

Everything you need to
experience Oxford for
yourself...



36 HOURS IN OXFORD



**A SHORT
GUIDE TO THE
BEST OF THE
CITY**

WHERE TO FIND THE LOCALS?



Find the best in British pub culture at 'The Cape' - a true blend of vintage character and off-beat events. An irresistible fusion of fantastically tasty food, awesome drinks and lively atmosphere await you at this laid-back Oxford local. Located close to the Department, The Cape of Good Hope is the place to grab dinner and a pint after a day of work.



Menu

Pop out the back and you'll discover it's secret - its spacious beer garden, a rare treat for a city pub and an ideal spot to take time out.

**Cape of Good Hope,
The Plain (end of Iffley Road)**

Menu



**Arbequina,
72-74 Cowley Road**

Arbequina was opened to deliver tapas style sharing dishes, with explosive and well-married flavours from Spain and beyond. The focus has, and will always be, on quality, unique and well-sourced ingredients. It's distinctive long, zinc bar quickly became a favourite of locals looking to eat great food in an exciting, buzzy atmosphere. You can find the tapas bar nestled in the beautiful Victorian 'RA Neville Dispensing Chemist'.



This quirky bar and restaurant situated on the lively Cowley Road will have you rubbing shoulders with the locals. A friendly smile, beautifully hand made Spanish food, and delicious cocktails are waiting for you at Oxford's best mezze and cocktail bar. So come on in, sit back, and soak up the atmosphere.



Menu



**Kazbar
25-27 Cowley Rd**



BEST WINE BARS

At Sandy's Piano & Wine Bar, you will be catered with quality wines and cocktails along with live music every night.



Menu



Sandy's Wine Bar
4 King Edward Street

With a late licence into the night, Sandy's accommodates for the drinkers and party goers who don't want to go to a student bar or nightclub. At Sandy's you can still get a quality bottle of wine or well made cocktail without shouting over the music.



The Oxford Wine Cafe has a mission to bring you the best bottles from all over the world, made by smaller, ultra passionate boutique-style producers who are not interested in selling their lovingly handcrafted products to the supermarkets or big high street chains. They believe that wine should be fun and that everyone's tastes are different – and offer a large selection of wines at great prices.



Menu



The Alchemist
The Westgate Rooftop

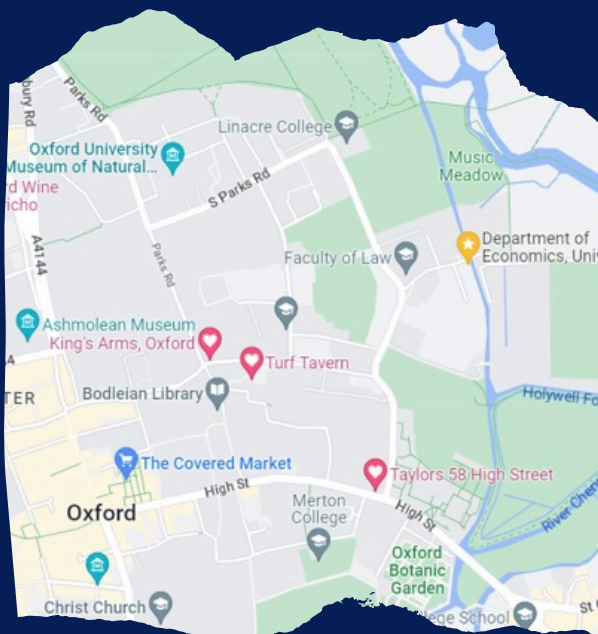
Menu



The Oxford Wine Cafe
32 Little Clarendon Street

The Alchemist masters in the dark arts of molecular mixology and demons in the kitchen; The Alchemist's mixologists create every cocktail with an obsessive eye for detail, presented in vessels orchestrated to add a devilish dash of theatre, they bedazzle, bewitch and set the scene for everything they serve. Step into the mystical apothecary, dispensing the most creative cocktails and delicious all-day dining with a twist.

