LITERARY & HISTORIC OXFORD



A DAY AWAY

Spend six hours between the Bodleian, Sheldonian Theatre, Turf Tavern, Weston Library and the University Church tower.

CHOOSE YOUR VISIT DATE

10:00–16:00

Open this day online ↗

THE LAY OF THE LAND

Start at Bodleian & Divinity School and finish at Radcliffe Square & St Mary's tower. Follow the numbered stops and allow time for the walks between them.

01 / THE AREA



02 / THE DETAIL



01 Bodleian
02 Sheldonian
03 Bridge of Sighs
04 Turf Tavern
05 Weston Library
06 St Mary's

Teal lines show the walk between numbered stops.

Open the interactive route ↗

OpenStreetMap contributors / ODbL ↗

STOPS 1 & 2



10:00 - 11:15

BODLEIAN & DIVINITY SCHOOL

Allow arrival time plus the 60-minute tour, using the actual start and meeting point on your ticket. The tour is for ages 11+ and includes stairs; it does not admit you to the Radcliffe Camera. Event closures can alter the rooms or cancel this tour. Use the Weston exhibitions as the alternative. Allow 15 minutes to the Sheldonian.

Allow 75 min.

Read the venue guide ↗



11:30 - 12:15

SHELDONIAN THEATRE & CUPOLA

Check the day's self-guided opening and ticket scope: university ceremonies and events can close the building or change access. The cupola climb involves stairs. If closed, view the exterior and use the extra time on Broad Street. Allow five minutes to the bridge.

Allow 45 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

STOPS 3 & 4



12:20 - 12:30

BRIDGE OF SIGHS

View the bridge from New College Lane; its interior is not open as a tourist route. Allow 15 minutes to find the Turf Tavern through the lanes and settle in.

Allow 10 min.

Read the venue guide ↗



12:45 - 14:00

LUNCH AT THE TURF TAVERN

Choose the Turf Tavern for this lunch stop and reserve separately if needed. The Eagle and Child is not included as an available lunch booking; a literary association does not guarantee current pub access. Allow 15 minutes to the Weston.

Allow 75 min.

Read the venue guide ↗

STOPS 5 & 6



14:15 - 15:00

WESTON LIBRARY TREASURES

Browse the free public exhibitions; displays change, so a particular manuscript is not guaranteed. Public exhibitions do not provide access to working reading rooms. Allow ten minutes to Radcliffe Square and St Mary's.

Allow 45 min.

Read the venue guide ↗



15:10 - 16:00

RADCLIFFE SQUARE & ST MARY'S TOWER

Finish with the square and, if suitable, the separately ticketed tower: ages 8+, 127 steps. Current last tower admission is 16:30, so keep this stop before closing rather than moving it to sunset. Stay at street level if the queue, weather or stairs make the climb unsuitable.

Allow 50 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 ↗