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**PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES**

**5-6 September 2019**

**Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford  
Oxford, Walton Street, OX2 6AH**

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# Travel to Oxford

Oxford is approximately 60 miles (90 km) northwest of London and has excellent road and national rail links. There are regular coach services to the London airports, and direct train services to major UK cities including London and Birmingham.

Many streets in central Oxford are closed to traffic and parking is severely limited. If considering arriving by car, visitors are encouraged to use the [Park and Ride bus services](#) which operate between the city centre and parking areas on the outskirts of the city. For more detailed information, please see the University of Oxford website page on [how to get to Oxford University](#).

## Airports in the UK

If you will be flying to the UK from abroad, the most convenient airports for getting to Oxford are London Heathrow and Gatwick.

- **Heathrow** terminal maps can be found by visiting: <https://www.heathrow.com/airport-guide/getting-around-heathrow/airport-maps>
- **Gatwick** terminal maps can be found by visiting: <http://www.gatwickairport.com/at-the-airport/passenger-services/airport-maps/>

## Transportation

There are many ways in which you travel to/from Oxford & the airport.

From London Heathrow and Gatwick airports, you can take [the Airline coach service](#), which runs 24 hours a day. You can also get to Oxford by [train](#) from Heathrow via London, and from Gatwick via Reading.

From London Stansted airport, take the Stansted Express train service to Liverpool Street and then take the tube to either Paddington or Marylebone for direct trains to Oxford. Alternatively, there is a [National Express 757 coach service](#).

### Private Car Service

We recommend Sarge Rana. He can be emailed ([sarge.rana@ntlworld.com](mailto:sarge.rana@ntlworld.com)) or called at UK phone number 07766502829 to book a car (in advance). He can pick up at any airport or train station in the UK and take you to Oxford.

### Taxi Service

- <https://www.royal-cars.com/services/airport-transfers.html>
- <https://ccbcars.com/>

### **The Airline Bus**

The Airline Bus is an economical and quick way to travel directly to Oxford, if arriving at Heathrow or Gatwick Airports.

- <https://airline.oxfordbus.co.uk>
- The bus departs every 30 minutes during peak daytime hours and once an hour at off-peak times. The bus has charging points for your phone/laptop, toilets, and free WiFi internet access.
- The journey time to Oxford is approximately 1 hour 40 minutes (Heathrow) and 2 hours (Gatwick). The cost of a ticket is £30 return (from Heathrow) and £37 return (from Gatwick) and you can pay in cash (£, €, US \$) on the bus. You do not need to book in advance.

### **Heathrow Specific Instructions to find the bus:**

- **Arriving at Terminal 1, 2 or 3:** follow the signs in the arrival hall to the Central Bus Station, then take the lift up to the bus station and you will arrive in the ticket hall.
- **Arriving at Terminal 4:** follow the signs in the arrival hall to 'the trains' and take the free Heathrow Express train service to 'Heathrow Central'; a three-minute train journey. Follow the signs to the Central Bus Station, take the lift up to the bus station and you will arrive in the ticket hall.
- **Arriving at Terminal 5:** the bus service to Oxford also departs from Terminal 5 next to the arrival area (stop 10), so you do not need to go to the Central Bus Station.

### **Gatwick Specific Instructions to find the bus:**

- **Arriving at Gatwick North Terminal:** the bus leaves from Lower Forecourt stands 4 and 5.
- **Arriving at Gatwick South Terminal:** the bus leaves from Lower Forecourt stands 1 and 2.

For more information, please visit: <https://airline.oxfordbus.co.uk/>.

### **Trains**

There are direct trains to Oxford, at least every hour, from London Paddington train station. If you arrive at St Pancras on the Eurostar, you will need to get a tube train (the underground) to Paddington or you can also hail a taxi. It is about a 20-minute journey on the underground.

To book a ticket from Paddington to Oxford, or if you need train timetables, visit: <https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>. The London underground's website is: <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/tube/>.

There are also direct trains to Oxford from London Marylebone train station. Trains leave London Marylebone twice an hour, with journey times from just over an hour. For further information, please visit: <https://www.chilternrailways.co.uk/next-stop-central-oxford/>.

