

OXFORDSHIRE

VISITOR GUIDE 2023



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All information stated in this guide is correct at time of publishing and every attempt is made to ensure its accuracy. However, prices, opening hours and offers may be subject to change without notice. Please check before you travel.

WELCOME TO *Oxfordshire*

Home to a city of dreaming spires, historic market towns, villages of honey-coloured stone, rolling hills and waterways, Oxfordshire delivers the great outdoors, heritage, culture, entertainment and countless experiences.

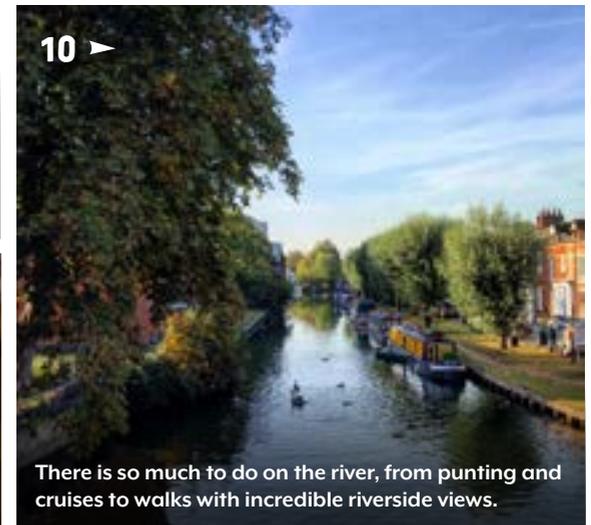
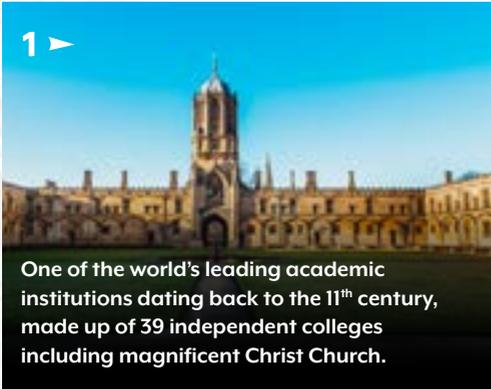
Enjoy its cosy pubs, memorable dining options and delightful accommodation. Soak up the grandeur of stunning stately homes and amazing museums or go on a spree in its contemporary shopping centres and artisan markets.

Make time for cycle rides, walks and punting, and round off your evenings with magical music and theatre.

experienceoxfordshire.org

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OXFORDSHIRE *Highlights*



- 1 ▶ University of Oxford
- 2 ▶ Blenheim Palace
- 3 ▶ Bicester village
- 4 ▶ Ashmolean Museum
- 5 ▶ Westgate Oxford
- 6 ▶ New Theatre Oxford
- 7 ▶ Bicester Heritage
- 8 ▶ Cogges Manor Farm
- 9 ▶ Oxford University Museum of Natural History
- 10 ▶ The Thames



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📅 Saturdays, once a month, 2:30pm

Philip Pullman's Oxford Tour

📅 Saturdays, twice a month, 2pm

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OXFORD *an Introduction*

On a trip to **Oxford** be sure to squeeze in a visit to a world-class museum before a picnic in one of the city's tranquil parks. Stroll along Oxford's pastel-hued **High Street** lined with independent boutique shops and coffee bars, before joining the **River Cherwell** at **Magdalen Bridge** for a leisurely punt along the river.



1 ▶

world, is made up of 39 colleges - many dating back to medieval times with immaculate lawned quads, grand dining halls and ornate chapels.

Visit the world-famous **Bodleian Libraries**, home to the University's oldest teaching and examination room, the **Divinity School**.

Make sure that you leave time to explore and enjoy the eclectic variety of places to eat and drink the city has to offer, from chic five-star restaurants to buzzing pubs and cafes.



2 ▶

Take a walking tour of Oxford City Centre with **Oxford Official Walking Tours** or Oxford Tour Guides, where ornate buildings in distinctive golden stone can be found around every corner. The **University of Oxford**, the oldest university in the English-speaking



3 ▶

- 1 ▶ *Punting, Magdalen Bridge*
- 2 ▶ *Oxford Covered Market*
- 3 ▶ *Radcliffe Camera*

WHERE TO SHOP AND EAT *in Oxford*

Oxford is a hub of top-notch shopping and dining choices with high street shops and eateries next to independent retailers and cafes and exclusive designer brands - all waiting to be enjoyed!

WESTGATE OXFORD

Westgate Oxford is home to prestigious global brands - including high-end department store John Lewis & Partners - innovative restaurants and cafes, a five-screen cinema and sophisticated boutique bars. Visit Westgate's rooftop terrace for arresting views of the **Oxford** city skyline while you enjoy one of the many dining or drinking options! Some of our favourites include **Pho**, with its delicious and healthy Vietnamese-inspired street food, and **Victors**, offering affordable

American luxury in the form of signature small plates and fine wine.



1 ▶

GLOUCESTER GREEN MARKET

Located just off bustling **George Street**, the **Gloucester Green Market** is a traditional open-air market that operates from Wednesday through to Saturday.

Here you will find a vibrant selection of fresh and seasonal fruits and vegetables, cheese, baked goods, sweets and more. Don't leave without trying the delicious street food served here, inspired by global cuisines.



2 ▶

THE COVERED MARKET OXFORD

Home to a collection of independent shops, **The Covered Market Oxford** dates back to the 18th century and is a hub of wonderfully tucked-away retailers selling everything from books to clothing. Eating here is an experience you won't find



3 ▶



4 ▶

anywhere else in the city; watch the skilled bakers of **The Cake Shop** create masterpieces before popping in to buy a cupcake, kick start your day with a full English breakfast at **Brown's Cafe**, or quench your thirst at a juicery, coffee shop or the rooftop cocktail bar. Nearby at **Knoops** on Turl Street, discover the perfect chocolate drink.

HIGH STREET

Oxford's picturesque and busy **High Street**, known locally as '**The High**', runs from **Carfax Tower** all the way down and east to **Magdalen Bridge**. Aside from the multiple colleges lining the way, Oxford's High Street features a

plethora of independent and high-end retailers, restaurants and the **Visitor Information Point**. In addition, Oxford's High Street boasts England's original coffeehouse - one that's been around since the 1650s!



5 ▶

LITTLE CLARENDON STREET

Buzzing **Little Clarendon Street** has stylish boutiques, cheese shops, cafes and more. Walk to the end of Little Clarendon Street and you will find yourself in the

relaxed and bohemian area of **Jericho**, which boasts more independent shops, bookstores and unique drinking and eating establishments.

Where to Shop and Eat in Oxford

Discover local gems
Read More | p.18 ▶

For more ideas, see our listing pages
Read More | p.98 ▶

- 1 ▶ *Victors Oxford*
- 2 ▶ *Gloucester Green Market*
- 3 ▶ *Oxford Covered Market*
- 4 ▶ *Knoops*
- 5 ▶ *Carfax Tower*

Great for



FOOD & DRINKS



CULTURE



HIDDEN GEMS

Build these recommendations into your Oxford itinerary
Read More | p.54 ▶

OXFORD'S Green Spaces

Offering leafy sanctuaries from the bustling city, Oxford's green spaces are open to the public all year round. Take some tranquil time out from your city break in these historic parks.

Great for



NATURE
LOVERS



FAMILIES



HIDDEN GEMS

PORT MEADOW

One of Oxford's hidden gems, **Port Meadow** is a beautiful open area of ancient meadowland, north-west of the city centre and just a 5-minute walk from **Jericho**, offering a tranquil retreat for visitors and locals alike. Home to grazing horses and a herd of pedigree Old English Longhorn cattle, Port Meadow lies alongside the **River Thames** and has provided inspiration for **Lewis**

Carroll's Alice in Wonderland and **JRR Tolkien's Lord of the Rings**.



1 ▶

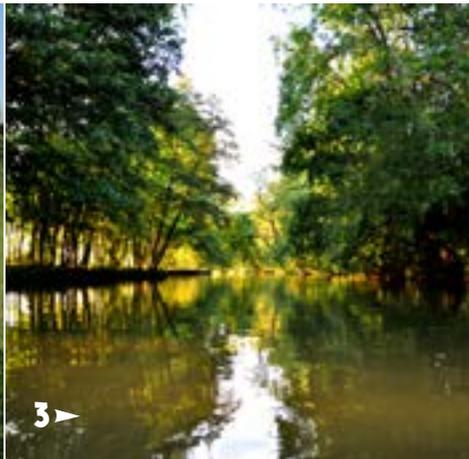
CHRIST CHURCH MEADOW

Ideal for short scenic walks and picnics, **Christ Church Meadow** stretches from **Christ Church** to the banks of the River Thames and **River Cherwell**. The meadow itself is an open expanse of

rugged greenery, peppered with rare English Longhorn cows. Walk around the meadow to take in a variety of wildlife, watch the rowing boats passing by on the river, or see the college boathouses.



2 ▶



3 ▶

SOUTH PARK

In **East Oxford**, at the end of **St Clement's**, you'll find **South Park**. The largest park in the city, with 50 acres of open green space, South Park often plays host to events and festivals throughout the year. It's the perfect park for dog walks, sun-bathing, and meeting with friends before lunch at one of the many excellent restaurants on **Cowley Road** or **St Clement's**.



South Park also boasts excellent views over the spires of Oxford, especially in the mesmerising light of dawn or dusk.

UNIVERSITY PARKS

University Parks offers the perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of the city but is also conveniently located right at the city's heart. The beautiful park, originally created by **Merton College** and now owned by the **University of**

Oxford itself, offers a choice of peaceful walks. Feed ducks at the pond and discover the park's **Genetic Garden** and collection of rare trees before wandering back towards the city centre along the bank of the River Cherwell.

OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN

The **University of Oxford Botanic Garden** is the UK's oldest botanic garden, founded in 1621 to grow plants for medicinal research. Situated in the heart of Oxford, the historic garden is an oasis of

green in the city centre. Take a stroll around the formal walled garden; see exotic, tropical and carnivorous plants in the glasshouses, and enjoy the lush herbaceous borders of the informal lower garden.



5 ▶



6 ▶



7 ▶

Oxford's
Green Spaces

See more nature along Oxford's waterways
Read More | p.40 ▶

Stretch your legs further with a walk along the Ridgeway Trail
Read More | p.62 ▶

- 1 ▶ Port Meadow
- 2&3 ▶ Christ Church Meadow
- 4 ▶ South Park
- 5 ▶ Oxford University Parks
- 6&7 ▶ Oxford Botanic Garden, (6) credit: Ian Wallman

WHERE THE LOCALS LIVE: *Beyond the City Centre*

Travel just beyond Oxford city centre and you will find great attractions and local culture in many of the city's districts - each with their own unique identity.

JERICHO

Once an industrial area due to its proximity to the **Oxford Canal**, **Jericho** is now one of **Oxford's** most sought-after areas to live with an excellent choice of pubs, restaurants and shops. It's a laid-back, bohemian neighbourhood, characterised by hip cocktail bars and quiet residential streets

of Victorian terraces. **The Old Bookbinders Ale House** is a charming neighbourhood pub loved by locals for its delicious (and surprising!) menu of French cuisine. For a fun evening, head to **The Harcourt Arms** or **Jericho Tavern** for some live music, or enjoy expertly-mixed cocktails at **Raoul's Bar**.



Great for



ADVENTURERS



CULTURE



HIDDEN GEMS

Beyond the City Centre

Discover nearby green spaces in the city
Read More | p.16 ▶

SUMMERTOWN

To the north of the city centre, **Summertown** is a leafy suburb that is lined with cosy cafes, boutique shops, and many independent restaurants and eateries. **North Parade** and **South Parade** are colourful shopping streets, perfect for picking up an

artisan gift or pastry to take home. On a Sunday **Summertown Farmers Market** springs to life, offering a tempting array of incredible fresh produce. Find entertainment at the **North Wall Arts Centre**, which showcases upcoming artists across comedy, theatre and dance.

COWLEY ROAD

Cowley Road is a vibrant, multicultural area to the east of Oxford with many restaurants, shops, bars and arts venues. The area's unique character is celebrated every July at the **Cowley Road Carnival**, which boasts live music, a lively parade and delicious street food. One

of the most diverse restaurant scenes in the city, Cowley Road boasts the hottest spots for food shopping and restaurants. The tiny, crammed **Maroc Deli** is a total gem, and just a few yards away is bustling **Arbequina**, masquerading under the name of 'R Neville Chemists', which serves truly exceptional tapas.

ST CLEMENT'S

Adjacent to Cowley Road, **St Clement's** is another street bustling with a variety of eclectic restaurants and bars - the **Oxford Brookes University** campus is nearby, giving the feel of a buzzing student district. Visit lively Sri-

Lankan street food restaurant **The Coconut Tree** or one of several pubs for a drink, quiz or live music! Wander on from St Clement's and you will come to **South Park**; a beautiful, vast green space overlooking Oxford's dreaming spires.

Find the perfect place to stay in our accommodation listings
Read More | p.78 ▶

1 ▶ *Jericho*
2 ▶ *River Thames at Osney*
credit:
Sarah Rhodes

City Sightseeing Oxford

Discover Oxford from the top deck!

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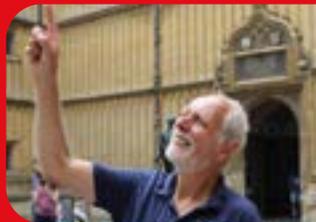
Hop On
Hop Off

24 hrs.
Valid Ticket

48 hrs.
Valid Ticket

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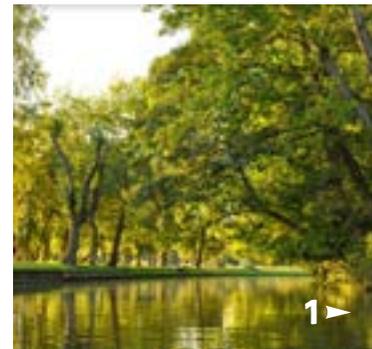
SCAN
HERE



OXFORDSHIRE *an Introduction*

Oxfordshire
An Introduction

Walk across the ancient chalk downs of the **Ridgeway** and climb to the top of **White Horse Hill** for enchanting views over the whole of **Oxfordshire**, with its rolling hills dotted with sheep, criss-crossed with hedges and circled by red kites, continuing endlessly into the horizon. Simply relax and take a break as you admire the scenery, but don't stop for too long – for there is so much to see and do on your journey across the county.



1 ▶

Standing in the ancient and unspoilt countryside of the **Chiltern Hills** stretching across the south of Oxfordshire, it feels like you might be the first traveller to discover this land. Venture north through the county, however, and you'll discover thousands of years of culture.

Meandering across the county, the **River Cherwell** and **River Thames** provide beautiful riverside walks. Follow the River Thames north to shop in a farmers' market in one of Oxfordshire's traditional market towns, such as **Wallingford** or **Abingdon**.

The two rivers converge in **Oxford**, an architectural gem and the county (and world's) intellectual heart. Piercing Oxfordshire's skylines with its spires and domes, the lively city provides an energetic contrast to the tranquillity of Oxfordshire's countryside.

Let the River Cherwell guide you further north through the county, towards the uplands known as 'ironstone country', with pretty villages built of the richly coloured local Hornton ironstone, the market towns of **Banbury** and **Bicester**, plus welcoming pubs and blissfully quiet walking trails.

Head west in the county and you will find that some of the most beautiful **Cotswold** towns and villages, such as **Burford** and **Minster Lovell**, are in Oxfordshire. Relax with an afternoon tea in a charming, honey-coloured Cotswold building.

