



## EVENTS & EXPERIENCES

### SPECTRE GHOST TOURS

Curated by Bill Spectre exclusively for Oxford Castle & Prison, explore the city on a walking guided tour. Spooky fun for all the family – be entertained with illusions and some spine-chilling stories!

### JAILBREAK ESCAPE ROOM

Try and escape from a jail cell whilst under the watchful eye of our prison warden. Use your wits to solve puzzles, codes, and clues – before your time runs out!

### MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

Become a detective for the night! Put on your thinking cap and see if you can work out who-dun-it? Collect clues and interrogate our inmates to find out who the murderer is.

### PRIVATE HIRE

Looking for something different for your private hire needs? Oxford Castle & Prison is a unique venue for networking events, Christmas parties, celebrations and more!

Head to our website to find out more about these experiences and to enquire about booking.

### EVENTS

For the latest news and our exciting family events program, scan the QR code to find out more or follow us on Facebook or Instagram.



### GROUPS

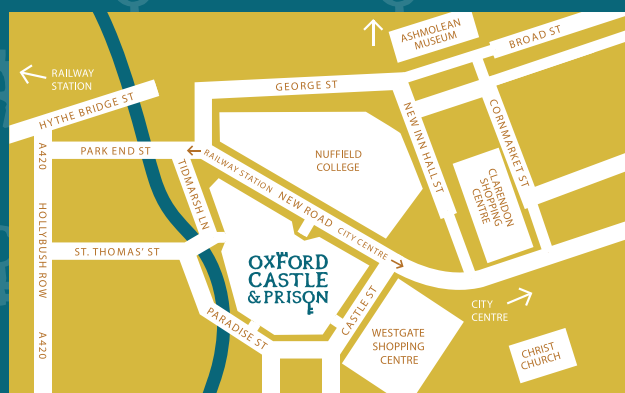
We are pleased to offer preferential discounts for groups of 15+ guests.

### OPENING TIMES

Open daily from 10.00am - 5.30pm.\*

The site will be closed on 24th, 25th and 26th December.

### HOW TO FIND US



44-46 Oxford Castle, Oxford, OX1 1AY

E: [info@oxfordcastleandprison.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordcastleandprison.co.uk)

Oxford Castle & Prison is situated a short five-minute walk away from the train and coach stations. There are also five Park & Ride car parks in Oxford, with frequent bus links into the city centre. The closest Park & Ride sites are Seacourt and Redbridge. For those wishing to drive, nearby parking can be found at Westgate Shopping Centre, Oxpens, Worcester Street and Gloucester Green.

### EDUCATION

We offer a variety of educational workshop packages for students of all ages. For more information please see our website, or contact us at [info@oxfordcastleandprison.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordcastleandprison.co.uk)

### ACCESS

We are a historic site and recognise that this can cause difficulties for people with disabilities. Please see our website for specific access information.

\*Tour and Opening Times may vary – please check our website for latest details

Oxford Castle & Prison reserves the right to alter or withdraw any package, facility, exhibit, event or price without notice and to refuse admission to any party. This leaflet was published in February 2023.



## Which city are you planning to visit next?

Why not check out more award-winning UK attractions from the Continuum Attractions family?

#### INVERNESS

The Loch Ness Centre

#### EDINBURGH

The Real Mary King's Close

#### YORK

York's Chocolate Story

#### LEEDS

Emmerdale The Village Tour

#### MANCHESTER

Coronation Street The Tour

#### Y FELINHELI, NORTH WALES

GreenWood Family Park

#### PORTSMOUTH

Spinnaker Tower

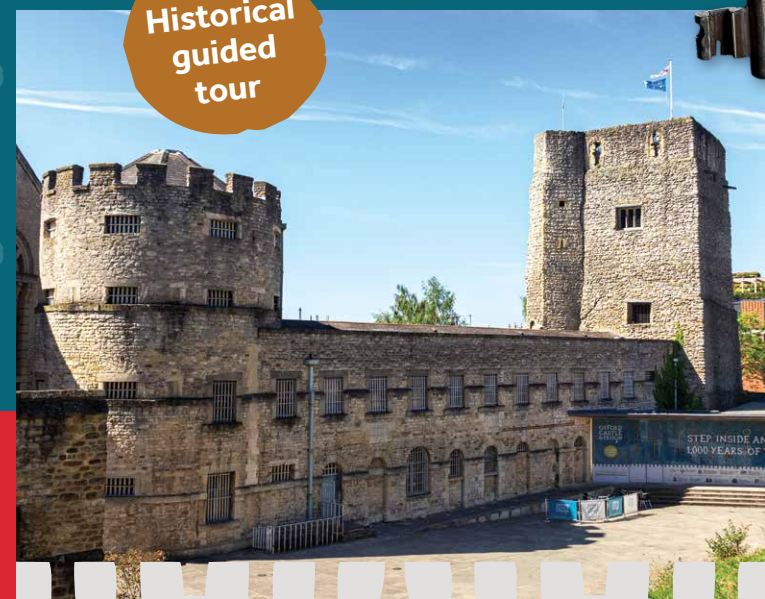
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attractions

