48 HOURS IN OXFORD

A DAY AWAY

Colleges and the historic centre on day one. Museums, gardens and the meadow on day two.

CHOOSE YOUR VISIT DATE

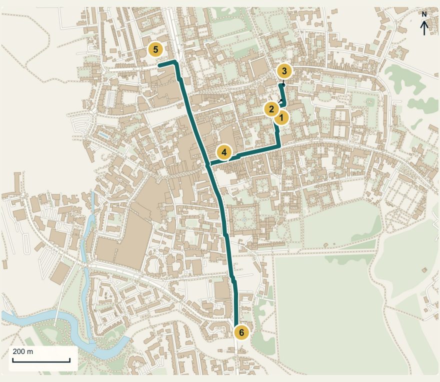
Two days

Open this day online ↗

THE LAY OF THE LAND

Start at Radcliffe Square and finish at St Mary's tower before closing. Follow the numbered stops and allow time for the walks between them.

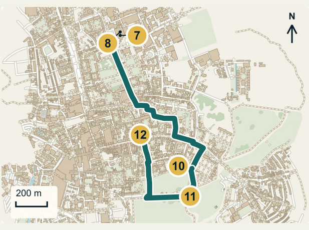
DAY 1 / THE HISTORIC CENTRE



Teal lines show the walk between numbered stops. Enter Pitt Rivers through Natural History. Choose your own stop for the unpinned break.

Open the interactive route ↗

DAY 2 / MUSEUMS & GARDENS



01	Radcliffe Sq.	07	Natural History
02	Bodleian	08	Pitt Rivers
03	Bridge of Sighs	09	Open-choice break
04	Covered Market	10	Botanic Garden
05	Ashmolean	11	Christ Church Meadow
06	Folly Bridge	12	St Mary's

OpenStreetMap contributors / ODbL ↗

DAY 1 / STOPS 1-2

DAY 1 / 09:30 - 10:00

RADCLIFFE SQUARE

Start beside the Radcliffe Camera for exterior views and the surrounding lanes. No college interior is included in this half-hour. Leave ten minutes to the Bodleian meeting point.

Allow 30 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

DAY 1 / 10:10 - 11:25

BODLEIAN LIBRARY TOUR

Allow check-in plus the 60-minute tour, but follow your actual ticket time. Ages 11+; stairs are unavoidable. Check event closures and use the Weston public exhibitions if the tour is unavailable or unsuitable. Leave five minutes to New College Lane.

Allow 75 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

DAY 1 / STOPS 3-4

03

DAY 1 / 11:30 - 11:40

BRIDGE OF SIGHS

A short exterior stop only. Leave 15 minutes for the walk to the market and finding somewhere to eat.

Allow 10 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

04

DAY 1 / 11:55 - 13:00

LUNCH IN THE COVERED MARKET

Choose an open trader and take a proper lunch break. Allow 15 minutes to the Ashmolean.

Allow 65 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

DAY 1 / STOPS 5-6

05

DAY 1 / 13:15 - 14:45

THE ASHMOLEAN

Choose a few permanent galleries; book ticketed exhibitions separately. Allow 25 minutes to walk down to Folly Bridge.

Allow 90 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

06

DAY 1 / 15:10 - 16:25

A RIVERSIDE BREAK AT THE HEAD OF THE RIVER

Finish at Folly Bridge with a drink or an early meal, indoors if needed. Reserve a table separately if you want one. This stop does not include punting; any additional boat trip needs its own daylight, operating and transfer checks.

Allow 75 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

DAY 2 / STOPS 7-8

07

DAY 2 / 10:00 - 11:00

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Start at the Parks Road entrance for a focused hour with the dinosaurs and collections. General admission is free. Leave ten minutes to the adjoining Pitt Rivers entrance.

Allow 60 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

08

DAY 2 / 11:10 - 12:00

PITT RIVERS MUSEUM

This morning timing is for Tuesday-Sunday. Ordinary Mondays open at noon, so swap the two days if necessary rather than arriving at a closed door. Allow 15 minutes to Broad Street.

Allow 50 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

DAY 2 / STOPS 9-10

09

DAY 2 / 12:15 - 13:00

LUNCH AROUND BROAD STREET

Take lunch around Broad Street before the walk down High Street. This is an open choice, not a specific reserved restaurant. Leave 15 minutes to the Botanic Garden entrance on Rose Lane.

Allow 45 min.

Explore food & drink ↗

10

DAY 2 / 13:15 - 14:15

OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN

Use the city-centre Garden admission, not an Arboretum ticket. This early-afternoon slot fits the normal winter 15:00 last entry and 16:00 close. Check site or glasshouse closures. Leave 15 minutes to a public meadow entrance.

Allow 60 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

DAY 2 / STOPS 11-12

11

DAY 2 / 14:30 - 15:15

CHRIST CHURCH MEADOW

A short public-path walk in daylight, not a full college visit. Entry is free, except the Meadow is closed on Christmas Day; avoid flooded paths and follow gate notices. If weather or daylight is poor, stay on the central streets instead. Leave 20 minutes to St Mary's.

Allow 45 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

12

DAY 2 / 15:35 - 16:20

ST MARY'S TOWER BEFORE CLOSING

A separate ticket is required for ages 8+ and there are 127 steps. Current last tower admission is 16:30; this is a daytime skyline view, not a promised sunset climb. If the queue is long or stairs are unsuitable, finish in Radcliffe Square instead.

Allow 45 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

THE USEFUL DETAILS

SUGGESTED TIMES. RESERVATIONS ARE SEPARATE.

GETTING TO OXFORD

Arrive by train or coach, or use Park and Ride if you are driving. Allow time to reach the first stop.

Oxford arrival guide ↗

BETWEEN STOPS

Use the numbered map to locate visits, then open the online route for walking directions and current visit information.

View this itinerary ↗

MAKE IT YOURS

Open the full route to save the stops and arrange the day around your own start, pace and bookings.

Open the planner ↗

BEFORE YOU GO

Start times are suggested. Arrange timed tickets and meals separately, then adjust the sequence around your confirmed bookings.

MAKE THE DAY YOURS.

Open my week ↗