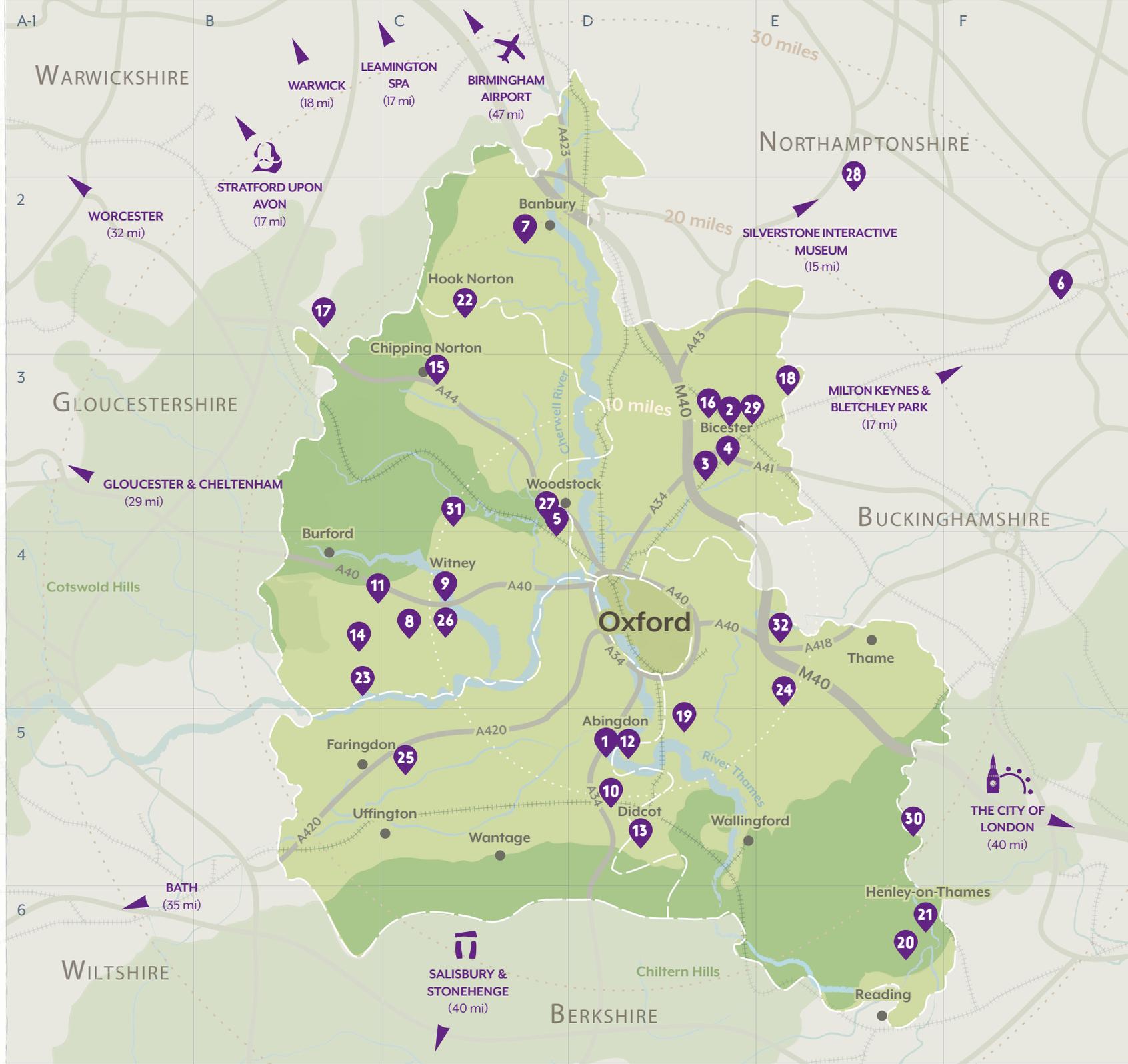
With a wealth of natural beauty, Oxfordshire is an unmissable county bursting with character. Take some time to explore beyond the city of Oxford, because there is so much more to discover.



2 ▶

- 1 ▶ *River Cherwell*
- 2 ▶ *White Horse Hill*

OXFORDSHIRE County Map



- 1 Abingdon Local Food & Crafts D5
- 2 Bicester Heritage D3
- 3 Bicester Hotel Golf and Spa D3
- 4 Bicester Village D3
- 5 Blenheim Palace C3
- 6 Bletchley Park F2
- 7 Broughton Castle C2
- 8 Caswell House C4
- 9 Cogges Manor Farm C4
- 10 Courtyard by Marriott Oxford South D5
- 11 Crocodiles of the World ... B4
- 12 The Crown & Thistle D5
- 13 Didcot Railway Centre D5
- 14 The Double Red Duke B4
- 15 Fairytale Farm C3
- 16 Finest Hour Experiences .. D3
- 17 Go Cotswolds B2
- 18 Grange Farm Country Cottages E3
- 19 Harcourt Arboretum D5
- 20 The Henley Distillery E6
- 21 Henley River & Rowing Museum E6
- 22 Hook Norton Brewery C2
- 23 Kelmscott Manor B4
- 24 Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons E4
- 25 Mollie's Oxfordshire C5
- 26 Oxford Witney Hotel C4
- 27 Oxfordshire Museum C3
- 28 Silverstone Interactive Museum E2
- 29 Sky Wave Gin D3
- 30 Stonor Park E5
- 31 Treedwellers C3
- 32 Waterperry Gardens E4

MAIN ROADS
 TRAIN LINES
 2mi 5km SCALE
 DISTANCE FROM OXFORD
 GRID SQUARE = 9.3mi/15km

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Bicester Hotel Golf and Spa



Bicester Hotel and Spa is a resort set among beautiful acres of Oxfordshire countryside. With 52 spacious rooms and suites, decorated in four various contemporary styles this family owned estate is surrounded by quaint gardens and a glorious Golf Course offering a backdrop of the most magnificent sweeping rural views.

The resort is the perfect location for both business and leisure stays, close to Junction 9 on the M40 with direct train links to both Oxford and London. The world famous shopping destination, Bicester Village is just a five minute drive away.

Conference
and
Banqueting
rooms catering
from 1- 200
delegates

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swimming lake,
Assault Course,
Paddleboarding &
Team building
days

52
contemporary
bedrooms,
Grays
Restaurant,
Bar Rooftop
terrace

Indoor
Swimming
Pool and Spa,
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treatments,
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art gyms

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www.bicesterhotelgolfandspa.com
hotel@bicesterhgs.com
01869 241204

CHERWELL

The Impressive North

Great for



ADVENTURERS



NATURE LOVERS



HIDDEN GEMS

North Oxfordshire offers rich rewards for its visitors. Centred in the valley of the **River Cherwell**, with the **Oxford Canal** alongside, there are landscapes of beautiful countryside with picturesque villages and the market towns of Banbury and Bicester to explore.

Banbury is set amidst the gentle rolling hills in the north of the district. At its heart is the canal side quarter where you will find **The Light**, an exciting entertainment venue which opened in 2022 with a premium seven screen cinema, 10 lane bowling alley and waterfront restaurants. This popular area is also home to the historic **Tooley's Boatyard**; **Banbury Museum**; and **Lock 29** with artisan food and drink outlets and a delightful terrace overlooking the canal. The atmospheric lanes of the Old Town are well worth exploring and you will also want to see the "Fine Lady" from the famous Ride a cock horse to **Banbury Cross** rhyme, a beautiful bronze statue set close to the Banbury Cross at the meeting point of the roads from **Oxford**, **Warwick** and **Shipston-on-Stour**.

Bicester lies just 12 miles northeast of Oxford and marries the charm of an historic market town with the appeal of the world-famous retail outlet of **Bicester Village**. Trains from London Marylebone to Bicester take only 46 minutes and as well as shopping at the Village you can visit the delightful **Garth Park gardens** and relax over a meal at one of the town's welcoming pubs or restaurants.



2 ▶

The uplands northwest of Banbury are known as 'ironstone country', with pretty villages built of the richly coloured local **Horton** ironstone, welcoming pubs, and interesting walking and cycling routes. Well worth a visit is the moated manor house of **Broughton Castle**, built in the 14th century and used as a film setting for both **Shakespeare in Love** and **The Madness of King George**.

There is a rich brewing heritage to discover in the village of **Hook Norton**, near **Chipping Norton**, where you can enjoy a tour of the Victorian **Hook Norton Brewery** which is still thriving today and supplying many local pubs.



3 ▶

Built in the late 18th century to carry commercial barges between Coventry and **Oxford**, the Oxford canal follows the scenic course of the River Cherwell. You can explore the canal by hiring narrow boats at either **Lower Heyford** or **Thrupp**, or enjoy one of the towpath or circular walks. The stretch of the canal between Banbury and Oxford is also accessible by train, with stations at **Banbury**, **Lower Heyford**, **Tackley** and **Oxford**.

The district has a strong tradition of festivals and events, ranging from **Banbury's Canal Festival** and the motor-themed events at **Bicester Heritage** (also home to **Sky Wave Gin** and **Finest Hour Experiences**) to **Cropredy's Fairport Convention music festival** which is held in August each year. A central location with excellent transport links,

North Oxfordshire is not only a rewarding destination, but also an ideal touring centre. A wide range of overnight accommodation provides ease of access to many world-famous destinations, including **Silverstone Circuit**, **Blenheim Palace**, **Oxford**, **Warwick Castle**, **Stratford-upon-Avon**, and the **Cotswolds**.



1 ▶

Walk along Oxford Canal to explore the heart of the Cherwell Valley
Read More | p.58 ▶

BICESTER VISITOR CENTRE

Bicester Village Outlet Shopping Centre, Pingle Drive, Bicester, OX26 6WD
☎ 01869 366 266 📧 bicestervisitorcentre@valueretail.com

BANBURY TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

(entrance within Castle Quay)
Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury, OX16 2PA
☎ 01295 236 165 📧 enquiries@banburymuseum.org

1 ▶ *Oxford Canal*
2 ▶ *Bicester Heritage*



1 ▶

- 1 ▶ *Bicester Village*
- 2 ▶ *The Fine Lady*
- 3 ▶ *Hook Norton Brewery*



2 ▶



Luxury shopping in the open air

Discover more than 150 boutiques from heritage fashion houses and cutting-edge designers at luxury shopping destination, Bicester Village. Sitting in the Oxfordshire countryside, just an hour from London, the Village is home to renowned brands including Mulberry, Off-White™, ZEGNA and more – all offering remarkable year-round savings on the original retail price.

Plus, explore a superb selection of restaurants, cafés and pop-ups such as Cecconi's, La Tua Pasta, farmshop restaurant & cafe, Shan Shui and Ladurée.

And if you can't make it to the Village, try a Virtual Shopping appointment by phone or WhatsApp and browse our brilliant boutiques from wherever you are.

Shop like an insider with your exclusive VIP Pass for a 10% saving. Tap the button below to download your code and present it in participating boutiques and restaurants when you pay, to enjoy an extra 10% off already extraordinary Village prices.

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We look forward to welcoming you

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SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE *Hills & Villages*

Enjoy a picnic in Wallingford Castle Meadows and Castle Gardens, discover the river Thames with a boat trip or take a walk along the Thames to Days Lock or **Dorchester on Thames** and visit Dorchester Abbey.

Waterperry Gardens, just a stone's throw from Oxford, has been delighting visitors for years with 8 acres of historic and inspirational gardens nestled in the Oxfordshire countryside between Wheatley and Thame.

Nearby **Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons** is a country house hotel set in elegant gardens in the Oxfordshire countryside. A site of gastronomic excellence, the restaurant, helmed by Chef Raymond Blanc, has held two Michelin stars for almost 40 years.

You can also visit the town of **Didcot** and stop at **Didcot Railway Centre** to see a unique collection of **Great Western Railway** steam engines.

Visit **Henley-on-Thames**, home to the famous Henley Royal Regatta and one of the most beautiful towns in Oxfordshire. Its riverside location, surrounded by wooded hills and green fields, lends itself to relaxation .

Whilst there visit **Stonor Park**, home to the Stonor family for 850 years, and nearby **The Henley Distillery**.



Great for



NATURE
LOVERS



FAMILIES



HISTORY

Use the River Rapids bus service to journey through South Oxfordshire
[Read More | p.60](#)



4 ▶

- 1 ▶ *Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons*
- 2 ▶ *Didcot Railway Centre*
- 3 ▶ *Henley-on-Thames*
- 4 ▶ *Chiltern Hills*

VALE OF WHITE HORSE

Ancient Beauty

Great for



HISTORY



FAMILIES



HIDDEN GEMS

Journey through the Vale of White Horse using the Ridgeway Trail itinerary
Read More | p.62 ▶



1 ▶

The **Vale of White Horse** stretches from the edge of **Oxford** to the threshold of the **Cotswolds**. Its enchanting landscape is marked by a mysterious pagan past - the very name comes from the oldest chalk figure in **Britain**, dating back over 3,000 years.

It offers many walking and cycling trails. Mile upon mile of the **Thames Path** leads you to wonderful waterside pubs, hidden villages and glorious countryside. **Wayland's Smithy** is one of the most impressive prehistoric tombs in Britain.

Abingdon-on-Thames is the largest town in the Vale, its historic town centre dominated by the grandeur of the 17th century County Hall. It presides over the cobbled Market Place, a favourite café haunt for walkers and cyclists taking a break from the Thames Path and other routes in the surrounding countryside.



2 ▶

Nearby is **The Crown & Thistle** coaching inn and the ancient Abbey Buildings which host the **Abingdon Traditional Craft Fair** every November.

Wantage is an ancient market town and birthplace of **King Alfred the Great**. Visit the award-winning **Vale & Downland Museum** which tells the story of the **White Horse Grove**, on the outskirts of Wantage, has grown from a settlement recorded in the **Doomsday Book**.

Faringdon has been welcoming visitors for many centuries. Take a break in one of the quirky coffee shops, or climb to the top of the hill above Faringdon to see the gothic **Folly Tower** and views across four counties. Nearby grab a drink, eat or stay at **Mollie's Motel & Diner Oxfordshire**.

MOLLIE'S MOTEL & DINER

Oxfordshire



MOTEL

Make yourself at home at Mollie's Oxfordshire: 79 rooms designed by Soho House, a pop of colour, a dash of Conran, friendly lobby workspaces, cocktails, mocktails, masses of free parking, EV charging and a handy distance from the city.

DINER

In the diner next door, a big juicy dollop of classic Americana... all-day breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner, a buzzy open kitchen, a heated terrace, the Mini Mollie's kids' menu. Just passing? For those on the road, we've added a Mollie's fast-track Grab & Go. You're welcome.



Mollie's Motel And Diner , Shrivenham Road A420, Buckland, Faringdon, SN7 8PY

01367 707777 | mollies@oxfordshire.com | mollies.com



- 1 ▶ *The White Horse*
- 2 ▶ *Abingdon-on-Thames*

WEST OXFORDSHIRE

Gateway to the Cotswolds

West Oxfordshire is characterised by the rolling hills of the Cotswolds, offering excitement for any visitor.



2 ▶

Burford is an ancient town nestled in the countryside. Stroll down the picturesque **High Street**, lined with idyllic stone cottages, boutiques, pubs and restaurants. Explore Burford's alleyways and lanes where you can immerse yourself in medieval history and charm.



1 ▶

Experience timeless Cotswolds life at **Cogges Manor Farm** in **Witney** and stroll around the picnic orchard and walled garden of the historic farmstead. Pick up vegetables from the farm's reception and have fun feeding the friendly farm animals! Visitors can also enjoy Victorian cooking demonstrations, craft sessions and croquet on the lawn.

Woodstock is a picturesque Georgian town located on the edge of the **Oxfordshire Cotswolds**, containing many attractive honey stone buildings and home to the **Oxfordshire Museum**. It's a great base from which to explore the county, within reach of **Oxford**, **Charlbury** and **Chipping Norton** and nearby



3 ▶

Fairy Tale Farm. Visit **Wake Up to Woodstock** website to find out about events, accommodation, shopping, restaurants and more.

The town borders the estate of magnificent **Blenheim Palace**, home to the 12th Duke of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. A masterpiece of Baroque architecture with 90 acres of award-winning Formal Gardens and Parkland landscaped by Capability Brown, Blenheim Palace provides an awe-inspiring experience for visitors.

Further south in the district explore **Bampton**, otherwise known as the TV village of Downton, and **Kelmscott Manor** the country home of William Morris. In nearby **Clanfield** **The Double Red Duke** offers the perfect bolthole.

Great for



FAMILIES



HIDDEN GEMS



NATURE LOVERS

Use our Woodstock to Burford itinerary to journey through West Oxfordshire
Read More | p.66 ▶

- 1 ▶ *Burford*
- 2 ▶ *Blenheim Palace*
- 3 ▶ *Woodstock*

OXFORDSHIRE'S

Screen and Literary Links

Oxfordshire has been the location for countless films and TV series, and has also been the inspiration for some of the world's best-loved novels and characters.

HARRY POTTER

Much of the **Harry Potter** series was filmed in Oxford. Wander through the cobbled streets of **Oxford** and visit the magical places that were brought to life. At **Christ Church** you'll find the Tudor dining hall which provided inspiration for **Hogwarts**

Great Hall. See if you can spot the area where Harry spent time recovering in the **Hogwarts Infirmary** when you visit the **Divinity School**, or the location where **Draco Malfoy** was turned into a ferret by **Mad-Eye Moody** under the giant oak tree in **New College**.



1 ▶

DOWNTON ABBEY

The **Oxfordshire Cotswolds** and its picturesque villages frequently appeared in the popular TV drama. **Bampton** plays the part of the Yorkshire village of **Downton** in every series, and **Cogges Manor Farm** may also be better known as **Yew Tree Farm**.



2 ▶

Screen and Literary Links

Great for



CULTURE



HIDDEN GEMS



HISTORY

Feel like you're in Downton Abbey with a decadent afternoon tea
Read More | p.38 ▶

- 1 ▶ *Christ Church Hall*
- 2 ▶ *Cogges Manor Farm*



1 ▶

HIS DARK MATERIALS

Author **Philip Pullman** has been inspired by Oxford, having studied at **Exeter College** during the 1960s, and still lives in the city today. Exeter College may be better known to readers as **Jordan College**. **Godstow Abbey**, the **Trout Inn** and the **Botanic Gardens** also feature in Pullman's literary works. Step into the world of the BBC/HBO adaptation by visiting **Oxford Botanic Garden**, **The Bridge of Sighs** and **New College**.