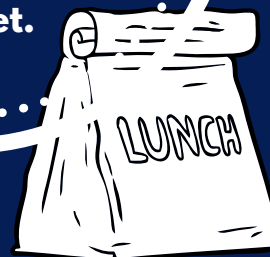
BEST FOR LUNCH



Taylor's

Oxford's own gourmet sandwich and deli company. Taylor's is an independent, family-owned gourmet food emporium who have been keeping Oxfordians satisfied with hot drinks and delicious, nutritious foods for a couple of decades.

You will find their stores all over the city. The closest to the Department is either at 58 High Street, or in the Covered Market.





Menu

Turf Tavern
4 Holywell St

Just a stone's throw from the Department, this hidden pub is a firm favourite with our academics. Running along one side of the pub is one of the remaining sections of the old city wall. Due to the illegal activities of many of its original patrons, the Turf sprang up in an area just outside the city wall in order to escape the jurisdiction of the governing bodies of the local colleges.

'The Turf' is also where future Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke set a Guinness World Record for consuming a yard glass of ale in 11 seconds in 1954. Other public figures who have dined or drunk at the tavern include Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor, Tony Blair, CS Lewis, Stephen Hawking and Margaret Thatcher.

The famous Kings Arms is the oldest pub in Oxford, built in 1607 and still standing in its original position. A firm favourite for academics, this pub is claimed for having the highest IQ per square foot of anywhere in the world! Loved by Oxford scholars and tourists alike, renowned for fine cask ales, hearty homemade food and a resident ghost. Dine off a seasonal menu and enjoy your favourite tipple in this hearty pub- just a 10 minute walk from the Department.



Menu

Kings Arms
40 Holywell St

BEST FOR A SWEET TOOTH

G&D's Ice Cream Cafes

G&DS is Oxford's own collection of ice cream parlours. Three locations of delicious treats and morning-til-night opening hours is a hit with students and locals alike. The cafes have attracted a loyal following of people who prefer "Oxford's Own" ice cream to the more commercial ice cream eateries elsewhere in the city. Find them on Little Clarendon Street, St Aldates and Cowley Road.



Jericho



Cowley Road

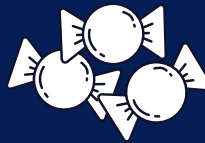


City Centre

Now world-famous, Ben's Cookies has its humble routes in Oxford's covered market. This shop, famous for baking with chocolate chunks... not chips... will serve you individual cookies or up to a dozen in an iconic take-home cake tin.

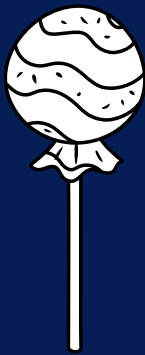


Ben's Cookies
The Covered Market



Knoops
Turl Street

[Kuh-noops] 'kuh' like huh – 'noops' like hoops. Oxford's newest sweet treat arrived on Turl Street in 2022. Serving exclusively hot chocolates and other chocolate-based beverages; the expert chocolatiers will advise you on over 20 different selections of chocolate flakes to curate your one-of-a-kind treat.



OUR FAVOURITE RESTAURANTS



We recommend booking online to guarantee a table at all of the below restaurants.



No 1 Ship Street – French and British-style brasserie in the heart of Oxford



Gee's, 61 Banbury Road –Award-winning Mediterranean dining in a Victorian Glasshouse



Wilding, 11-12 Little Clarendon Street – Restaurant, wine bar and wine shop for all day dining with wine at the heart of everything



If in doubt: Walk up Jericho's Walton Street for a pick of Oxford's best culinary selections.

BEST PIZZAS



There's no question here, the best pizza (loved by Italians and locals alike) is found at The White Rabbit.