AWARD WINNING VISITOR ATTRACTION

# OXFORD CASTLE & PRISON

## STEP INSIDE AND DO 1,000 YEARS OF TIME...

Historical  
guided  
tour



**BOOK YOUR GUIDED TOUR ONLINE**  
**OXFORDCASTLEANDPRISON.CO.UK**

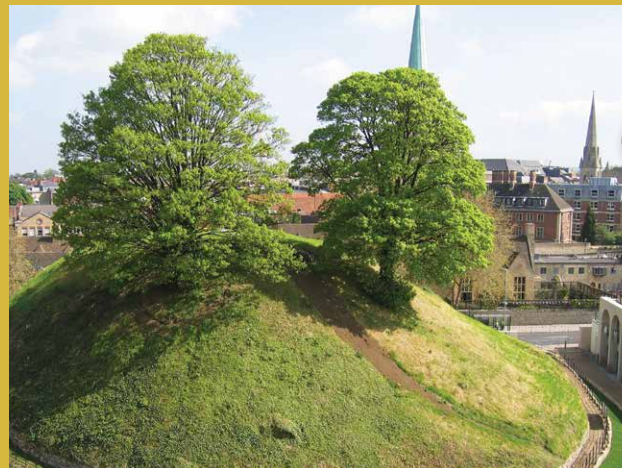


@OXFORDCASTLE

# WELCOME TO OXFORD CASTLE & PRISON



Discover 1,000 years of Oxford's diverse history. Oxford Castle & Prison is a visitor attraction with a past stretching far beyond your imagination. For hundreds of years the site has held both famous and infamous residents, serving time as a religious site, a home for royalty, a centre of justice and as the County Gaol.



Led by one of our costumed guides, the rich and fascinating history of Oxford and its castle and prison will be revealed, as you:

**CLIMB** the Saxon St. George's Tower, one of the oldest standing secular structures in England, and enjoy its 360° panoramic views over the historic city of Oxford.

**DESCEND** deep underground into the atmospheric 900 year old crypt, the only surviving remains of St. George's Chapel and birthplace of education in Oxford. Learn how Geoffrey of Monmouth penned *The History of the Kings of Britain* and the famous legend of King Arthur began.

**EXPLORE** the austere confines of the 18th century Debtor's Tower and Prison D-Wing.

**MARVEL** at the mound of the 11th century Motte-and-Bailey castle and discover its vaulted Well Chamber.

**EDUCATE** yourself about the modern history of the site and its inmates in our historical exhibition wing.

## MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT...

### GIFT SHOP

Come and browse our historical gift shop for a variety of treasures! We have weaponry, historical literature, local Oxfordshire products, souvenirs, and children's toys. We also offer the 'Hall of Names' service that will reveal your family ancestry to you. Don't forget to stop in the Gift Shop after your tour where you can take home your very own souvenir photo from the tour!



Save on general admission by booking in advance, or choose our flexi ticket to guarantee peace of mind.

Scan the QR code to plan your visit!



**C.700**  
The beginnings of Oxford



**1066**  
Norman conquest of England begins



**1135**  
Geoffrey of Monmouth writes the 'Histories of the Kings of Britain' on site

**1216**  
Oxford Castle's earliest recorded use as a prison, imprisoning misbehaving students



**1642**  
Outbreak of civil war, Oxford Castle is used to hold prisoners of war

**1786**  
Daniel Harris is appointed gaoler of Oxford Castle



**1860**  
Mugshots are introduced at Oxford prison

**1996**  
HMP Oxford closes and Oxford Castle is redeveloped as a leisure complex



**1009**  
The Saxon town of Oxford is attacked by Danes

**1071**  
Robert d'Oilly builds a Motte-and-Bailey castle in Oxford



**1142**  
King Stephen lays siege to Oxford Castle whilst Empress Matilda escapes



**1531**  
Oxford Castle is formally constituted as a county gaol



**1752**  
Famous murderess, Mary Blandy, is hanged at Oxford Castle

**1795**  
D-wing of the prison is built



**1952**  
Last hanging within the prison

**2006**  
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II opens the castle