AGATHA CHRISTIE

Dame Agatha Christie is loved worldwide for her compelling crime novels and famous sleuths; including **Hercule Poirot** and **Miss Marple**. **Wallingford** as the home of Christie, and the inspiration

for much of her work. Visit **Wallingford Museum's** 'At Home with the Queen of Crime' exhibition to learn fascinating details about the life and work of one of the most famous novelists of all time.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Charles Dodgson, better known as **Lewis Carroll**, wrote his famous tales of **Alice in Wonderland** in Oxford, the city where Carroll lived and studied for nearly fifty years. The dining hall of **Christ Church** houses treasures associated with the whimsical tales; see if you can spot the stained-glass window where **Alice**, the **Cheshire Cat** and other characters feature, and the wooden chair with the Cheshire Cat's wide smile carved into it. When leaving Christ Church onto **St Aldates**, you will find **Alice's Shop**, where the real Alice bought sweets as a young girl. A landmark for Alice enthusiasts, Alice's Shop featured as **The Old Sheep Shop** in **Alice Through the Looking Glass** and was even illustrated by **Tenniel** in the first edition of the book.



2 ▶

MIDSOMER MURDERS

Follow in the footsteps of **Inspector Barnaby of Causton CID** and the characters of the hugely popular detective series. Discover the various filming locations -

particularly **Wallingford**, which served as the drama's fictional town of **Causton**. **Thame**, at the foot of the **Chiltern Hills**, also frequently features.

INSPECTOR MORSE, LEWIS AND ENDEAVOUR

The city of Oxford is the setting for the books and TV series of **Inspector Morse** and **Lewis**, and most recently **Endeavour**. Enjoy a drink at **The Morse Bar** or the **White Horse** pub where the detectives spent time deliberating

over cases. Amble along the **River Thames** where many bodies were hidden, sit on the steps of the **Ashmolean Museum**, the location of many scenes, or visit **Exeter College** where Morse had his fatal heart attack.

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA

C.S. Lewis studied at **University College** and was later appointed English Fellow and Tutor at **Magdalen College**. It was here that he wrote the beloved

children's series, the **Chronicles of Narnia**. Visit **St Mary's Passage** and see if you can spot the carved fawn in one of the door frames, the inspiration for **Mr Tumnus**. Keep an eye out around the city for lampposts made by **Lucy & Co!**



3 ▶



4 ▶

LORD OF THE RINGS

Walk in the footsteps of legendary **Lord of the Rings** author **J.R.R. Tolkien** in Oxford. Relax with a drink in **Keepers Kitchen and Bar**, as Tolkien did with friend and fellow member of the **Inklings** writing group **C.S. Lewis**. Wander among the greenery of **Oxford Botanic Garden**, where Tolkien used to spend time, or visit **Exeter College**,

where Tolkien studied for his undergraduate degree. Immerse yourself in culture at the **History of Science Museum** - Tolkien worked on words near the beginning of the letter W for the First Edition of the **Oxford English Dictionary** in the same building - or at the **Ashmolean Museum**, which houses a collection of gold rings thought to be the inspiration for **The One Ring**.

Spot many of these sites during a 2-day visit to Oxford
Read More | p.54 ▶

- 1 ▶ **Hertford Bridge (Bridge of Sighs)**
- 2 ▶ **Alice's Shop**
- 3 ▶ **St Mary's Passage**
- 4 ▶ **Exeter College**

ADVICE From the Locals

There is so much to see and do in Oxfordshire, it's tricky knowing where to start! We asked local Oxfordshire people to pick out their favourite places to go, from essential first-time-visit spots to hidden gems.

VEGAN SPOTS IN THE CITY

“At first glance, it might seem like **Oxford** doesn't have many options for vegetarians and vegans. On closer inspection, though, you'll find that it's easy to eat plant-based in the city!

I'd recommend heading to **Jericho**, where pubs like **The Gardener's Arms** have some really tasty vegan dishes,
- NICOLA FROM OXFORD



BROWSE A BOOKSHOP

“I could spend an eternity at **Blackwell's Bookshop** on **Broad Street**. Their collection of books is huge, you could while away an entire afternoon browsing the miles of shelves in the shop”.
- MICHAEL FROM BICESTER

GET YOUR BEARINGS

“When I moved to Oxford a few years ago I went on an **Oxford Official Walking Tour** which gave me a very good introduction to the history of the city and university.

Each time my friends visit Oxford and we have a stroll through the city they say there is something magical about it that makes you want to come back!”
- JACK FROM KIDLINGTON



EXPLORE BANBURY

“**Banbury** is a little market town in the north of Oxfordshire. It's home to the 16th century **Ye Olde Reindeer Inn**, used by **Oliver Cromwell** as a base during the **Civil War**, and the 18th century **Tooley's Boatyard**, where you can take a guided tour of the narrow

boat workshop beside the canal. Banbury is ideal as a base to travel to **Warwickshire** and **Stratford-Upon-Avon**, and nearby **Broughton Castle**, so I would recommend it to anyone visiting Oxfordshire!”
- JOSHUA FROM BANBURY



ALL ABOUT THE VIEWS

“I never get bored of the view over Oxford's skyline - the dreaming spires always spark my imagination. The best places to take in the view are from **Westgate**

Oxford shopping centre's roof terrace, the rooftop restaurant at the **Ashmolean**, or **The Varsity Club** bar in the **Covered Market**.”
- SHIRLEY FROM WITNEY



HIDDEN GEM BY THE THAMES

“I am a big fan of the **Abingdon Museum** in the famous **County Hall** built in 1682. You can look down from the museum galleries and watch the crowds of people in the market square below. There's always something going on in **Abingdon's Market Square** too!”
- MAUREEN FROM THAME



Advice From the Locals

For more inspiration on things to do, see our Oxfordshire highlights
Read More | p.6 ▶

Why not spend an evening experiencing Oxford's nightlife?
Read More | p.50 ▶

- 1 ▶ **Blackwells**
- 2 ▶ **Walking Tour**
- 3 ▶ **Banbury**
- 4 ▶ **Broughton Castle**
- 5 ▶ **Oxford Covered Market**
- 6 ▶ **Abingdon Museum**

Great for



HIDDEN GEMS



ADVENTURERS



CULTURE

AFTERNOON TEA in Oxfordshire

There's nothing more refined and delectable than enjoying a classic afternoon tea surrounded by the lush Oxfordshire countryside or the beautiful City of Dreaming Spires. Fortunately, there are numerous venues to discover - each with something unique to enjoy! We've highlighted a few places guaranteed to tickle your tastebuds.

Great for



FOOD & DRINKS



CULTURE



HIDDEN GEMS



1 ▶

OXFORD RIVER CRUISES

Enjoy an indulgent afternoon tea, made with home-made scones with jam and clotted cream, a selection of finger sandwiches and cakes, while enjoying the stunning scenery on the River Thames in and around Oxford. This relaxing afternoon cruise sails downstream from **Folly Bridge** taking in the best-known reach of the **River Thames** in Oxford. Travelling down the **University Regatta Course** the boat goes past **Christ Church Meadows**, the **University College Boat Houses** and other landmarks on the way to the picturesque **Iffley lock**.

VICTORS, WESTGATE OXFORD

Enjoy afternoon tea served **#TheVictorsWay**, any afternoon of the week. Designed to share, enjoy a selection of finger buns, sushi, delicious desserts and scones with your choice of unlimited teas.

Upgrade to a Champagne Afternoon Tea and savour a glass of Veuve Clicquot Champagne - it's the perfect indulgence to catch up with friends and family.

Located on the rooftop of Westgate Oxford, with views of Christ Church and the city's dreaming spires, just remember to book 48-hours in advance.



2 ▶

ASHMOLEAN ROOFTOP

Enjoy beautiful views over Oxford from the Rooftop Restaurant and Terrace of the **Ashmolean Museum** while indulging yourself with a delicious afternoon tea made with fresh artisan bakery breads, homemade cakes, petit fours and freshly baked scones, all prepared with locally sourced products. This is a great way to end your visit of the astonishing Ashmolean Museum or for taking a relaxing break from sightseeing.



3 ▶



4 ▶

THE RANDOLPH HOTEL BY GRADUATE HOTELS

Enjoy a quintessentially English afternoon tea in The Drawing Room at **The Randolph Hotel by Graduate Hotels**, an Oxford landmark in the heart of the city. Expect a range of delicacies with a contemporary twist. Upgrade to Sparkling Afternoon Tea with a glass of English Sparkling Wine.

BLETCHLEY PARK

Head out to **Bletchley Park** for afternoon tea in their iconic mansion house. Set in the elegant Victorian dining room where the World War II codebreakers dined, enjoy finely cut sandwiches and freshly-baked scones served on vintage china, followed by a delectable selection of delicate pastries and other homemade delights.



5 ▶

Afternoon Tea
in Oxfordshire

Combine an afternoon tea with a fun event for an unforgettable day in Oxfordshire
Read More | p.9 ▶

- 1 ▶ Oxford River Cruises
- 2 ▶ Victors Oxford
- 3 ▶ Ashmolean Rooftop
- 4 ▶ The Randolph Hotel
- 5 ▶ Bletchley Park

A CITY BUILT ON THE WATER

Exploring Oxford's rivers and canals

Great for



NATURE LOVERS



FAMILIES



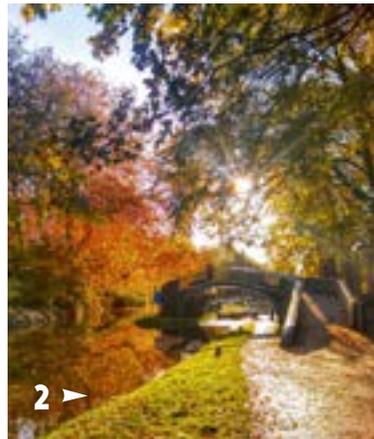
ADVENTURERS

No visit to Oxford is complete without exploring the city's waterways - the mighty River Thames which flows through to London, the River Cherwell and the historic Oxford Canal, over 200 years old.

The waterways offer an opportunity to explore the hidden side of the city, take part in exciting activities and to see the city from a different perspective.

EXPLORE THE OXFORD CANAL

A short walk from the city centre takes you to the start of the **Oxford Canal**. Dug by hand over 200 years ago, it runs for 77 miles. It was an important trade route, with the unique narrow boats originally pulled by horses carrying goods to London and the rest of the country.



Now it is an oasis of peace and quiet. Take a walk along the towpath you will see wildlife, passing boats and can learn about the canal's history as you follow the **Oxford Canal Heritage Trail**.

You can even hire a narrowboat for a day trip or longer and really explore with **College Cruisers**.

EXPLORE THE RIVER THAMES

Just a short walk from the city is the famous **Head of the River** public house and **Folly Bridge** over the **Thames**, which marks the finish line for university rowing races. Walk along the towpath and you will often see the Oxford University rowing crews practicing and may be lucky enough to watch a race.

Visiting **Christ Church Meadow** is a must-do, with its circular path taking you alongside both the Thames and the **River Cherwell**.

Nothing can beat a walk around **Port Meadow**, an ancient area of grazing with incredible open views across the Thames, wildlife and cosy local pubs.

The **Thames Path National Trail** also comes through Oxford on its 183-mile route from the source of the Thames all the way to London. Oxford is an excellent base to explore it in sections.



THINGS TO DO - MESSING ABOUT ON THE RIVER

Enjoy a different view of Oxford by getting onto the water.

You must try punting - the unique flat-bottomed boats you push along with a pole (take champagne and strawberries for a picnic!) There are several places you can hire one on both the River Thames and River Cherwell including **Cherwell Boathouse**.

If you have time to explore further, take a boat trip. **Salter's Steamers** offer regular passenger ferries along the Thames, stopping at several points and continuing on to **Abingdon-on-Thames**. You can take the boat back, or jump off along the way and enjoy a walk back to the city along the Thames Path, or you can even take your bicycles. Salter's also rent out small motor-boats you can sail yourself.

Providing a range of luxury boat trips, including an evening cocktail cruise, **Oxford River Cruises** explores the Thames. Jump aboard at **The Folly River Cafe and Restaurant**.

PLACES TO EAT AND DRINK

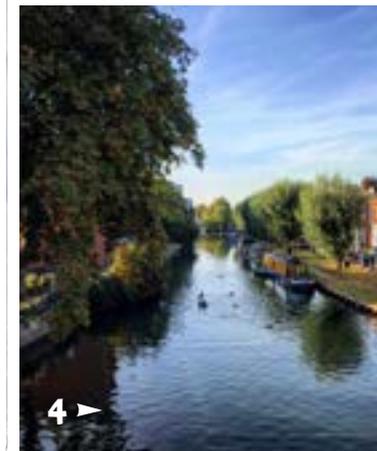
There are many fantastic places alongside Oxford's waterways for a drink, a quick lunch or a full three-course and more dinner.

Visit our website for a full list of waterside cafés, pubs and restaurants.

OXFORD'S WATERWAYS LOOP WALK

Following the historic canal from the centre, a short 2-mile walking route takes you along the canal and then across to Port Meadow, with its open skies and views, then back to the city alongside the River Thames.

For a longer and more complete experience, the 7-mile route continues to the village of **Wolvercote**, with its local shop and cosy pubs. Back along the Thames Path National Trail, with views right across Port Meadow, and into the city again. Go out for a pub lunch and enjoy a walk back.



Oxford's Rivers and Canals

Love being on the water? Continue your journey north through Oxfordshire on the Oxford Canal
Read More | p.58 ▶

Or journey south along the River Thames
Read More | p.60 ▶

1 ▶ **Magdalen College Rowing Boat**
credit:
Sarah Rhodes

2 ▶ **Oxford Canal**
credit:
Georgia Melodie Hole

3 ▶ **Thames Path, Clifton**

4 ▶ **Hampden River Thames at Osney**
credit:
Sarah Rhodes

ONLY IN OXFORDSHIRE

Quirky Traditions

Great for



HIDDEN GEMS



ADVENTURERS



CULTURE

Oxfordshire is home to an array of quirky traditions that make the county unique.

MERTON COLLEGE TIME CEREMONY

Once a year, on the night the clocks go back, students of **Merton College** partake in the tradition of the **Merton College Time Ceremony**. Created by undergraduates in 1971, the ceremony involves students dressing in full academic dress whilst walking backwards around the **Fellows' Quad** with a glass of port in their hand, from 02:00BST for an hour until 02:00GMT, to allegedly maintain the space-time continuum.

POOH STICKS

The 40th **World Pooh Sticks Championships** takes place at Sandford Lock on the Thames on 28 May 2023. Taking inspiration from the beloved children's book, **Winnie the Pooh**, anybody can take part to become the Pooh Sticks world champion. You just need to pick your stick and drop it upstream on one side of a bridge and whoever's stick appears on the other side of the bridge is the winner!

MAY MORNING

One of **Oxford's** well-loved traditions, held every year on the 1st of May, sees citywide celebrations for the coming of Spring, bringing the community together for what is known as **May Morning**. **Morris Men** dance across the city, and the choristers of **Magdalen College** choir sing the day in from the

Great Tower at 6am with **Hymnus Eucharisticus**, attracting flocks of people to **Magdalen Bridge** before celebrations continue throughout the morning.



BUN THROWING

Bun Throwing in Abingdon is a famous tradition in Oxfordshire dating back 400 years. Local dignitaries throw currant buns from Abingdon County Hall Museum on days of celebration; attracting huge crowds all hoping to catch a bun!



THE CORPUS CHRISTI TORTOISE FAIR

Corpus Christi's Tortoise Fair is one of the lovelier eccentricities at Oxford and has at its heart the **Tortoise Race**, in which tortoises from various colleges race to get to the edge of a ring of lettuce. It's thought to have been started in the 1920s. Corpus' own tortoises are named Oldham and Foxe - whose care is presided over by a "**Custos Testudinum**" or "**Tortoise Keeper**", elected at the start of each year.



Guided walks
History walks
Free walk books
New walk books
Mapreading & Compass skills
Book signing and talk

Abingdon Walking Festival

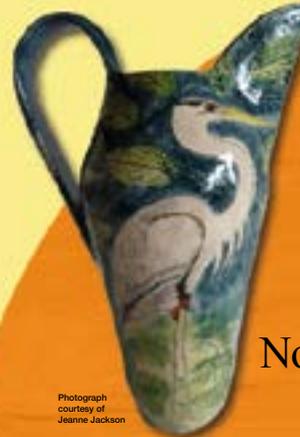
Saturday
22nd April 2023

Basecamp:
Abingdon Market Place

www.abingdoneventspartnership.co.uk/walkingfest



— ABINGDON TRADITIONAL —
CRAFT FAIR



Photograph courtesy of Jeanne Jackson

3–5th
November
2023

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www.abingdoncraftfair.org.uk



Abingdon Partnership
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March 2023



Science and technology are definitely for you!

Abingdon Market Place

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA



Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Crafts, Easter Market

Saturday
8th April
9am - 4pm

www.abingdoneventspartnership.co.uk

- 1 ▶ *May Day*
- 2 ▶ *Corpus Christi's Tortoise Fair*

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fabulous hotels, Oxfordshire is the place to celebrate.

