Getting to AIR-2024 in Oxford

Car parking in the centre of Oxford is limited, expensive, and largely time-restricted (maximum 3 hours on-street; all-day only available at Council-run car parks, which cost £15.20 for the day). Parking is available at Lady Margaret Hall only in exceptional circumstances – you must have advised us of an access issue. We therefore suggest you use the city's Park and Ride scheme, or instead to travel into the centre by train or coach. Advice for each option is below:

Travelling by car

If travelling by car, you will need to plan where you are going to park.

Council car parks are available at <u>Summertown</u> or <u>Ferry Leisure Centre</u> (together around 200 spaces, be aware these car parks can fill up). Parking costs £15.20 for 24 hours and is payable by card. It is around a 25-minute walk to Lady Margaret Hall from here.

Instead, we advise you use the large Park and Ride car parks on the periphery of the city, and travel into the centre by bus. All Park and Rides offer a combination ticket for 16 hours of parking + bus travel, which costs £4 for a single traveller + one parked car, or £5 for two travellers + one parked car. These can be purchased from the P&R ticket machines (you will get a paper ticket to show the driver, no need to display this in your vehicle). They can also be purchased *via* the RingGo app.

We strongly recommend you use the Pear Tree Park and Ride to the North of the city, even if it will take you a little more time to reach, as its bus (the #300) takes just ten minutes to reach the closest drop-off point to Lady Margaret Hall ("Radcliffe Observatory Quarter"), from where it is a 10-15 minute walk to the College. Buses are scheduled to leave for town every 10-15 minutes. Therefore, please leave at least 45 minutes for this leg of the journey. Travelling in from other Park & Ride locations will take longer; please check this in advance of your journey.

Google Maps Route from Pear Tree Park & Ride: <u>http://tinyurl.com/2s3afch6</u>

Traffic around Oxford <u>can be busy</u> in the mornings, please use the Google Maps "depart at/arrive at" feature to account for typical traffic patterns when planning your journey and leave extra time.

Please also be aware that Oxford has a Zero Emission Zone; you will be charged if you drive a polluting vehicle down the following central streets:

https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/oxford-zero-emission-zone-zez/viewmap-zez

Travelling by train

If travelling by train, please book tickets to Oxford (OXF). Cross Country services the city from the North and South (e.g. Manchester Piccadilly, Birmingham New Street, Southampton Central), Great Western Railways (GWR) services the city from the North-West/West (e.g. Worcester, Bristol) and the South (e.g London Paddington), and Chiltern Railways services the city from London (Marylebone). If arriving from the South, you will need to take the walkway over the tracks to leave on the "city side" of the station.

Lady Margaret Hall is a 30-minute walk away from the train station.

Google Maps Route from Oxford Train Station: http://tinyurl.com/2tnfpar7

Travelling by coach

National Express, Megabus, The Airline (from Heathrow/Gatwick airports), and The Oxford Tube (from central London) service Oxford and stop at the Gloucester Green Bus Terminal.

Lady Margaret Hall is a 25-minute walk away from the Gloucester Green Bus Terminal.

Google Maps Route from Oxford Bus Station: http://tinyurl.com/3axsrtdf

Taxis

Prebooked taxi companies in Oxford include Royal Cars (<u>https://royal-cars.com/</u>) and 001 Taxis (<u>https://www.001taxis.com/</u>). Both have apps and can be booked online. Alternatively, taxi ranks can be found at the train station and Gloucester Green. Note that it is often quicker to get around the city on foot, due to the traffic!

E-scooters

Voi e-scooters are available at numerous hubs around the city.

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Conference Venue: Lady Margaret Hall, Norham Gardens, Norham Gardens, Oxford OX2 6QA Please head to the reception on arrival, located at the corner of Norham Gardens and Fyfield Road.

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Things to Do in Oxford

If you are arriving a day early, or staying overnight until Saturday, then you may wish to explore the city! Spring is a pleasant time in Oxford (weather depending...), with the cherry blossom trees and magnolias in bloom (e.g. in New College front quad, https://www.new.ox.ac.uk/buildings-gallery). The primary park in Oxford is the University Park, but lovely green spaces can be found in most colleges, the University's Botanic Garden, and Christ Church Meadow. Port Meadow is a favourite student spot as Summer approaches, but may still be largely flooded depending on how wet March has been! Bring walking trainers if you want to try this. If traversable, try and find a circular walk that crosses the river and passes two traditional Oxford pubs (the Perch and the Trout in Wolvercote, the latter is seen frequently in Morse!).

Paid tours run around the larger colleges (e.g. Christ Church) as well as the main Oxford library (the 'Bodleian'). Open-top bus tours are run by City Sightseeing. Numerous city walking tours on various themes are available on Broad Street. The most famous galleries are the Ashmolean [art/archaeology], Natural History, and Pitt Rivers [anthropology] museums. A small museum on the History of Science can be found on Broad Street. The Blackwells book shop is also worth a visit, particularly the Norrington Room in the basement, which once held the Guinness World Record as the single largest room in the world selling books.

Punts should be bookable from the Cherwell Boathouse or Magdalen Bridge (you can hire a punter too!). We recommend this as a group activity to split the cost as it can be expensive. Several local businesses offer bicycle hire.

Food-wise there are numerous options, but plenty of unique local businesses can be found in the Covered Market or Gloucester Green Market, both of which should be open Wednesday-Saturday.

Outside the centre, Jericho offers a relaxed European 'café culture' vibe, with a canal-side walk. Summertown, further north, has a more urban feel.