment just to yourself. Is that cheap? Ask your friends staying
in Boston, NYC, Chicago, L.A, etc. Most of us do not have cars and thus majority of the
Indian students prefer staying off campus in nearby locals. Area where most of us stay
is on the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering side of the campus. Apartment
complexes on the West Magnolia Avenue, East Magnolia Avenue, Thomas Street, Cox
Street and West Glenn Avenue are currently the popular places for not only the Indian
students but for all the students who want to stay like a stone’s throw away from
campus.

The Temporary Accommodation facility that the ISA provides, is specifically aimed at
you having some time to find the right apartment and the right roommate(s) for yourself,
without having to spend any extra money.

Unfortunately Auburn does not have a full-fledged Indian grocery store, but wait, we
know how important it is for you to be able to eat your customary Indian Food in your
current ‘Home, away from Home’ and thus we have got you covered. Indian Student
Association conducts monthly, one trip to Atlanta to get you all the Indian groceries you
require. While you will be able to find onions, potatoes, tomatoes, cauliflowers,
cabbage, brinjal, ladyfingers and dahi in the local Walmart and Kroger of Auburn, more
Indian things like different kinds of vegetables, dals, spices, frozen rotis, paranthas and
Basmati and Sonamasoori rice can only be found in Atlanta. You could buy the Basmati
and Sonamasoori rice from 2 local shops in Auburn, but they would turn out to be 10%
more expensive.

To sum up this quick read, with a awe smashingly awesome Football entertainment, a
very hospitable population of United States Southerners running the University, lots and
lots of world renowned and extremely helpful teaching faculty and their state of the art
research facilities, an extremely talented and ambitious lot of Indian students and a hard
working Indian Student Association committee would be constantly working towards
getting you where you wanted to be. War Eagle!