For further information, visit
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YOUR OXFORDSHIRE STORY



Find our recommended itineraries
Read More | p.54 onwards ▶

Venture off the beaten track with our local tips
Read More | p.36 ▶

Not sure when to visit? Check our What's On page for some inspiration
Read More | p.90 ▶

Whether you're visiting **Oxfordshire** from near or far, the county has so much to offer that we're sure you'll want to make the most of it. So, we've crafted some inspiring itineraries to help you plan your visit - whether you want an action-packed minibreak in **Oxford** or a peaceful week exploring the beautiful countryside of the county.

Maybe you'd like to time your visit to include one of the UK's top music festivals, or perhaps seeing **University of Oxford** students graduating in their academic

robes is on your bucket list. We've highlighted the key dates you need to know about, so that you don't miss the best events of the year. Oxfordshire is only an hour away from **London** via train and has great links to many top attractions in the UK - making the county a fantastic base for your trip to **England**. Take a day trip to **Stonehenge, Bath** or **Stratford-Upon-Avon**, before putting on your dancing shoes to enjoy Oxford's vibrant nightlife.

These are just ideas - Oxfordshire is yours to make your own.

Whatever you're up to in Oxfordshire, use **#ExperienceOx** on social media to share your experiences with us. We'd love to hear from you!

#ExperienceOx

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Charlie B Photography



**BICESTER
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1 ▶ *The Crown & Thistle, Abingdon*

A UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD YEAR

Great for



CULTURE



HISTORY



HIDDEN GEMS

With ornate buildings, pristine quads and grand dining halls, stepping into a University of Oxford college is like stepping into another world. The students of the University come and go from their colleges every day, but these annual University occasions give you a sneak peek into student life.

In the Autumn, around mid-October, Oxford students make their way to **The Sheldonian Theatre** in their academic robes, or “Sub Fusc”, for ‘Matriculation’; the official ceremony welcoming new students to the University, which is performed solely in Latin.

As the summer months draw near, you’ll see the students nervously walking toward the **Examination Schools**, again in their Sub Fusc robes, for their exams in June.

Also in June, glimpse the **University of Oxford’s** most prestigious annual ceremony, *Encaenia*, when the University awards honorary degrees to distinguished men and women. Some participants, including the



2 ▶

Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, take part in a procession through Radcliffe Square and the **Divinity School** to the **Sheldonian Theatre**, where the ceremony takes place.

To celebrate the end of the University year, colleges throw extravagant balls for their students. In the summer evening breeze, see students’ ball gowns and tails fluttering as they arrive at their college balls.

In mid-summer and towards early autumn, catch the students throwing their mortarboards in the air as they celebrate their graduation!



3 ▶

1 ▶ *Divinity School*

2&3 ▶ *Sheldonian Theatre*



THE
RANDOLPH HOTEL
by GRADUATE HOTELS

A HISTORIC LANDMARK IN THE HEART OF OXFORD

Located in the city’s cultural epicentre, The Randolph Hotel by Graduate Hotels is inspired by the University of Oxford’s rich history, storied innovators and alumni. Just steps from iconic colleges St. Johns and Trinity, this historic landmark is a welcome retreat for locals and travellers alike.

Find Out More



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www.graduatehotels.com/oxford-uk
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STAYING OVER IN OXFORD

Nightlife in the city

Great for



ADVENTURERS



FOOD & DRINK



CULTURE

Find more places to eat & drink in our listings pages. Read more p.98 ▶

From traditional pubs to buzzing bars, live performances to late night clubs and everything in between, there are plenty of things to see and do in this vibrant city once the sun goes down.

OXFORD CASTLE QUARTER

Next door to ancient **Oxford Castle**, **Oxford Castle Quarter** is home to a selection of restaurants, bars and, housed in a former prison, **Malmaison hotel** with its cosy Chez Mal Bar and Brasserie.



WESTGATE OXFORD

Westgate shopping centre's atmospheric roof terrace is a perfect backdrop for an eclectic mix of fine and contemporary casual restaurants and bars, including **Pho** and **Victors**. With unique views of Oxford's

dreaming spires, Westgate's roof terrace is the ultimate destination in the city. Or try your luck at **Junkyard Golf Club**, Oxford's indoor golf course and bar. Their unique and bizarre golf courses will always leave you laughing!



EAST OXFORD

Towards the east of Oxford, **Cowley Road** and **St Clement's** are a vibrant hub for nightlife. With buzzing bars, restaurants offering a variety of contemporary

cuisines, and fantastic live music destinations, from larger clubs to basement gig spots, **East Oxford** is a treasure trove for things to do in the evening.

THEATRE

Immerse yourself in Oxford's thriving arts and culture scene with a touch of drama or comedy; Oxford's larger theatre, the **New Theatre** features both student

and professional productions. For independent performances, **North Wall Arts Centre** put on incredible productions and events.



PUBS AND BARS

Mingle with intellectuals in Oxford's bars and pubs. From cocktail bars renowned for expertly-mixed aperitifs, sophisticated piano bars and wine cafes, to rooftop venues offering sweeping views of Oxford's skyline,

Oxford has a wide selection of bars. For something more low-key, relax in some of the oldest pubs in Britain. We recommend **The Turf Tavern**, **Lamb & Flag** and **The Bear** in the city centre, or relax on the bank of the **River Thames** at **The Head of the River**.



Staying Over in Oxford

Stay in Oxford overnight and take a day trip to a top visitor attraction during your stay [Read More | p.70](#) ▶

Find upcoming events at exox.org/whats-on or by searching [#experienceox](#) on social media

- 1 ▶ *Malmaison*
- 2 ▶ *Westgate Oxford*
- 3 ▶ *Pho Oxford*
- 4 ▶ *New Theatre Oxford*
- 5 ▶ *Turf Tavern*
- 6 ▶ *The Lamb & Flag*

CHORAL EVENSONG

If you wander around Oxford in the evening, as you pass the **University of Oxford** college chapels you'll hear the faint music of the college choirs

singing. Immerse yourself in the experience of **Choral Evensong**, which happens every evening during University term-time and starts between 5:15pm and 6:45pm depending on which college you visit.

CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERTS

Oxford's streets are often lined with signs and posters advertising upcoming classical music concerts - including performances by the **Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra** who celebrate their 25th anniversary in 2023. Oxford's

stunning and historic venues play host to a busy calendar of concerts and recitals. See world-renowned musicians and artists play in intimate venues such as the **Holywell Music Room**, said to be the oldest purpose-built music room in Europe.



JAZZ

Dance the night away at lively jazz concerts in unique venues such as **The Mad Hatter**, an eccentric speakeasy cocktail bar in East Oxford. Or spend a sophisticated evening watching a jazz recital at

one of Oxford's trendy bars; we recommend **Sandy's Piano Bar** for delicious cocktails in an intimate space, or **Oxford Wine Café** for a wine list that will complement the atmosphere perfectly.

CATCH A UNIVERSITY LECTURE

The University of Oxford and **Oxford Brookes University** both host a calendar of public talks,

lectures and events throughout the year. Learn something new or brush up on your knowledge and hear from professors that are at the top of their fields.

WESTGATE

OXFORD

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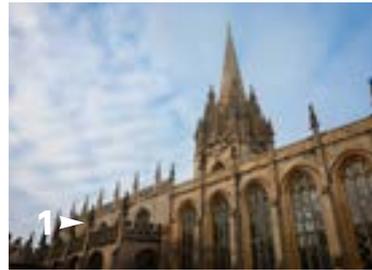
48 HOURS IN OXFORD

A Whirlwind Weekend

DAY 1
9:30am



Kickstart your weekend by climbing the tower of the **University Church of St Mary the Virgin** for the highest view over Oxford. As you exit the Church, take a stroll around cobbled Radcliffe Square to drink in 360° views of the **Radcliffe Camera**.



10:45am



To maximise your time, pre-book an **Oxford Official Walking Tour** for a guided walking tour around more of Oxford's iconic sites and locations. Tours are led by accredited guides and usually include entry into one of the **University of Oxford's** 39 colleges.

Alternatively, if you don't want to walk, the **City Sightseeing** open top bus tour is a great way to see Oxford. Listen to your guide as you are driven around, with the option to hop-on and hop-off at 20 different stops across the city.



1pm



Allow a little time for shopping and browse the independent shops in the **Covered Market**. The whole family can choose a picnic for the afternoon; why not try a freshly made sandwich, pastry, pie or even Greek souvlaki?



Do you know the best film and literary sites in Oxford?
Read More | p.33 ▶

- 1 ▶ **University Church**
- 2 ▶ **City Sightseeing**
- 3 ▶ **Oxford Covered Market**

Whilst in the heart of the city, don't miss **Modern Art Oxford**, one of the UK's leading contemporary art spaces, as well as Oxford's incredible museums. Choose from the **Ashmolean Museum**, Britain's first public museum and home to world-famous artefacts and collections, the **History of Science Museum**, the **Museum of Natural History** and neighbouring **Pitt Rivers Museum**, the University of Oxford's quirky museum of anthropology and world archaeology.

Alternatively, The **Museum of Oxford** tells the history of the city. Best of all... they are all free! Always a city for browsing literature, Oxford's **Blackwell's** bookshop is also worth nipping into.



A wonderfully unique way to spend your time in Oxford, join the **Oxford Official Ghost Tour** (every other Saturday). This tour will show you all you need to know about every spooky site and eerie nook and cranny of Oxford, including its most famous ghost.

Or, fill your evening with world-class **Choral Evensong** in an Oxford college chapel. These take place every evening during University of Oxford term-time and start between 5:15pm and 6:45pm depending on which college you visit. We recommend joining the Choirs of the grand **Christ Church Cathedral** for an unforgettable evening.

Relax in the elegant **Randolph Hotel By Graduate Hotels**, an icon of Oxford. Enjoy a tippie in **The Snug** or at the famous **Morse Bar** in the hotel, before heading to the **Alice Restaurant** for outstanding seasonal British cuisine.

Start your day with an exhilarating morning on the water. Take a punt on the river - a truly timeless Oxford tradition - from **Cherwell Boathouse** to see the city from a different perspective. Alternatively, from Folly Bridge take a chauffeured cruise down the River Thames from **Salter's Steamers**, or **Oxford River Cruises** and admire the views of **Christ Church** in the distance.

Itinerary:
48h in Oxford

2pm



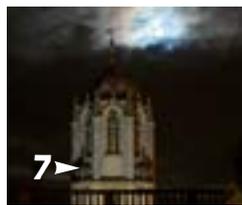
4 ▶ *Ashmolean Museum*

5&6 ▶ *Natural History Museum*

7 ▶ *Oxford Official Ghost Tour*

8 ▶ *Salter's Steamers*

7pm



9pm

DAY 2
10am



11am



Take a guided tour of **Oxford Castle & Prison** and discover the fascinating stories of the building's 1,000-year history. Explore the Saxon St George's Tower and descend deep underground to the 900-year-old crypt.

Noon



Close by is **Westgate Oxford**, the city's newest shopping and entertainment centre. Here you will find an eclectic mix of global fashion brands, **John Lewis & Partners**, restaurants, bars and a boutique cinema. Grab lunch with a spectacular view of Oxford's dreaming spires on Westgate's rooftop terrace - we recommend lunching at **Victors** for a touch of modern American small plates or **Pho** for some healthy and hearty Vietnamese street food.



1 ▶

1pm



2 ▶

For a more grown-up afternoon, treat yourself to an afternoon tour of **The Oxford Artisan Distillery**. One of the world's very few craft distilleries, they use ancient heritage grain to create the finest spirits. Discover the principles and production processes that make their spirits, from their bespoke copper stills to the grain they grow themselves. Finish with a chance to taste their wonderful spirits.

- 1 ▶ Westgate Oxford
- 2 ▶ The Oxford Artisan Distillery
- 3 ▶ Botanic Garden

3pm



The Oxford Artisan Distillery's 'Physic Gin' is created using botanicals from **Oxford Botanic Garden**. Wander down from the distillery to the historic Botanic Garden to experience an oasis of green in the city centre. The UK's oldest botanic garden, founded in 1621 as a physic garden growing plants for medicinal research, Oxford Botanic Garden features a formal walled garden, exotic plants in glasshouses and lush herbaceous borders.

7pm

From Oxford Botanic Garden, wander up Oxford's winding High Street, bordered with imposing college walls and independent shops, restaurants and cafes.



3 ▶

9pm

Read more on the nightlife in Oxford p.50 ▶

Take a moonlit walk around central Oxford and see the historic University buildings from a different perspective, without the bustle of the city around you. Stroll along the winding lanes often used as shortcuts by students dashing to classes. Stop for a relaxed drink in one of Oxford's sophisticated bars, or settle in for a cosy evening in a historic pub.



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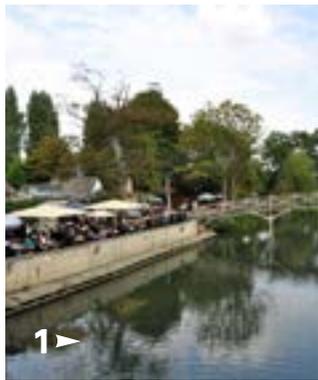


THE OXFORD CANAL

Oxford to Banbury

Built in the late 18th century to carry commercial barges between Coventry and Oxford, the Oxford Canal is one of the country's most beautiful inland waterways to explore. This route along the towpath takes you through the picturesque scenery of the Cherwell Valley as the canal follows the gentle meandering course of the River Cherwell to Banbury.

Oxford



Begin your walk along the Oxford Canal from the city centre, following the canal through **Jericho** to the north of the city to enjoy the open views of **Port Meadow**. Cross Port Meadow to enjoy a pint at **The Perch**, a historic thatched pub. At **Upper Wolvercote**, leave the canal towpath to explore the ruins of **Godstow Abbey** and visit **The Trout Inn**, a 17th century pub overlooking the **River Thames** and a favourite of Colin Dexter's **Inspector Morse**.

Learn more about the Cherwell Valley
Read More | p.26 ▶

Thrupp

(11km from Oxford)

Continuing north past **Kidlington**, you might want to stop for refreshments at **Thrupp** - a pretty canal side village where rose-covered terraced houses line the towpath and there are two popular pubs, **The Jolly Boatman** and **The Boat Inn**, as well as a tea room. From here the canal follows the winding course of the Cherwell river, joining with it for occasional stretches.

Tackley

(7.5km from Thrupp)



Tucked away close to the canal, **Tackley** is a characterful rural village of stone buildings and a church of Saxon origin. Home to a couple of quaint bed and breakfasts, the **Gardiner Arms** pub and a well-stocked village shop with a café, the village makes a good base for exploring the local countryside.

Rousham House

(7km from Tackley)



Further north up the canal, the towpath brings you past the grounds of **Rousham House**, a Jacobean country house with wonderful gardens which can be visited. The gardens were landscaped by William Kent in the early 18th century and represent the first phase of English landscape design. Many of the features created in the 18th century are still there today.



At **Lower Heyford Wharf**, Heyford railway station is directly beside the canal, with trains back to Tackley and Oxford or ahead to Banbury. The village of **Lower Heyford** marks approximately the halfway point between Oxford and Banbury and options for an overnight stay include a canal side bed and breakfast as well as **Heyford House** and **The Holt Hotel**. The village's pub, **The Bell Inn**, dates from the 17th century and there is also a café/bistro at Lower Heyford Wharf with gardens overlooking the canal.

Refreshed from a stop in Heyford, continue along the canal as it follows the winding course of the River Cherwell north to **Aynho Wharf**. This is one of the waterway's most appealing stretches as it turns into more open countryside and you will pass the picture-postcard lock-keeper's cottage at **Somerton Deep Lock**. Close to Aynho Wharf is the **Great Western Arms**, a traditional country pub serving the local **Hook Norton** ales.



From **Aynho Wharf** continue to **Twyford Wharf** and then the market town of **Banbury** where you will find **The Light**, an exciting entertainment centre which opened in 2022 with a premium seven screen cinema, 10 lane bowling alley and waterfront restaurants, and **Lock 29**, an appealing canal side venue with a range of artisan food and drink outlets. Make sure you take a guided tour of the historic **Tooley's Boatyard** which dates from 1788 and is the oldest dry dock working boatyard on the inland waterways.

There are inviting cafes and pubs in the **Old Town**, including the 16th century **Ye Olde Reindeer Inn** where the wood panelled **Globe Room** is believed to have been used by **Oliver Cromwell** as a base during the **Civil War**. Finally, don't leave Banbury without sampling Banbury cakes - delicious spiced and currant-filled pastries which have been made to a secret recipe for over four hundred years!

Itinerary:
Oxford Canal

Lower Heyford

(0.8km from Rousham)



Aynho

(16.6km from Lower Heyford)

Banbury

(11km from Aynho)

- 1 ▶ *The Trout Inn*
- 2 ▶ *Rousham House*
- 3 ▶ *Lock29*



THE RIVER RAPIDS

Oxford to Henley-on-Thames

The River Rapids is a group of bus services (X39 & X40) linking Oxford with South Oxfordshire. Here we pick out some of the many things to see and do along the route and onwards on connector 23.