## Accommodation in Oxford

There is a wide range of accommodation options available in Oxford. A comprehensive list of places to stay in Oxford can be accessed at: <https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/places-to-stay/>.

### Hotels in Oxford

Please see below a list of some of the hotels available in Oxford. All of them are located within walking distance to the Blavatnik School of Government.

#### Five Star Hotels

- **The Old Bank Hotel**  
Conveniently located on the High Street, close to Christ Church Meadows and the Radcliffe Camera. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.oldbank-hotel.co.uk/>
- **The Randolph**  
Easy access to the Blavatnik School of Government and to the city centre. For more information or to book a room, please visit <http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/macdonald-randolph-hotel/>

#### Four Star Hotels

- **The Old Parsonage**  
The Old Parsonage is located five minutes away from the Blavatnik School of Government. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.oldparsonage-hotel.co.uk/>
- **Mercure Oxford Eastgate**

Recently refurbished, this hotel is conveniently located on the High Street. For more information or to book a room, please visit

<https://www.accorhotels.com/es/hotel-6668-mercure-oxford-eastgate-hotel/index.shtml>

- **The Buttery Hotel**

The Buttery is situated in the heart of Oxford on historic Broad Street. For more information or to book a room, please visit

<http://www.thebutteryhotel.co.uk/>

## **Boutique Hotels**

- **Vanbrugh House Hotel**

This boutique hotel is situated in the city centre of Oxford, within walking distance to the Blavatnik School of Government. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.vanbrughhousehotel.co.uk/>

## **Colleges in Oxford**

Alternatively, you may wish to stay in one of the Oxford colleges. The colleges listed below are within close proximity to the Blavatnik School of Government:

- **Worcester College**

Offering clean and comfortable accommodation in the heart of the city, and situated near the coach and train station. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.worc.ox.ac.uk/Conference-Information/Guest-Room-Booking-Form>

- **Sommerville College**

Somerville College offers well-appointed double & single en-suite accommodation as well as standard accommodation with shared facilities to suit most budgets. All bedrooms are provided with bed linen, towels, toiletries and hospitality trays and provide a clean and comfortable place to stay. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.some.ox.ac.uk/conferences-visitors/bed-breakfast/>

- **St Antony's College**

19<sup>th</sup> century St Antony's College is located in north Oxford, just 10 minutes from the Blavatnik School of Government. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/conferences/guest-rooms>

- **St Hugh's College**

St Hugh's College offers bed and breakfast accommodation amid listed buildings and beautiful gardens. For more information or to book a room, please visit <https://www.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/bed-breakfast/>

- **St Anne's College**

Clean, comfortable accommodation in this 20<sup>th</sup> century Oxford College, close to the city centre. For more information or to book a room, please visit <http://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/conferences-bb/accommodation/bed-breakfast-accommodation>

## Other useful information

To access further practical information about Oxford, you can download the [Oxford University's Official Guide](#) app. This provides up to date information about public transport in Oxford, events and exhibitions in Oxford, local news and weather, nearby places of interest, walking tours of Oxford and much more.

### RESTAURANTS, BARS AND CAFES

The city centre has many restaurants but two other areas of particular note are Walton Street in Jericho (where the Blavatnik School of Government is located), and the Cowley Road in East Oxford. Pubs and bars can also be found throughout the city centre.

Reviews of many of Oxford's restaurants can be found on the TripAdvisor [website](#).

### MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Oxford University [museums](#) offer world-class collections. The recently extended Ashmolean Museum houses art and archaeology collections spanning four millennia. There is also a rooftop restaurant with lovely views over the city. The Oxford University Museum of Natural History has an extensive collection of zoological and geological specimens and the Pitt Rivers Museum, accessed through the Museum of Natural History, contains cultural artefacts from all over the world. These and many of Oxford's other museums are open daily (Tuesday-Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays) and are free to enter. Art lovers will also enjoy Modern Art Oxford, a gallery that displays modern and contemporary visual art. Exhibitions are constantly changing so see its [website](#) for up-to-date information.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **Leigh Crowley**

Email: [golab@bsg.ox.ac.uk](mailto:golab@bsg.ox.ac.uk)

Office Telephone: +44 1865 614330