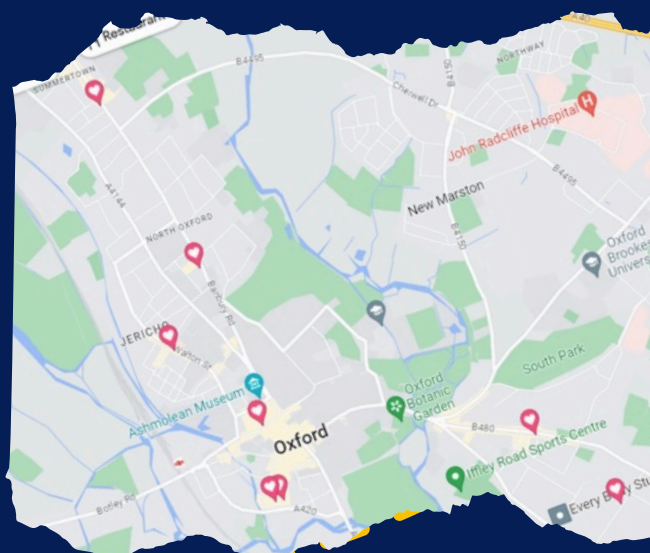
This independent pub claims to have the best Pizzas this side of Naples- specialising in Roman-style crispy bases and a balanced selection of toppings crafted for the perfect flavour combinations. Pair your pizza with a locally brewed craft ale.

The White Rabbit are also available for takeout via Deliveroo or calling to pick-up in restaurant.



The White Rabbit
21 Friars Entry
Call on: 01865 241177





BEST ASIAN FOOD



We recommend booking online to guarantee a table at all of the below restaurants.



**Best Vietnamese: Pho,
The Westgate Rooftop**



**Best Indian street food: Mowgli's Street Food,
The Westgate Rooftop**



**Best Indian curries: Spice Lounge,
193 Banbury Rd**



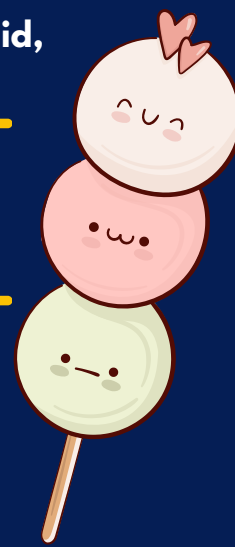
**Best Thai street food: Thaikhun,
36 George St**



**Best Thai seafood and curries: Giggling Squid,
55 Walton St**



**Best Nepalese: Everest Nepalese,
147 - 151 Howard Street**



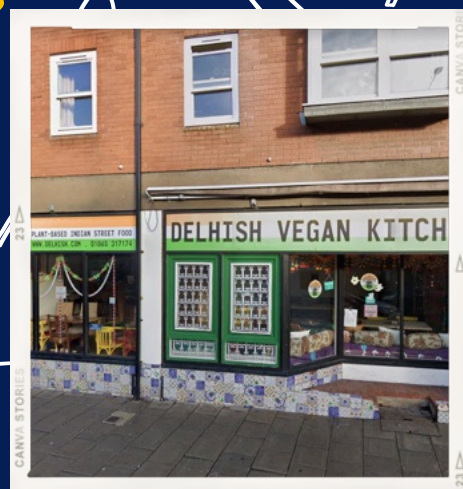
BEST VEGGIE FOOD



**The Punter, Osney
7 South Street**

The Punter is a quirky gastropub situated on Osney Island in Oxford. Expect Sweet Potato & Katsu Burgers, Indian Butternut Squash Curry, Vietnamese Potato and Chickpea Stew, Italian Ragu Bolognese with Tagliatelle & Parmesan.

As featured in The Waitrose Good Food Guide 2020, this restaurant is a relatively new addition to Oxford's culinary palette. Oxfordshire's original vegan Indian restaurant provides a full spectrum of flavours for great value for money



Dehlish Vegan Kitchen
19-20 St Clement's Street



The Gardener's Arms
39 Plantation Road

From the outside this may look like an ordinary local, but once inside this quirky pub you will find a modern vegetarian and vegan restaurant. Recently reviewed by The Times, this pub intends on serving quality vegetarian food that is appealing to both vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike.