Harcourt Arboretum
(20 mins from Oxford)

The **University of Oxford's** arboretum is in the small village of **Nuneham Courtenay**. The 130-acre site is open all year round and contains the best collection of trees in **Oxfordshire**, with seasonal highlights including wildflower meadows, rhododendrons and bluebell woods along with plenty of children's activities.

exox.org/venue/harcourt-arboretum



- 1 to 3 ▶ *Harcourt Arboretum*
- 4 ▶ *Wallingford-on-Thames*
- 5 ▶ *River & Rowing Museum*

Dorchester-on-Thames
(8 mins from Harcourt Arboretum)

Stroll around the cute-as-a-doormouse village of **Dorchester-on-Thames**, a village of timber-framed houses. The main attraction in the village is the medieval Abbey, built in the 12th century.

Benson Marina
(7 mins from Dorchester-on-Thames)

A great stop from which to walk along the tranquil banks of the **River Thames** or sit and admire the views of green fields, pretty meadows, farmland and forest from the comfort of the **Waterfront Café**.



Wander the cobbled streets of **Wallingford** and discover the town's links with both crime novelist **Agatha Christie** and **Midsomer Murders**, as well as the ruins of **Wallingford Castle** and the excellent **Wallingford Museum**.

exox.org/places-to-go/wallingford

The small village of **Nuffield** is the location of **Nuffield Place**, once home to **William Morris**, founder of the **Morris Motor Company**, and his wife. Their home and personal possessions are just as they left them, the décor and furnishings intact.



A picturesque riverside town, home to the famous **Henley Royal Regatta** (27th June- 2nd July 2023) and the **River & Rowing Museum**. Explore the town on a self-guided walk, browse the independent shops and restaurants or take a stroll along the river Thames.

exox.org/places-to-go/henley-on-thames

Itinerary:
River Rapids

○ **Wallingford**
(10 mins from Benson Marina)

○ **Nuffield**
(15 mins from Wallingford)

● **Henley-on-Thames**
(15 mins from Nuffield)

Learn more about South Oxfordshire
Read More | p.29 ▶

Exploring the River Thames by Bus and Boat

BY BUS: THAMES TRAVEL

The X39 and X40 link Oxford and Wallingford with buses every 30-minutes Monday to Saturday, hourly Sunday and most public holidays. The connector 23 links Oxford and Wallingford with Nuffield and Henley-on-Thames with buses every hour, daily.

oxfordbus.co.uk/plan-your-journey or oxfordbus.co.uk/river-rapids

BY BOAT: SALTER'S STEAMERS

Explore more of the River Thames with Salter's Steamers, with regular public cruises in the summer months between Oxford and Abingdon, and group tours between Abingdon and Wallingford.

exox.org/venue/salters-steamers-boat-trips

Great for



FAMILIES



HIDDEN GEMS



NATURE LOVERS



THE RIDGEWAY NATIONAL TRAIL IN OXFORDSHIRE

White Horse Hill to Thame

The Ridgeway Trail stretches 140 kilometres across scenic countryside from Avebury in Wiltshire to Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire and through two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty: the Chiltern Hills and the North Wessex Downs. This routeway is steeped in history, having been used by traders and invaders as far back as 5,000 years ago. Today it is enjoyed by walkers, cyclists and horse riders seeking far-reaching views, historic sites and wildlife.

White Horse Hill is only 29 kilometres from Oxford, and 20 kilometres away from Watlington. Follow our trail from White Horse Hill to Thame for a taste of how much there is to see and do in this area.

Faringdon



1 ▶

Begin in **Faringdon**. The town is full of heritage, immediately noticeable in the quaint town centre where you will find old coaching inns, Georgian fronted buildings and the 17th century town hall. Now occupied by a diverse array of independent shops, cafes and restaurants, the town centre is a hive of activity. A five-minute walk from the town centre, you will find Faringdon's **Folly Tower**. Built in 1935 by Lord Berner, the 100ft high tower sits on a hill amongst a circular woodland, providing panoramic views over the town and beyond.

White Horse Hill and Uffington

(10.3km from Faringdon)

P

Explore The Ridgeway's history at White Horse Hill, where you will find the internationally renowned **Bronze Age White Horse** carved into the chalk hillside. This is the highest point in **Oxfordshire** with views across 6 different counties, and is hugely popular with dog walkers, picnickers and kite fliers alike. There is plenty of parking in the National Trust car park at **White Horse Hill**.

From White Horse Hill, walk or ride for 2.3 kilometres along **The Ridgeway** to the prehistoric long barrow of **Wayland's Smithy**. It is also worth venturing off the hills into nearby **Uffington** village where there are pubs, a small museum and a waymarked trail to learn more about the historic buildings in the village.

Learn more about the Vale of White Horse
Read More | p.30 ▶

Base yourself in **Wantage** to discover the stories of **King Alfred the Great** who was born in the town in 849AD. This historic market town offers independent shops, places to eat and a theatre, as well as the **Vale & Downland Museum** which has won awards for being family friendly. Head west to villages such as Sparsholt for a nice lunch at **The Star Inn** or **Kingston Lisle** to see the **Blowing Stone** which King Alfred used to summon his army to battle against the Vikings.

Walk up to The Ridgeway to see **Segsbury Camp** hillfort, passing along the chalk stream called the **Letcombe Brook** and through the historic village of **Letcombe Bassett** where you may like to stop for lunch at **The Greyhound Inn**. There is also a great day's cycle ride from Wantage eastwards along a signed cycle route through the Lockinges and Ginges and Hendreds villages, then up to The Ridgeway to head westwards back to Wantage. There are some great pubs and historic buildings to look out for in the villages, including a village shop from a bygone age in **East Hendred!**



2 ▶

Goring and **Streatley** is where The Ridgeway meets the River Thames and another **National Trail**, the **Thames Path**. Linked by a bridge in 1837, Streatley and Goring are picturesque riverside villages with numerous places to eat, making this a perfect spot for a break.

From Goring, follow The Ridgeway to walk 8.5 kilometres along the river to the historic market town of **Wallingford**, with independent shops, places to eat and stay and a small museum. Families will enjoy Wallingford's riverside playground and campsite.

Itinerary: Ridgeway Trail

Wantage

(14km from White Horse Hill along Ridgeway)
Bus links to Oxford: Stagecoach S9)



3 ▶

- 1 ▶ **Faringdon Folly**
- 2 ▶ **Thames Path, Clifton Hampden**
- 3 ▶ **Wantage Market**

Streatley Goring

(24km from Wantage along The Ridgeway)

➡ P

Wallingford

(10.6km from Goring)

Watlington
(17.7km from Wallingford)

From Wallingford, there is a scenic day's walk along The Ridgeway to the attractive historic town of **Watlington**. This area is known as the **Chiltern Hills**, famous for its parklands and beechwoods. The first stretch passes along **Grim's Ditch**, a ditch and bank boundary thought to date back to Saxon times. Watlington is where a huge hoard of Viking coins was famously found in 2016. Some of these coins displayed the head of King Alfred the Great and a replica display can be seen in Watlington's library.



Lewknor M40 Coach stop
(17km from Watlington)
Coaches to London, Oxford, Heathrow and Gatwick)
Thame train station



Finish your journey in the thriving market town of **Thame**, perfectly situated at the foot of the Chiltern Hills, just 23 kilometres from Oxford. From historic buildings to beautiful parks, the **Thame Museum**, **The Players Theatre**, and a vibrant **High Street** - Thame has lots of exciting attractions and activities to enjoy.

Great for



NATURE LOVERS



HISTORY



ADVENTURERS

Baggage transfer

If you want to walk or ride along the Trail without the weight of baggage, there are baggage handling companies and accommodation providers who can take your bags to your next stop. See the National Trails website for details.

For more information on car parking, taxis and train stations, please visit nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway.

- 1 ▶ *The Ridgeway National Trail*
- 2 ▶ *Thame Town Hall*



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your trip with our journey planner



Track

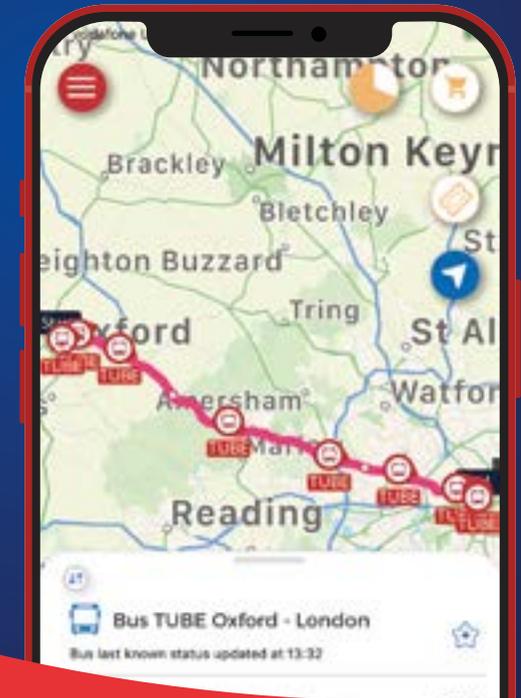
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EXPLORE THE COTSWOLDS

Woodstock to Burford

It's easy to see more of Oxfordshire using public transport. Follow the route of the Stagecoach 233 service linking Woodstock to Witney and Burford to discover many fascinating places along the way. The bus runs roughly every 30 minutes Monday to Sunday. Alternatively, consider Stagecoach's \$2 bus from Oxford to Cheltenham via Witney, Burford and North Leach.

Woodstock Blenheim Palace

Start your journey in the historic town of **Woodstock**, home to **The Oxfordshire Museum**, as well as antique shops, and great pubs and restaurants. No visit to Woodstock would be complete without a visit to **Blenheim Palace**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and birthplace of **Sir Winston Churchill**.



1 ▶

Long Hanborough (8 mins from Woodstock)

A few minutes further is **Long Hanborough** train station. The station is on the **Great Western Railway** line linking **London Paddington** to the **Cotswolds**, and close by are the **Oxford Bus Museum** and **Morris Motors Museum**. Both tell the story of transport in **Oxford**, including the production of cars by **Morris Motors**.

North Leigh (1 hour walk from Long Hanborough)

Further along is **North Leigh Roman Villa**, one of the largest villas from Roman Britain set on the banks of the **River Evenlode**. It's a 2.5 kilometre walk from the bus stop on the main road, but worth the pretty walk to see a near complete mosaic tile floor dating back to the 3rd century.

Witney (19 mins from Long Hanborough)

Jump back on the bus and the next stop is the old market town of **Witney**. The town is home to **Cogges Manor Farm**, where visitors can feed the pygmy goats, play in the adventure park, or learn about the history of the 13th century manor house. In the old milking parlour you'll find **Cogges Kitchen** serving breakfast, lunch and cake!



2 ▶



3 ▶

From Witney, your journey will take you through the picturesque village of **Minster Lovell**. Explore the riverside ruins of 15th century **Minster Lovell Hall**. Stop at the charming **Old Swan** or **Minster Mill** hotels for a delicious meal or relaxing overnight stay.



4 ▶

5 ▶

Another 8 kilometres from Minster Lovell, leave the bus in **Shilton**. Nearby is **Crocodiles of the World**, the UK's only crocodile zoo, with plenty of photo opportunities, feeding displays, crocodile talks and much more.



6 ▶



7 ▶

Finally, the route stops in **Burford**, frequently referred to as the 'gateway to the Cotswolds'. Home to rows of idyllic honey stone cottages, tea shops and boutiques, Burford is a place full of character and Cotswold charm.

Itinerary: The Cotswolds

Minster Lovell (7 mins from Witney)

Learn more about West Oxfordshire
Read More | p.32 ▶

Shilton (15 mins from Minster Lovell)

Burford (8 mins from Shilton)

- 1 ▶ **Blenheim Palace**
- 2 ▶ **Cogges Manor Farm**
- 3 ▶ **Witney**
- 4&5 ▶ **Minster Mill Cotswold**
- 6 ▶ **Crocodiles of the World**
- 7 ▶ **Burford**

Great for



FAMILIES



HISTORY



NATURE LOVERS



ACROSS THE COTSWOLDS

Oxford to Worcester

Spanning four counties, Great Western Railway's Cotswold Line journeys past the dramatic Malvern Hills and through the orchards of the Vale of Evesham, running alongside the River Evenlode, via pretty towns and quaint villages of honey-coloured stone, charming churches and country pubs.

Oxford

Depart from **Oxford**, having seen the colleges, castle and culture of the city. A delightful train journey across rolling countryside is the perfect way to see more of England from your base in Oxford.

Long Hanborough (10 mins from Oxford)

Your first stop is **Long Hanborough** train station. Close by, via bus, is **Blenheim Palace** in the town of **Woodstock** with 30% off Palace, Park & Garden tickets for visitors arriving by bus.



Charlbury (7 mins from Long Hanborough)

From Hanborough the line enters the **Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**. **Charlbury**, once a clearing in the **Wychwood Forest** and now an idyllic market town, lends itself to gentle strolls past historic buildings and cottage gardens. Cornbury Park near Charlbury is home to **Wilderness Festival** and **TreeDwellers**, a high end tree-top sanctuary nestled in ancient woodland.

Kingham (9 mins from Charlbury)



Kingham is a peaceful village, surrounded by the rolling hills of Cotswold countryside and offering a true taste of rural Cotswold life. Hole up in **The Wild Rabbit**, a top foodie destination, before grabbing some fresh air - Kingham is an excellent centre for walking and cycling.

From Kingham, your journey will take you beyond the borders of Oxfordshire to the picturesque town of **Moreton-in-Marsh**, which dates back 1,000 years to the Saxon era. Explore Moreton's elegant High Street which houses antique emporiums, galleries and tea rooms. Stop for a break at a pub or restaurant, including one said to be the inspiration for The Prancing Pony in JRR Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*.

Nearby is **Batsford Arboretum**, the country's largest private collection of trees and shrubs. Wander through 56 acres of wild gardens and marvel at stunning views across the **Evenlode Valley**.

Moreton-in-Marsh rail station is the pick up point for **Go Cotswolds'** guided tours. Why not book a tour to discover more of the Cotswolds?



Hop off the train at **Evesham**, a historic riverside market town nestled in the **Vale of Evesham** - the "fruit and vegetable basket of England". So much fruit grows around Evesham that the town hosts a famous Blossom Trail every April/May, which winds through 45 miles of pretty countryside. To soak up some culture, visit the **Almonry Museum** or the art-deco **Regal Cinema**.

Finally, finish your journey in **Worcester**. One of the oldest cities in the country, Worcester is famed for its magnificent Cathedral, fascinating Civil War history and world-renowned industrial past... and **Worcestershire Sauce**. Head to the bank of the **River Severn** for great views of the Cathedral and city from a different perspective.

Transport

Great Western Railway's Cotswold Line runs from London Paddington via Oxford to Worcester or Hereford. Trains leave Oxford roughly every hour.

Detailed timetable information is available at gwr.com.

For journeys within Oxfordshire and the Cotswolds, Great Western Railways' 'Cotswolds Discoverer' tickets offer great value. gwr.com/discover.

Itinerary: Across the Cotswolds

Moreton-in-Marsh (7 mins from Kingham)



2 ▶

Evesham (17 mins from Moreton-in-Marsh)

Worcester Foregate Street (30 mins from Evesham)

- 1 ▶ *Chastleton House*
- 2 ▶ *Batsford Arboretum*
- 3 ▶ *Bibury - Arlington Row*
credit:
Go Cotswolds

EASY DAY TRIPS from Oxford

As one of the most centrally located cities in England, Oxford is the perfect place to base yourself to explore other parts of the country. Excellent transport links makes it easy to travel around Oxfordshire and beyond.

Drive time:

1 hour 20 minutes

Transport:

Book a tour from Gulliver's Guides

Take a day trip on the train from Oxford to Worcester across the Cotswolds
Read More | p.68 ▶

Drive time:

1 hour

STONEHENGE

Walk in the footsteps of your Neolithic ancestors at Stonehenge - one of the wonders of the world and the best-known prehistoric monument in Europe. Travelling by train to **Salisbury** takes just over two hours, and the journey time to drive by car is just over one hour, giving you plenty of time to explore this wonderful English Heritage site.



SILVERSTONE INTERACTIVE MUSEUM

An immersive visitor attraction, just 20-minutes from Junction 10 of the M40, which celebrates Silverstone and British motor racing. Over 60 hands-on exhibits give visitors the opportunity to try out a variety of activities - from operating a wind tunnel, taking part in a pit stop and climbing into a replica Grand Prix car.

Drive time:

1 hour 30 minutes

Transport:

GWR train,
1 hour 20 minutes

BATH

With frequent services on the rail route between Oxford and Bath taking just over one hour, the beautiful city of Bath is the perfect day trip destination. Built for pleasure and relaxation, Bath has been a wellbeing destination since Roman times, boasting the only natural thermal hot springs in Britain you can bathe in.



BLETCHLEY PARK

Once the top-secret home of World War II codebreakers and the birthplace of modern information technology, Bletchley Park is now a vibrant heritage attraction. Just a fifty-minute drive away, this is a great day trip to take from Oxford, allowing you to take your time to immerse yourself in this fascinating piece of British heritage, and still have time to enjoy a full evening's entertainment back in Oxford.