BEST GRILL/ COMFORT FOOD



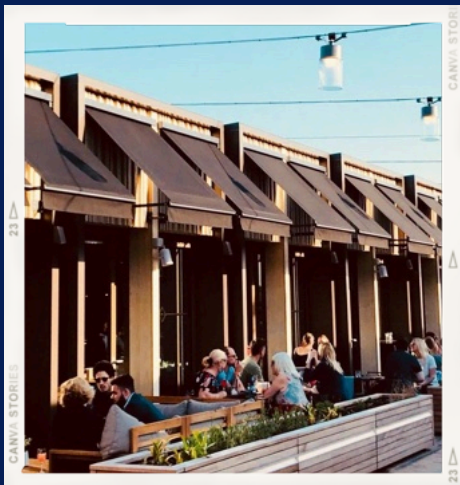
**The Porterhouse Grill,
Mill Street**

Primarily serving Oxford's best steaks – the chef's at the Porterhouse source steaks from the home of British meat - Smithfield market. The beef is dry aged in house for up to 42 days then grilled over local charcoal to produce the most delicious steaks.

Find this casual eatery in the famous Oxford Covered Market: a pie-haven serving a range of delicious award-winning, British meat, vegetarian, vegan & gluten-free pies.



**Pieminster,
The Covered Market**



**Dirty Bones,
The Westgate Rooftop**

Inspired by the ever-evolving restaurant and bar scene of NYC, the Dirty Bones menus were born out of a love for great food, great cocktails and the desire to bring the best of The Big Apple over here. Matching comfort food and cocktails.

10 PLACES TO ENJOY CULTURE

Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street

The Oxford Playhouse presents and produces a wide range of live performance. Their programme includes the best of British and international drama, family shows, contemporary dance and music, student and amateur shows, comedy, and lectures

North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade

Built in an old swimming pool, The North Wall creates a nurturing environment where artists can challenge themselves to grow their practice and flourish through residencies & mentorship. They encourage and support a network of artists to collaborate to create new theatre projects

Ashmolean, Beaumont Street

Opened in 1683, the Ashmolean is the oldest public museum in the UK. The museum has incredibly rich and diverse collections from around the globe, ranging from Egyptian mummies and classical sculpture to the Pre-Raphaelites and modern art

Modern Art Oxford

Small enough for a quick visit but ambitious enough to pull in big names in the art world such as Anish Kapoor and Tracey Emin, MAO rarely disappoints. It's progressive programming and extensive range of workshops and participatory or educational events brings great art to the public in the most accessible ways

1



Oxford Playhouse

2



North Wall Arts Centre

3



Ashmolean Museum

4



Modern Art Oxford

The Ultimate Picture Palace, Jeune Street - The UPP is Oxford's only independent cinema and one of the oldest cinemas in the UK. UPP shows a mix of independent, international, and classic films all in their cosy single-screen auditorium. Find it just off the Cowley Road in East Oxford.

Phoenix Picturehouse, Walton Street – For more commercial cinema, head to the Phoenix Picturehouse, where you can see the latest releases with a drink in-hand from the upstairs bar.

Life Drawing Classes – If you want to express an artistic flare or walk a little on the risky side- Oxford hosts many life drawing classes that require no sign-up. Find @oxfordlifedrawing on Facebook or Instagram for the locations of their weekly Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday classes (£7 per person as of July 2023). The class will supply you with all materials including pencil, easel and paper

Jericho Tavern- Find great music and comedy at this local pub. This hotspot for new artists can thank its connection to various bands who took their baby steps in the late 80s/early 90s. Radiohead performed here under the name of 'On a Friday' and Supergrass were signed shortly after gracing the Jericho Tavern stage.