CHELTENHAM

Cheltenham has been welcoming visitors for almost three hundred years, ever since the discovery of the first natural spring in 1716. Just under 2 hours by bus from Oxford or 1 hour from Witney, enjoy fabulous restaurants, bars and pubs, with outside seating areas offering a cosmopolitan atmosphere, and award-winning shopping. Plus there's regular horseracing meets at the town's famous racecourse.



LONDON

Less than an hour's journey via train from Oxford, London's lively city atmosphere is not to be missed. Take in a show in the West End, stroll around the UK's most famous museums, and marvel at some of the grandest monuments in Europe.



Day trips from Oxford

Drive time:

1 hour

Transport:

Stagecoach X5
bus from Oxford to
Milton Keynes

Drive time:

1 hour 55 minutes

Transport:

Stagecoach S2 bus
to Cheltenham

Drive time:

1 hour 30 minutes

Transport:

GWR and Chiltern
Railway trains,
approx. 1 hour.
Oxford Tube coach,
approx. 2 hours



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GETTING TO *Oxfordshire*

Travel into Oxfordshire

BY AIR

Nearest airports: **Birmingham Airport** (1 hour by train), **London Heathrow Airport** (1.5 hours by bus), **London Gatwick Airport** (2.5-3 hours by bus). **Oxford Bus Company Airline** coaches operate 24 hour, 7 days a week services to both Heathrow and Gatwick airports. Tickets can be purchased online or on the day of travel. theairlineoxford.co.uk



BY COACH

Linking London and Oxford, **Stagecoach** operates the **Oxford Tube** which provides a 24/7 service Oxfordtube.com **Oxford Bus Company** also operate an airline coach service which connects High Wycombe and Oxford 24/7. Find out more at theairlineoxford.co.uk

BY RAIL

Great Western Railway has a regular service from **London Paddington** stopping at Didcot, Reading and Oxford and north through the county to the Cotswolds.

Gwr.com

Chiltern Railways operates trains from **London Marylebone** with stops at Princes Risborough, Haddenham & Thame Parkways, Bicester Village, Oxford Parkway and Oxford.

Chilternrailways.co.uk



1 ▶ *Oxford Tube*

2 ▶ *Great Western Railway*

TRAVELLING AROUND *Oxfordshire*

BY BUS

The **Oxford Bus Company** operates a network of services across the city, with regular buses also travelling to surrounding towns and villages.

Oxfordbus.co.uk

Stagecoach also offers an excellent countryside bus network, including the S5 service linking Oxford and **Bicester Village**, and the S3 and S7 services linking **Oxford** and **Blenheim Palace**.

Stagecoachbus.com/about/Oxfordshire

Park & Ride - the Gateway to Oxford. There are 5 **Park & Ride** sites located around Oxford's ring road, with regular bus services to the city centre, making your journey into the city hassle-free.

parkandrideoxford.co.uk/

The **City Sightseeing Bus** is an excellent way to explore the city, its history and highlights, and offers the option to hop on and off whenever you like. Plus, City Sightseeing Oxford offer a fantastic range of walking tours of Oxford too! Tickets are valid for 24 to 48 hours.

Citysightseeingoxford.com

BY TRAIN

Explore West Oxfordshire via the **GWR Cotswolds Line** (see itinerary p.66 ►) or North Oxfordshire via the **GWR Oxford Canal Line** (see itinerary on p.58 ►). To discover South Oxfordshire, catch the **GWR** train to Paddington and alight at Didcot Parkway for local transport options.



CAR HIRE AND TAXIS

Royal Cars offer taxi services in Oxford, and offer transport from local runs to airport transfers and long-distance journeys.

Royal-cars.com

Auto Europe offer car, motorhome or luxury vehicle hire from a choice of suppliers to suit your needs.

Autoeurope.co.uk

Chauffeur / Guide hire

Concierge History Tours offer luxury tour and chauffeur hire in either a Rolls Royce or a Bentley.

Conciergehistrytours.co.uk

BY BOAT

Hire a narrowboat to explore the length of the county from a different perspective. Travel along the River Thames, River Cherwell or Oxford Canal. Or, take a river cruise with **Oxford River Cruises** or **Salter's Steamers**.

oxfordrivercruises.com

salterssteamers.co.uk



ON FOOT

Oxford city centre is entirely walkable - and we recommend you explore by foot to see the most of the city! If you're finding your bearings,

Oxford Official Walking Tours offer award-winning tours of the city.

There are plenty of stunning countryside walks across Oxfordshire, including the **Ridgeway Trail** (see itinerary p.62 ►) or **Thames Path**.

oxfordofficialwalkingtours.org

BY BIKE

Oxford is a fairly flat city, and perfect for exploring by bike. To explore the surrounding county by bicycle, why not arrange a cycling trip with

The Carter Company?

the-carter-company.com

Unforgettable experiences!

Vintage
Tiger Moth
flights...



...Aerobatics

...and Formation Experiences



Gift vouchers available for:

Tiger Moth lessons • Aerobatic Experiences • Formation Experiences

Tiger Moth Themed Tours:

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English Civil War • Railway Tour • Aviation Heritage

www.finesthourexperiences.co.uk
info@finesthourexperiences.co.uk

07415 735683



Experience Oxfordshire Venues partners with the very best venues and suppliers in Oxfordshire, and our team can offer help and advice to make your event run smoothly



experienceoxfordshire.org/venues

@ExOxVenues

OXFORDSHIRE for your Clients

Oxfordshire for
your Clients

As well as being a world-class leisure destination, Oxfordshire is a fantastic place to meet and do business. Where else could you hold your meeting in a room that was once home to **Oscar Wilde** or dine where **C S Lewis**, **William Gladstone** and **Rowan Atkinson** regularly ate, then let your delegates spend the evening networking on the banks of the Thames?

research, Oxfordshire is home to a diverse range of venues suitable for everything from biotech conventions, to luxury incentive breaks, to corporate retreats – all within close proximity (just an hour) of **London**. If you work in the business events sector, we have a dedicated team to help you develop itineraries and conferences for your clients.



The **Experience Oxfordshire Venues Service** is the official and free conference and event venue-finding bureau for Oxford and Oxfordshire. The team will match your brief to one or more venues in the historic heart of academic Oxford or the surrounding countryside, completely free of charge. We have helped hundreds of event organisers create successful events in Oxford and Oxfordshire and we would love to assist you too.

If you work in the travel trade, please get in touch with the **Experience Oxfordshire** team, who will be happy to recommend inspiring itinerary ideas, venues and products. We look forward to welcoming your clients to our world-class destination very soon.

From UNESCO world-heritage palaces and ancient libraries, to high tech venues and cutting-edge



experienceoxfordshire.org/venues
[@ExOxVenues](https://twitter.com/ExOxVenues)



- 1 ▶ *The Alice, The Randolph Hotel by Graduate Hotels*
- 2 ▶ *Caswell House*
- 3 ▶ *Oxford Brookes Venues*

Where to Stay

See City map (p.12-13)
and County map (p.22-23)

- Food/Bar
- WiFi
- Child Friendly
- Disabled Friendly
- Animal Friendly
- Parking



BATH PLACE HOTEL | E3 City

Bath Place is a cluster of 17th century cottages in Oxford.
From £140 B&B for a Double Room
Three Star

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

bathplace.co.uk • 01865 791812 • OX1 3SU

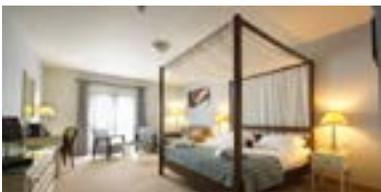


BEST WESTERN PLUS LINTON LODGE HOTEL | C1 City

The Best Western Linton Lodge is an elegant blend of modern amenities and Edwardian charm, nestled in tranquil garden surroundings in Oxford.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

bw-lintonlodgehotel.co.uk • 01865 553461 • OX2 6UJ



BICESTER HOTEL GOLF AND SPA | D3 County

Bicester Hotel Golf and Spa is a four-star resort set among acres of beautiful countryside. **From £109 for a Classic Room.**
Four Star - Spa - Health Club - Performance Gym - Outdoor Swimming Lake - Golf Course - Lounge - Team Building Package.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

bicesterhotelgolfandspa.com • 01869 241204 • Green Lane, Chesterton, Bicester, OX26 1TH



THE BUTTERY | D3 City

The Buttery Hotel offers six deluxe en-suite bedrooms and is located on historic Broad Street in Oxford.

WiFi, Child Friendly

thebutteryhotel.co.uk • 01865 811950 • OX1 3AP



CHRIST CHURCH | D4 City

Bed and Breakfast in one of Oxford's most prestigious colleges, Christ Church, with its stunning Great Hall, Cathedral and Meadow.

WiFi

chch.ox.ac.uk • 01865 276174 • OX1 1DP



CLIVE BOOTH POST-GRADUATE CENTRE | F3 City

Single en-suite, self-catered accommodation. Outdoor central courtyard.
Price per night: £58.00

WiFi

brookes.ac.uk/venues/accommodation • 01865 488400 • OX3 0FN



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT OXFORD CITY CENTRE | B4 City

Modern 151 bedroom Hotel in Oxford City Centre, minutes from Oxford station – the perfect launch pad for any Oxford adventure.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/oxfcy-courtyard-oxford-city-centre
01865 306900 • OX1 1LD



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT OXFORD SOUTH | D5 County

New modern 4* hotel with award-winning Oxen Bar & Grill. 170 bedrooms with all mod cons and rainfall showers. Free parking and WiFi and easy access into Oxford via the A34 in 25 minutes. **From £110 for a Double Room.** Four Star

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/oxfcx-courtyard-oxford-south • 01865 671480 • 6 Milton Gate, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4FP



THE CROWN & THISTLE ABINGDON | D5 County

With a history dating back to 1605, The Crown & Thistle on Bridge Street re-opened its doors in 2013. This Grade II listed coaching inn comprises three individual buildings clustered around a cobbled courtyard, framed by 200-year-old wisteria.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

crownandthistleabingdon.co.uk • 01235 522556 • 18 Bridge Street, Abingdon-on-Thames, OX14 3HS



THE DOUBLE RED DUKE | B4 County

An immaculately restored old inn with generous bedrooms and fantastic food. Locals love it as much as those who make it a destination.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

countrycreatures.com/double-red-duke • 01367 810222 • OX18 2RB



GRANGE FARM COUNTRY COTTAGES | E3 County

Gold Award winning, four star self-catering cottages set on a beautiful, peaceful family farm in rural Oxfordshire.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

grangefarmcottages.co.uk • 07919 002132 • OX27 9AF



GREYFRIARS HIDEAWAY | C4 City

Indulge at Greyfriars Hideaway, two historic and exclusive self-catering properties located in the very heart of Oxford sleeping from 2 - 12 people.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly

greyfriarshideawayoxford.com • 07709 098507 • OX1 1LD



HOLIDAY INN OXFORD | C1 City

Contemporary rooms, free parking, located close to city centre.
From £66 for a Double Room

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking

holidayinn.com/oxford • 08719 429086 • OX2 8JD



LEONARDO ROYAL HOTEL OXFORD | C1 City

Welcome to Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford. Step inside their 240-bedroom hotel just a short drive from the city centre. Their four-star Oxford hotel is the perfect base for adventures in and around Oxford's fascinating historic city, whether you're staying for one night or an entire week.

Their hotel also features one of the most celebrated restaurants, Marco Pierre White's Steakhouse, Bar and Grill. The restaurant combines British and French influences to serve up perfectly-cooked dishes and handcrafted cocktails.

From £85 for a Double Room
Four Star

The Marco Pierre White Steakhouse Bar & Grill Oxford is a well-known restaurant serving British and French influenced cuisine in a contemporary and stylish setting. Treat yourself to the famous signature breakfast or choose from a selection of salads, juicy burgers or delicious pasta dishes from the carefully-designed bar menu. The restaurant is the perfect choice for a romantic dinner for two or a casual dinner with friends.

WiFi, Child Friendly, Animal Friendly, Parking



leonardohotels.co.uk • 01865 489988 • Godstow Road, Oxford, OX2 8AL



LE MANOIR AUX QUAT'SAISONS

E4 County

Created by celebrated chef Raymond Blanc OBE, Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons is one of the country's most cherished manor house hotels. They received two Michelin stars in 1984, the first year of their opening, and, remarkably, have held them ever since.

Beyond the eye-catching flower beds and pristine lawns is The Raymond Blanc Gardening School where guests can learn the secrets of their world-class vegetable and herb gardens, which provide the kitchen - and The Raymond Blanc Cookery School - with ultra-fresh organic produce. They guarantee their restaurant remains at the cutting edge of culinary excellence.

Prices start from £995 based on a Deluxe bedroom and includes breakfast. Five Star



belmond.com/hotels/europe/uk/oxfordshire/belmond-le-manoir-aux-quat-saisons • 01844 278881 • Church Road, Great Milton, Oxford, OX44 7PD



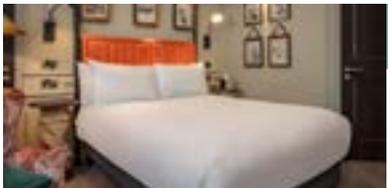
MALMAISON

C4 City

Located in Oxford city centre, the Malmaison Hotel is a former prison now converted into a boutique hotel. Full of character and history, this is an inspiring place, offering unique luxury accommodation with 95 beautifully styled bedrooms and suites.



malmaison.com/locations/oxford • 01865 689944 • Oxford Castle, 3 New Road, Oxford, OX1 1AY



MERCURE OXFORD EASTGATE HOTEL

F4 City

17th-century coaching-inn, situated in the heart of the historic Oxford, convenient central location allows guests to easily discover Oxford's landmarks.



accorhotels.com • 01865 248332 • 73 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BE



MERCURE OXFORD HAWKWELL HOUSE HOTEL

F4 City

Located in the tranquil surrounds of Oxford, only 10 minutes' drive from the hustle and bustle of Oxford city centre, lies Oxford's best kept secret, Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House Hotel. Boasting 77 bedrooms, each inspired by its location, this theme is carried throughout the hotel decor, with interiors inspired by the classic Oxford brogue and Oxford shirt.

A story of Oxford life is told in this idyllic location, set among three acres of private gardens. The perfect setting to enjoy a quintessentially British stay in one of the UK's most historical cities.



mercureoxfordhawkwellhouse.com • 01865 489988 • Church Way, Iffley Village, OX4 4DZ



MOLLIE'S OXFORDSHIRE

C5 County

Make yourself at home at Mollie's Oxfordshire: 79 high-spec contemporary rooms designed by Soho House, all-day dining, a dash of vintage and a handy distance from the city - the classic American motel-diner brought bang up to date.



mollies.com • 01367 707777 • Shrivenham Road, A420, Buckland, Faringdon, SN7 8PY



THE OLD BANK HOTEL

E4 City

The independently owned Old Bank Hotel, centrally located on Oxford's famous High, is a breath-taking statement in design. The five-star hotel has 43 luxury bedrooms, many with unrivalled views of the city's most famous landmarks. It is home to Quod Restaurant & Bar, which forms the lively hub of the hotel.



oldbankhotel.co.uk • 01865 799599 • 92-94 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BJ



THE OLD PARSONAGE HOTEL

C1 City

Oxford's 17th century Old Parsonage combines original charm and character with all the luxury, amenities and technology available to an independently owned 5-star hotel. Best known by locals and visitors alike for its eclectic country house charm, chic modern interiors and striking 20th century portraits, the Old Parsonage is a luxury home-from-home with impeccable hospitality.



oldparsonagehotel.co.uk • 01865 310210 • 1-3 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6NN



OXFORD WITNEY HOTEL

C4 County

Just a short walk from Witney town centre, the Oxford Witney Hotel offers great accommodation at a great value. Its close proximity to Oxford, Blenheim Palace, Burford, and the Cotswolds makes it the ideal base for travelling throughout Oxfordshire.



oxfordwitneyhotel.co.uk • 01993 779777 • Ducklington Lane, Witney, OX28 4EX



THE RANDOLPH HOTEL BY GRADUATE HOTELS

C2 City

An Oxford landmark in the heart of the city, The Randolph Hotel by Graduate Hotels takes inspiration from the University of Oxford's history, paying homage to its storied innovators and alumni. Just steps from iconic colleges, this historic landmark is a welcome retreat for locals and travellers alike.

The Randolph is more than just a place to lay your head. Make yourself at home in their restaurants, book a pampering treatment at their Wellness Centre and tour Oxford on complimentary bikes.

Located inside the hotel, The Alice, all-day British restaurant serves unique interpretations of classic British dishes offering breakfast, lunch, dinner, pre-theatre dining and afternoon tea in their Drawing Room.



graduatehotels.com/oxford-uk • 0344 8799132 • Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2LN



ROYAL OXFORD HOTEL | B3 City

City centre hotel offers parking nearby, professional and friendly welcome, comfortable rooms with En-Suite facilities, airconditioned, double glazed and affordable.

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royaloxfordhotel.co.uk • 01865 248432 • OX1 1HR



SNAPTRIP | County

Snaptrip offers a great range of self-catering properties in Oxfordshire, from cosy cottages to luxury stately homes.

📶 🧑🏠 🦿 🐾 🅅

snaptrip.com/holiday-cottages/oxfordshire • 02036 370812 • Oxfordshire



STAYCOTSWOLD | County

Over 150 luxury holiday cottages, barns and shepherd's huts including many dog friendly homes and large places with hot tubs.