The Holywell Music Room, Holywell Street – for those with a taste for the finer arts, the Holywell Music Room is the city of Oxford's chamber music hall and is part of Wadham College. It is said to be the oldest purpose-built music room in Europe, and hence Britain's first concert hall.

Weston Library exhibitions, Broad Street - The Weston Library is the home of the Bodleian Libraries' special collections. It is a working library and research centre, as well as a public event and exhibition space. The library regularly hosts special exhibitions on the ground floor of the building.

5



The Ultimate Picture Palace

7



Life Drawing Classes

8



Jericho Tavern

9



The Holywell Music Room

10



Weston Library

6



Phoenix Picturehouse

BEST FOR GAMES AND

QUIZ
TIME



Pub quizzes- £1 cash entry

**Angel and Greyhound,
St Clements Mon, @ 19:45**

**The Cape of Good Hope,
Iffley Road, Tue @ 20:30**

**The Royal Blenheim,
Central Oxford, Wed @ 20:30**

**The Gardeners Arms,
Jericho, Sun @ 20:30**



Thirsty Meeples Board Game Café, Gloucester Square

Oxford's first board game café is open from morning to midnight; play as many games as you want from the game library of over 2,700 titles. A food and drink menu is there to keep you refreshed whilst you play!

Oxford University Chess Club

OUCC was founded in 1869 and is the oldest university chess club in the United Kingdom. The club hosts weekly clubnights at Christ Church on Wednesdays 7pm-9pm to play chess and socialise. They welcome everyone to come along to our events for free - Membership is not required to attend the events!



NOT-TO-BE-MISSED COLLEGES

Visit Oxford's most exclusive college:

Members of the public are welcome to visit the College Front and Great Quadrangles and Chapel as individual visitors or groups (up to six) free of charge from 14:00 to 16:00 on weekdays.



All Souls College, High Street
Call on: 01865 279379



Magdalen College, High Street
Call on: 01865 276000

Find the deer park hidden inside Magdalen...

Open: 10:00 till dusk or 19:00, whichever is earlier

Charges: Adults £7; over 65s, children and students £6; family ticket (2 adults and up to 3 children aged 7 or over) £20.

Explore the gardens and chapel of Trinity:

Open: Sat-Sun 10:00-16:00

Charge: Adults £4, seniors/children £3.



Trinity College, Broad Street.
Call on: 01865 279900



BEST VIEWPOINTS

South Park, Headington Hill

Enjoy the dreaming spires at a short distance from the city centre. The best view point can be found at:

1

**Christchurch Meadows
(South of Christchurch College)**

2

**University Church Of St. Mary
The Virgin. £5 entry**

3

**Climb Carfax Tower
£3 entry**

4

**Take a 30 minute walk from
the city centre to the top of
South Park**

Free Walking Tours



more information



Footprint Tours tour covers a vast range of different topics, all explained clearly and accessibly by University-educated guides. Meet at 5 Broad Street to take a 2-hour tour through the story of Oxford, from the city's beginnings as a humble Saxon town through to its current position as a world-famous seat of learning and culture.

The free walking tour is solely funded by tips; tips are voluntary, and the guides will never pressure you to leave one but instead believe in letting you decide how much your experience was worth.

ESCAPE TO THE COUNTRYSIDE

The Dreaming Spires of Oxford are famously set in some of England's most picturesque countryside. Accessible by a short walk, we've taken the liberty of detailing two routes to take you from Oxford's city centre to the countryside

DIRECTIONS!

Christ Church College to Iffley Village (2 hours there and back)



This walk along the river path will take you from the city centre to the beautiful Iffley Village. Stop at the Isis Farmhouse pub to recharge.

Jericho to Port Meadow and Godstow Abbey (3 hour round trip)

If time is on your side, take a walk through Jericho up to Port Meadow. Walk as far as the derelict Godstow Abbey and say hello to the wild horses on your way to the Perch pub.

Please be aware this route floods regularly in January - March.



NOTES