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staycotswold.com • 01451 514000 • Oxfordshire Cotswolds



ST MARGARET'S HOTEL | C1 City

A boutique style Hotel in a Victorian building with many modern facilities. Ideal location for visiting the city of Oxford.

📶 🧑🏠 🅅

themargarethotel.co.uk • 01865 433864 • OX2 6LD



TREEDWELLERS | C3 County

TreeDwellers extraordinary treehouse escapes. Their 7 extraordinary ecocentric treehouses in the forests of Cornbury Estate in The Cotswolds are hybrids between a boutique hotel and a self-catering tree house; a brainwave rebooting sensory experience.

📶 🧑🏠 🦿 🅅

treedwellers.com • aloha@treedwellers.co.uk • Finstock, Witney Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 3DF



VOCO OXFORD THAMES HOTEL | D6 City

Riverside hotel, 30 acres of beautiful grounds and gardens, free parking. **From £150 B&B.** Four Star

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oxfordthames.vocohotels.com • 01865 334444 • OX4 4GX



VOCO OXFORD SPIRES HOTEL | D6 City

Within easy walking distance of Oxford's colleges, museums and theatres, this is the perfect base from which to discover Oxford.

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oxfordspires.vocohotels.com • 01865 324324 • OX1 4PS



CONFERENCE OXFORD | City

Conference Oxford can help to find your perfect event location from amongst their 70 University of Oxford venues and colleges. Their venues cater for all kinds of events – conferences, meetings, dinners, weddings, parties, summer schools, accommodation, the list is endless. They can even help with filming locations!

Conference Oxford operates as a free central enquiry service, enabling you to find your dream venue from a range of colleges, museums, libraries, and gardens. Offering over 500 meeting spaces, 7000+ college bedrooms, and an array of glorious dining opportunities, they can help you to uncover unique Oxford locations and offer your guests an unforgettable experience.

Get in touch today to book your next event.

conference-oxford.com • 01865 276190 • 1 Littlegate Street, Oxford, OX1 1QG



CASWELL HOUSE | C4 County

A unique and beautiful wedding venue in the Cotswolds, Caswell House is exclusively yours for your special day.

caswellhouse.co.uk • 01993 701064 • OX18 3NJ



STARSTREAM | County

Relaxed and informal Wedding Photography and Film from Mark Rayson of Starstream, timeline photography that captures the story of the day.

starstream.co.uk • 07970 406913 • OX2 9ED

What to See and Do



ABINGDON LOCAL FOOD & CRAFTS | D5 County

Browse in Abingdon's historic Market Place just 20 mins bus ride from Oxford.

"Local Excellence" Markets are on:
28 Jan | 29 Apr | 24 Jun | 29 July | 30 Sep | 25 Nov | 9 Dec

abingdoneventspartnership.co.uk/markets • 07463 691051 • OX14 3HH



ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM | C2 City

The Ashmolean Museum is home to half a million years of human history and creativity, from Egyptian mummies to modern art and more.

ashmolean.org • 01865 278000 • OX1 2PH

For Your Event



EXPERIENCE OXFORDSHIRE VENUE GUIDE

Oxfordshire is home to a wonderful selection of meeting, conference and event venues. Experience Oxfordshire Venues partners with the best venues & suppliers in Oxfordshire, and our team can offer help and advice to make your event run smoothly.

View our latest Venue Guide at <https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/oxfordshire-venue-guide/> Or use our Venue Finding Service to search for your perfect venue: <https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/venues/>

experienceoxfordshire.org/oxfordshire-venue-guide



BICESTER VILLAGE | D3 County

Discover more than 150 boutiques from heritage fashion houses and cutting-edge designers at luxury shopping destination, Bicester Village.

Sitting in the Oxfordshire countryside, just an hour from London, the Village is home to renowned brands including Mulberry, Off-White™, ZEGNA and more – all offering remarkable year-round savings on the original retail price.

Plus, explore a superb selection of restaurants, cafés and pop-ups such as Cecconi's, La Tua Pasta, farmshop restaurant & cafe, Shan Shui and Ladurée.

Visit the website to discover more.

thebicestercollection.com/bicester-village • 01869 366266 • 50 Pingle Drive, Bicester, OX26 6WD



BICESTER HERITAGE

📍 D3 County

Bicester Heritage is the 'centre of excellence' for classic motoring in the UK, home to 50 specialist businesses on a 444 acre former WW2 RAF Bomber Training Station.

Bicester provides a unique setting for the entire family to enjoy and experience the past, present and future of motoring, be it through attending one of the site's Scramble events or visiting the on-site brewery, The Wriggly Monkey.

Ideally located, close to the City of Oxford, Bicester Heritage is a truly unique location.



bicesterheritage.co.uk • 01869 327928 • The Station Armoury, Building 123, Buckingham Road, Bicester, OX26 5HA



BLenheim PALACE

📍 C3 County

Blenheim Palace is home to the 12th Duke and Duchess of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site boasting a long and diverse history.

With a rich variety of cultural highlights spanning the calendar year, you can indulge in their programme of special events; from medieval jousting displays and exhibitions in the Palace to their Easter and Halloween offerings.

In addition, this spring 2023 will see the opening of a brand new Adventure Playground, the Lost Garden.

Open daily 10:30am – 5:30pm (last admission 4:45pm)



blenheimpalace.com • 01993 810530 • Woodstock, Oxfordshire, OX20 1UL



BLETCHLEY PARK

📍 F2 County

Bletchley Park, once the top-secret home of the World War II Codebreakers, is now a vibrant heritage attraction, open every day to visitors. Step back in time to experience the stories of the extraordinary achievements of the men and women who worked there.

A place of exceptional historical importance, Bletchley Park is also the birthplace of modern computing and has helped shape life as we know it today. Highlights include the restored Codebreaking huts, the iconic Mansion, and interactive exhibitions housed in original wartime buildings. Explore a key part of the Bletchley Park story in the newest exhibition *The Intelligence Factory* to discover how it operated at an industrial scale with a multi-skilled workforce of around 9,000 people.

Open Daily March - October: 9.30am - 5pm | November - February: 9.30am - 4pm



bletchleypark.org.uk • 01908 640404 • Sherwood Drive, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK3 6EB



BODLEIAN LIBRARY

📍 E3 City

The world-famous Bodleian Libraries is a must-see cultural destination in the heart of Oxford. Experience the breath-taking, medieval Bodleian Library and Gothic Divinity School with passionate tour guides. Home of the iconic Radcliffe Camera.

visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/plan-your-visit • 01865 287400 • Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BG



BROUGHTON CASTLE

📍 C2 County

Historic 14th century fortified manor house enlarged in the 16th century. Home of the family of Lord Saye and Sele for over 600 years. It contains its own medieval chapel, vaulted passages, fine panelling and splendid plaster ceilings and fireplaces. It was a centre of resistance to King Charles I during the Civil War and contains mementos of the period including armour and weapons.

There are fine walled gardens with old roses, shrubs and herbaceous borders. The castle is surrounded by a broad moat and set in open parkland. It was a location for the filming of Shakespeare in Love and has featured in many other films and TV programmes.

Private groups are welcome on any day by appointment (please email). Please visit the website for public opening information and prices.



broughtoncastle.com • 01295 276070 • Broughton Castle, Banbury, OX15 5EB



THE CAKE SHOP

📍 D3 City

The Cake Shop specializes in exquisitely hand-crafted, premium celebration cakes for any occasion. Their Oxford shop is a focal point for guided walking tours that pass through the city as well as providing locals and tourists the opportunity to watch their skilled cake artists at work. Stop by and see for yourself!

the-cakeshop.co.uk • 01865 248691 • 123-127 Avenue 4, The Covered Market, Oxford, OX1 3DZ



CHERWELL BOATHOUSE

📍 C1 City

Punting is a truly timeless, slightly eccentric, quintessentially Oxford, idyllic pleasure.

Take a leisurely punt upstream, about half an hour from us is The Victoria Arms. Downstream takes you through the lovely University Parks, a great spot for picnics and games with the kids.

Suitable for novices and experts alike, students, corporate parties, families, and groups of friends can all enjoy this unique Oxford experience.

Alongside is one of Oxford's best restaurants with AI fresco dining. Punting season: Mid-March - mid October 7 days a week from dawn to dusk. £20 per hour 6 people to a punt.



cherwellboathouse.co.uk • 01865 515978 • Bardwell Road, Oxford, OX2 6ST



CHRIST CHURCH

D4 City

Walk in the footsteps of academics, kings and queens, Alice in Wonderland and even a few wizards!

Christ Church is open throughout the year. As a working college and cathedral some areas may close from time to time.

For full details on what to see, opening times, ticket prices, guided tours, services and events visit the Christ Church website. Please note that booking in advance is essential for groups of 12 or more.



chch.ox.ac.uk • 01865 276492 • St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1DP



COGGES MANOR FARM

C4 County

Cogges is a unique historic farm, made famous as Yew Tree Farm in Downton Abbey. Visit to explore the beautiful manor house, stunning walled garden, unspoilt grounds, and meet their friendly animals.

cogges.org.uk • 01993 772602 • Church Lane, Witney, OX28 3AL



CROCODILES OF THE WORLD

B4 County

Crocodiles of the World is the UK's only Crocodile Zoo near Witney and is home to over 100 crocodiles, including endangered species. Enjoy feeding displays, photo opportunities, crocodile talks and much more.

crocodilesoftheworld.co.uk • 01993 846353 • Burford Road, Brize Norton, OX18 3NX



DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE

D5 County

Travel back in time to the golden age of the Great Western Railway. Savour the sights, sounds and smells of steam as you explore this 25-acre living museum with trains dating from Victorian times to the 1960s.

Take unlimited rides on steaming days, explore the original 1932 engine shed and see magnificent preserved locomotives - you can even climb onto the footplates of some!

See surviving track from Brunel's broad gauge, discover painstakingly restored buildings, carriages and wagons and learn more about the development of railways and how they changed everyday lives.

Open Daily April - September | Weekends October - March | Steam trains running weekends and Wednesdays



didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk • 01235 817200 • Didcot Parkway Station, Station Road, Didcot, OX11 7NJ



FAIRYTALE FARM

C3 County

Mixing classic fairy tales, animals and adventure play, children simply adore Fairytale Farm. With the exciting adventure play areas, an enchanted walk with a surprise around every corner and a chance to meet their amazing animals, there is so much to see and do. It is a sensory and learning wonderland for all the family.

Climb a combine harvester, step inside a musical house or let off steam in Rapunzel's Kingdom indoor play. Where else can you meet mermaids, rabbits, sleeping beauty, alpacas, rheas, sea horses, ducks, chickens and magic?

There are a whole host of new attractions at Fairytale Farm opening in 2023, with their biggest ever investment in new developments:

- The new-look indoor play area, themed around an enchanted forest, with castles, slides and fairy houses to visit, role playing and interactive features.
- Covered animal petting area.
- Covered picnic area in the Huff & Puff Adventure Playground.
- New for Summer 2023: Pass through the hollow log of a fallen tree and enter a whimsical world of Fairy Dell, where you are the size of fairies, with giant mushrooms, raised walkways and bridges, crawl tunnel, clamber net, climbing wall and slides. The most magical play area ever!



fairytalefarm.co.uk • 01608 238014 • Fairytale Farm, Southcombe, Chipping Norton, OX7 5QH



FINEST HOUR EXPERIENCES

D3 County

Finest Hour provides unforgettable flying experiences in beautiful vintage and aerobatic aeroplanes over Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and the Cotswolds. The perfect gift for the person who has everything!

finesthourexperiences.co.uk • 07415 735683 • OX27 8AL



THE HENLEY DISTILLERY

E6 County

An artisan distillery creating hand-crafted, premium spirits near Henley-on-Thames offering tours, tastings and gin-making experiences.

thehenleydistillery.co.uk • 07511 208490 • RG9 4LG



HENLEY RIVER & ROWING MUSEUM

E6 County

Henley, the River, and Rowing. Discover all this and more at the River & Rowing Museum in Henley on Thames.

rrm.co.uk • 01491 415600 • RG9 1BF



HISTORY OF SCIENCE MUSEUM

E3 City

Discover where science, art and belief meet: stories of Oxford science, beautifully intriguing devices and dials, and Einstein's Blackboard.

hsm.ox.ac.uk • 01865 277293 • OX1 3AZ



HOOK NORTON BREWERY

📍 C2 County

Come and experience the sights and sounds of brewing unchanged in over 6 generations. Hook Norton Brewery run tours of their 5-storey Victorian Tower Brewery 7 days a week and have an on-site cafe and shop along with a free brewery and village museum.

Their shire horse team, which they still use to deliver beer, can be found in the stables and they run the original steam engine on the first Sunday of each month.

The Brewery also have rooms available for private hire, parties, meetings and weddings. Alongside that they also brew a wide range of award-winning cask ales, keg beers and lager.



hooky.co.uk • 01608 730384 • Brewery Lane, Hook Norton, Banbury, OX15 5NY



IF OXFORD

📍 City

IF Oxford, the city's science and ideas festival offers 100+ interactive, entertaining and inspiring events across Oxford. There's something for all ages, with activities for families, teenagers and adults. 7-28 Oct 2023.

if-oxford.com • info@if-oxford.com • City



JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS

📍 C5 City

Located in the Westgate Oxford shopping centre with three floors of the best in fashion, beauty, home, giftware, technology and electrical items.

Meet the Experts on Hand, who offer help and advice to ensure you choose the perfect product for you. Services include personal styling, lingerie fitting, nursery advice and home design, as well as a bureau de change and an optician.

For more information call the Experience Desk on 01865 268313.

johnlewis.com/our-shops/oxford • 01865 203320 • 101, The Westgate, Queen Street, Oxford OX1 1PB



JUNKYARD GOLF CLUB

📍 C4 City

A riotous mash-up of crazy golf, drinks and pumped-up tunes, their party playgrounds are an escape like no other. Come out swinging as you battle through insane courses packed with wrestling bears, psycho clowns, and wrecked three-wheelers. Come for the golf, stay for the party!

junkyardgolfclub.co.uk • Castle Street, Oxford, OX1 1NU



KELMSCOTT MANOR

📍 B4 County

Visit Kelmscott Manor, the inspirational Cotswold retreat of William Morris he described as 'Heaven on Earth'.

Open April - October
Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays 10.30am-5.30pm

sal.org.uk/kelmscott-manor • 01367 252486 • GL7 3HJ



LOCAL WALKS OXFORDSHIRE

📍 County

Fancy a new adventure? Discover 200+ walks in the county - download the 'Oxfordshire Walks' app on your app store.

localwalks.co.uk/oxfordshire-walks • Oxfordshire



MODERN ART OXFORD

📍 D4 City

Modern Art Oxford is one of the UK's leading contemporary art spaces with an international reputation for bold and ambitious programming. Discover exciting exhibitions, events and workshops for all ages, in person and online, as well as a Shop and Café.

modernartoxford.org.uk • 01865 722733 • 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford, OX1 1BP



MUSEUM OF OXFORD

📍 D4 City

The Museum of Oxford is the only museum dedicated to telling the story of Oxford and its people.

The Museum is located in the Town Hall at the centre of the city and provides a fantastic starting point to a visit to the city. Two galleries show the changing story of Oxford through its history and people, from Romans and Anglo-Saxons to the first Cowley factory workers, the infamous Cutteslowe Walls and the city's rich heritage through times of conflict and industry. Through objects, videos, audio and interactive displays, the exhibitions uncover what makes Oxford such a special place to live, work and study.

A visit could take around 30 minutes to two hours. The Museum is wheelchair accessible and the Town Hall has level access via the north entrance near Carfax Tower.

Visit their website to find out what's on and to book your tickets. Follow them on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and TikTok, and join their monthly mailing list to get the most up-to-date information about MOX. They look forward to seeing you soon!

Opening hours - Monday to Saturday, 10am-5pm

Facilities - Donations welcome, gender neutral toilets, level access, hearing loop available, gift shop, baby change



museumofoxford.org • 01865 252334 • Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX



NEW THEATRE OXFORD

C3 City

Playing host to some of the biggest shows and names, New Theatre Oxford is situated right in the centre of the historic city. From top West End musicals and world renowned dance companies to the best names in live comedy and music, there is something to appeal to for everyone.

atgtickets.com/venues/new-theatre-oxford • 0844 8717615 • 24-26 George Street, Oxford, OX1 2AG



THE NORTH WALL ARTS CENTRE

C1 City

The North Wall connects artists and audiences from Oxford to make, share and access art of the highest quality.

thenorthwall.com • 01865 319450 • OX2 7JN



THE OXFORD ARTISAN DISTILLERY

F3 City

The Oxford Artisan Distillery creates incredible tasting spirits, supporting ancient methods of farming and encouraging biodiversity in the Oxfordshire countryside.

theoxfordartisandistillery.com • 01865 767918 • OX3 7QJ



OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN & ARBORETUM

F4 City

Oxford Botanic Garden is the UK's oldest botanic garden and an oasis of green in the heart of Oxford.

obga.ox.ac.uk • 01865 610300 • OX1 4AZ



OXFORD INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTRE

D4 City

This private tutorial college and language school in the centre of Oxford offers a range of programmes for residents, international students and visitors.

oxintstudycentre.com • 01865 201009 • OX1 1BS



OXFORD CASTLE AND PRISON

C4 City

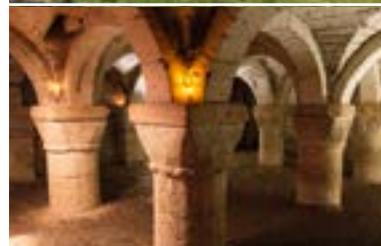
Explore the 1 000-year history of Oxford Castle & Prison. Step back in time with their costumed guided tours and see fascinating stories come to life. Hear the great tales of Empress Matilda, the fate of Mary Blandy and step inside their padded jail cell.

Find gorgeous views atop of St. Georges' Tower and then descend into the atmospheric crypt of St. Georges' Chapel. Here you can touch the stones where Oxford University was rumoured to begin and stand in the birthplace of Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Legend of King Arthur*. Wander the austere confines of the prison's D-Wing and debtors tower and learn about their youngest inmates.

After your guided tour, you can explore the prison cells and the exhibition space at your own leisure – who will you meet in the Padded Cell?

Head outside and climb the mound, the remains of their motte and bailey castle.

Admission is via Guided Tour only and lasts approximately 50 minutes. Please head to the Oxford Castle & Prison website for the latest opening times and prices.



oxfordcastleandprison.co.uk • 01865 260663 • 44-46 Oxford Castle, Oxford, OX1 1AY

Events in Oxfordshire



Arts

Family friendly

Food and drink

Historic

Music and shows

Outdoors

experienceoxfordshire.org/whats-on

BOOK YOUR OXFORDSHIRE EXPERIENCE



experienceoxfordshire.org/shop





OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL

City

The FT Weekend Oxford Literary Festival - The World's meeting place for writers and readers - 25th March to 2nd April 2023.

Tickets available to purchase: <https://oxfordliteraryfestival.org>

The internationally acclaimed programme features more than 200 speakers over 10 days with some of the most eminent figures of our age. Visitors can meet and listen to authors and experts from dozens of countries discussing every imaginable subject from literature, history, biography, science, politics, technology, environment, travel, religion all staged in some of the most beautiful buildings in Europe. There is also a programme for young people.

Speakers include: Colm Tóibín, Greta Scacchi, Jeremy Bowen, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, Paterson Joseph, Robin Stevens, Mick Herron and Al Murray.

oxfordliteraryfestival.org • 0333 6663366 • Oxford



OXFORD PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

2023 is a very special year for the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra, marking 25 years since the dream of a permanent, world-class symphony orchestra for Oxford became a reality.

The Oxford Philharmonic boasts some of the finest instrumental musicians, who, under the direction of Music Director Marios Papadopoulos, have shaped the Orchestra's distinctive sound. In 2023 and in celebration of its Silver Jubilee the Orchestra performs an outstanding display of life-enhancing music, joined by close friends who just happen to be world-famous musicians, including Martha Argerich, Maxim Vengerov, Sir Andrés Schiff, Nigel Kennedy, Janine Jansen, Evgeny Kissin and Anne-Sophie Mutter.

The Orchestra also sets its sights further afield this year, performing in iconic venues in the UK including the Barbican, Cadogan Hall and the Royal Albert Hall, as well as distinguished international venues including Vienna's Musikverein, and tours in Germany and Dubai.

Back in Oxford, on top of its concert programme the Orchestra presents FUNomusica Family Concerts, its chamber music series, and the annual Oxford Piano Festival, where top pianists share their wisdom in a jam-packed week of masterclasses and recitals.

Find out more and browse the Oxford Philharmonic's 2023 season at www.oxfordphil.com

Image credit: Nick Rutter

oxfordphil.com • 01865 980980 • Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ



OXFORD RIVER CRUISES

D6 City

Float away on one of their tranquil, sightseeing river experiences and immerse yourself in the unique serenity of Oxford.

oxfordrivercruises.com • 01865 987147 • OX1 4JU



OXFORDSHIRE ARTWEEKS

County

Oxfordshire Artweeks is a free three-week festival of 100s of open studios and pop-up exhibitions in every corner of Oxfordshire.

artweeks.org • 01865 865596 • Oxfordshire



OXFORDSHIRE MUSEUM

C3 County

Explore the stories of Oxfordshire and its people. Located in central Woodstock, the museum includes tranquil gardens, café and shop. Check out their regular programme of events (for all ages) and exhibitions. Free Entry.

oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/museums/oxfordshire-museum • 01865 897519
Fletcher's House, Park Street, Woodstock, OX20 1SN



OXFORD UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

D1 City

Marvel at wonders of the Earth, science and nature at Oxford University Museum of Natural History, with 20 new permanent displays .

oumnh.ox.ac.uk • 01865 272950 • OX1 3PW



PITT RIVERS MUSEUM

D1 City

The much-loved Pitt Rivers Museum is unique with its densely packed Victorian display cases containing anthropological and archaeological artefacts from all around the world and across time!

prm.ox.ac.uk • 01865 613000 • OX1 3PW



SHELDONIAN THEATRE

E3 City

Oxford University ceremonial Hall where you will step into the footprints of famous graduates. Its remarkable painted ceiling will not be unnoticed.

sheldonian.ox.ac.uk • 01865 277299 • OX1 3AZ



SILVERSTONE INTERACTIVE MUSEUM

E2 County

Discover the stars, stories and technology behind British Motor Racing. An immersive journey through the history of this iconic sport.

silverstonemuseum.co.uk • enquiries@silverstonemuseum.co.uk • NN12 8TN



SKY WAVE GIN

D3 County

Immerse yourself in Gin Heaven at Sky Wave Gin with the Distillery Experience & Curated Gin Tastings. See the magic, hear the stories, enjoy the gin. Available on Fridays and Saturdays. "Brilliant experience!" "Would definitely do it again."

skywavegin.com • 01869 713813 • The North Tanker Sheds 105, Bicester Heritage, Bicester, OX27 8AL



STONOR PARK

📍 E5 County

Stonor Park is a historic house and deer park, set in the rolling Chiltern hills in the Oxfordshire countryside. Not only does Stonor offer the chance to escape into the great outdoors, with its parklands, nature walks and cycling trails, it is a haven for families.

Home to the Stonor family for 850 years, the house is full of history and its grounds are full of adventure - a place where children have the freedom to run, explore and get active.



Tumblestone Hollow – the new immersive and magical adventure playground where mythical characters are said to reside amongst the ancient stone circle and within the quirky houses high up in the trees – is a place for adventurers and explorers. Let imaginations go wild and hear the stories of Tumblestone Hollow in the two children's books available to buy from the gift shop. High level walkways, climbing nets, look-out decks and bridges across multiple levels are connected by a gnarled central tower. Head to the look-out deck for views across the whole playground open from February to October, or visit during the popular seasonal events at Easter, summer and Halloween.

Families can relax at picnic tables and enjoy delicious wood-fired pizzas, authentic Italian ice cream, milkshakes, and handmade burgers from the Rumble Huts. Other refreshments are served in the Visitor Centre with toilets and baby-changing facilities. High-speed Wi-Fi available



stonor.com • 01491 638587 • Stonor Park, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 6HF



SALTER'S STEAMERS

📍 D6 City

Salter's Steamers is a family run passenger boat business operating for over 160 years. They offer self drive hire boats, punts and skiffs. They also operate 40 minute trips to Iffley lock - please see website.

salterssteamers.co.uk • 01865 243421 • Folly Bridge, Oxford, OX1 4LA



UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN

📍 E3 City

Visit the University Church, the spiritual heart of the oldest university in Britain standing in the very centre of Oxford and climb the tower for the finest views of the city.

universitychurch.ox.ac.uk • 01865 279110 • High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BJ



WATERPERRY GARDENS

📍 E4 County

Seven miles from the heart of historic Oxford lies Waterperry Gardens, 8 acres of beautiful ornamental gardens with a fascinating history. Established as a School of Horticulture for Ladies by Beatrix Havergal in 1932 it features a spectacular 200-foot herbaceous border, formal knot garden, rose garden, water lily canal, alpine garden and riverside walk.

Visit the quality Plant Centre, Garden Shop, Gift Barn and Gallery featuring beautiful artworks by British Artists, Rural Life Museum full of quirky ephemera and Teashop for home-baked lunches and cakes.

You will find a full programme of year-round events, from horticulturally themed weekends to theatre, opera and concert productions held in a stunning out-door Amphitheatre.

Open Daily April – October 10am-5.30pm; November – March 10am-5pm



waterperrygardens.co.uk • 01844 339254 • Waterperry, Near Wheatley, Oxford, OX33 1LA



WESTGATE OXFORD

📍 C4 City

Westgate Oxford is a sophisticated retail and leisure destination, attracting world-class retailers and leisure facilities to Oxford.

Offering guests a unique retail experience in the heart of the city, Westgate Oxford is home to over 100 stores featuring the best of the British high street and prestigious global brands. The centre also boasts over 20 eclectic eateries, and boutique cinema as well as a roof terrace with panoramic views over the city, making it the perfect destination for a day out.

Westgate Oxford is easily accessible by public transport with Park and Ride options available.



westgateoxford.co.uk • 01865 263600 • Westgate Oxford, Westgate, Oxford, OX1 1TR

Tour Operators



THE CARTER COMPANY

📍 County

Self-guided Cycling and Walking Holidays

Explore the hidden gems and local secrets of Oxford and The Cotswolds at your own pace with hand-picked accommodation, thoughtfully designed routes, and every detail taken care of.

the-carter-company.com • hello@the-carter-company.com • 01296 631671



CITY SIGHTSEEING OXFORD

City

Let City Sightseeing Oxford take you on an unforgettable adventure on their award-winning open-top hop-on hop-off bus tour to reveal the ancient and modern history and mystery of Oxford.

The bus tour lasts approximately one hour and takes in the city's famous sites, including the Oxford Castle, Christ Church, Magdalen Bridge, Sheldonian Theatre and Ashmolean Museum. With 20 bus stops, you're free to hop on and off at your leisure to make the most of your Oxford experience! Plus, audio commentary is available - take a pick from 14 languages as well as a kids' commentary.

City Sightseeing Oxford operate a fantastic range of walking tours too, as well as combo tickets giving you discounts on many of Oxford's other top attractions.



citysightseeingoxford.com • 01865 790522 • 44 - 45 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4AP



CONCIERGE HISTORY TOURS

County

Concierge History Tours offers you the chance to fully explore England and immerse yourself in its history, all from a chauffeur-driven Rolls-Royce or Bentley.

All tours are bespoke and can be tailored to your interests. Travel to a variety of locations across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and the Cotswolds, and even to Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon or medieval Warwick Castle.

Choices also include Highclere Castle and locations from Downton Abbey, English Civil War battlefields, Blenheim Palace, Waddesdon Manor and Tudor Hampton Court.

Many tour packages, as well as bespoke services, are available, all with fine dining included.



conciergehistrytours.co.uk • 07714 765696 • Oxfordshire



GO COTSWOLDS

B2 County

Explore the Cotswolds in a day with award-winning, family-run tour company Go Cotswolds. Small-group tours depart from Moreton-in-Marsh train station (30 mins by train from Oxford); private tours for up to 16 people also available from Oxford.

gocotswolds.co.uk • 07786 920166 • Station Road, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 0AA



OXFORD OFFICIAL WALKING TOURS

City

Explore the City of Dreaming Spires on foot and learn about its fascinating history with a knowledgeable and friendly guide. See some of the most famous spots in Oxford, including filming locations for Harry Potter and Inspector Morse.

Award-winning Oxford Official Walking Tours offers a great range of tours for up to 20 people per group.

Choose from:

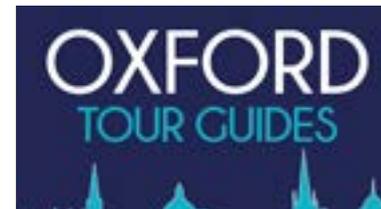
- Oxford University & City Tour
- Oxford Ghost Tour
- Inspector Morse, Lewis & Endeavour Tour
- C.S. Lewis & J.R.R. Tolkien Tour
- Philip Pullman's Oxford Tour
- Group & Private Tours



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oxfordofficialwalkingtours.org • 01865 686 442 • Oxford



OXFORD TOUR GUIDES

City

Join Oxford Tour Guides for a private walking tour tailored to your interests. Their guides are fully qualified with the nationally recognised Blue or Green badge and are knowledgeable and expert in their field.



They offer the popular general tour of the colleges and university as well as specialist themed tours such as Inspectors Morse, Lewis and Endeavour or Harry Potter as well as tours in other languages. Their award winning tours can be for small family or friends groups or larger university or school groups. To enquire and book visit www.oxfordtourguides.co.uk or call Sandra, Director of Oxford Tour Guides - who will be pleased to help you plan your visit.



oxfordtourguides.co.uk • 07769 657145 • Oxford

Where to Eat & Drink



CHERWELL BOATHOUSE 📍 C1 City

The Cherwell Boathouse is an iconic Oxford punt station and restaurant on the banks of the river Cherwell close to the centre of Oxford. The restaurant serves seasonal modern English food, with an award-winning wine list and friendly service throughout the year.

Both the restaurant and Marquee overlooking the river are wonderful places to celebrate all types of occasion. They can cater for corporate days out, functions and parties with conference facilities and option of punting alongside.

Restaurant Open All Year | Punting Open Mid March - Mid October
 Restaurant Lunch: 12-2.30pm | Restaurant Dinner: 6pm-9.30pm | Punting 10am - dusk

cherwellboathouse.co.uk • 01865 552746 • Bardwell Road, Oxford, OX2 6ST



THE COCONUT TREE OXFORD 📍 F3 City

The Coconut Tree is an award-winning Sri Lankan restaurant, bringing an explosion of flavours coupled with island 'Cocotails'.

thecoconuttree.com • 01865 421865 • OX4 1AH



GEES RESTAURANT & BAR 📍 C1 City

Set within Oxford's famous Grade II listed Victorian conservatory, Gees, with a newly refurbished terrace, serves a distinctly Mediterranean-inspired menu.

geesrestaurant.co.uk • 01865 553540 • OX2 6PE



KNOOPS 📍 D3 City

Discover your perfect chocolate drink (be it hot chocolate, iced chocolate or milkshake) from their carefully curated menu of different percentage chocolates. The Knoops concept has something to suit every taste and mood!

knoops.co.uk • 03333 600608 • 21 Turl Street, Oxford, OX1 3DH



OXFORD CASTLE QUARTER 📍 C4 City

The Oxford Castle Quarter blends past and present, making every visit a memorable experience. Discover great places to eat and drink, historic attractions and a unique atmospheric hotel. Monday - Sunday: 6:00am - 11:30pm | Please check individual business opening hours

oxfordcastlequarter.com • 01865 201657 • Castle Street, Oxford, OX1 1AY



PARSONAGE GRILL 📍 C1 City

Famous for its intimate clubby atmosphere and walled terrace, Parsonage Grill offers classic British dishes with a modern, light touch. Open every day of the year, enjoy breakfast, lunch, dinner and their famous afternoon teas, in the company of Oxford's academic and literary luminaries.

parsonagegrill.co.uk • 01865 292305 • 1-3 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6NN



PHO 📍 C5 City

Find Pho on the top of the Westgate shopping centre, where they serve their healthy Vietnamese food all day every day. Stop in to enjoy noodles, pho, salads and much more beside.

Sunday - Tuesday: 11:30am - 9:30pm, Wednesday - Friday: 11:30am - 10pm, Saturday: 11:30am - 10:30pm

phocafe.co.uk/locations/oxford • 01865 980 209 • 305 The Westgate, Queen Street, Oxford, OX1 1PG



QUOD RESTAURANT & BAR 📍 E4 City

On Oxford's High, Quod boasts a broad menu of European classics with an emphasis on British produce. Quod's covered Italian garden terrace provides a uniquely Mediterranean setting, where diners can enjoy a morning coffee, quick two course lunch or long celebratory suppers.

quod.co.uk • 01865 202505 • 92-94 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BJ



VICTORS 📍 C5 City

Enjoy everyday luxury and escape to Victors with the best view in Oxford. Experience their modern Asian inspired menu and show stopping cocktails served under their iconic wisteria trees.

Beautiful, vibrant, upscale yet informal, Victors Oxford is the perfect restaurant for everything from celebrations to intimate dining, corporate events and group bookings.

Located on the rooftop of Westgate Oxford, with views of Christ Church Cathedral, join them for cocktails, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner seven days a week and breakfast from 10am Saturday and Sunday.

Indulge in a delightful selection of homemade luxury treats, from sushi to sweet with their afternoon tea, 2pm until 5pm Monday to Sunday with bookings made 48 hours in advance.

victors.co.uk • 01865 689064 • 307 The Westgate, Queen Street, Oxford, OX1 1PG



Follow us on social media for the latest tips on what to see and do in Oxfordshire to help you plan your future visit!

 @ExperienceOxfordshire  @ExperienceOxfordshire  @ExperienceOx

