Oriel College

AT A GLANCE


Oriel was one of a few colleges I visited on an open day. Everyone was so welcoming: the college was filled with smiling, friendly faces which is why I decided to apply here. Very few people from Carlisle consider applying to Oxford, but my love for Physics - which is still strong, if not stronger - pushed me to apply.

The historic buildings, central location, and above all the tight-knit and diverse student community make for a wonderful university experience all round. Even living in the UK for the first time, I felt so welcome I never even got round to being homesick.

Number of undergraduates: 324

Location: Located right in the centre of Oxford opposite the Bodleian Library and University Church, Oriel offers an ideal base for students eager to make the most of what Oxford has to offer. The college's compact city centre site offers beautiful quads and a bustling, supportive community for its members, a short walk or cycle away from almost anywhere else a student might need to be.

Accommodation: Accommodation at Oriel is split into categories or 'grades' and priced accordingly. Because of the age of the College buildings and the number of different residential areas within College, no two rooms are the same. Each room is graded on four characteristics: size, location, facilities and condition. Students are able request a grade of room, and although allocations are not guaranteed, we typically have enough of each grade to provide the majority of students with their first choice (please note that due to ongoing refurbishment projects, we have smaller numbers of lower grade rooms). A*-A/B grade rooms will typically have ensuite bathrooms. Accessible accommodation is available for students with disabilities. Approximate prices per grade per term: A*: £1606 A*/A: £1525 A: £1,454 A/B: £1,389 B: £1,333 B/C: £1285 C: £1,245 C/D: £1212
AT A GLANCE

Accessibility: The College is committed to making arrangements, wherever possible, to enable students with disabilities to participate fully in student life. The JCR has a disabilities representative who takes an active role in encouraging the College to improve facilities. There is accommodation available for students with mobility difficulties, including some specifically designed rooms. Some of the historic buildings on the main site may cause problems for students with serious mobility difficulties. The dining hall and Harris Lecture Theatre have an Induction Hearing Loop system in place. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact the college's Disability Coordinator to discuss their needs further.

Information about catering: Vegetarian (and often vegan) options are available at all meals, and our catering team are happy to make arrangements for other dietary requirements. Oriel hosts formal dinners six nights a week (informal sittings are available just as frequently) and also offers basic kitchen facilities, allowing students the flexibility they need for catering/self-catering. The Junior Common Room host regular special events and themed nights. The dining hall and main college kitchens have recently undergone a once-in-a-generation refurbishment. Approximate meal charges: Cooked breakfast: £3.85 Continental breakfast: £2.90 Weekend brunch: £4.60 Lunch: £4.60 Informal dinner: £6.25 Formal dinner: £6.90

College societies: Oriel has a big reputation for the strength and size of its boat club, but rowing isn’t the only activity on offer (nor is it a compulsory part of college life!). Sports societies include football, rugby, netball, squash, volleyball, badminton, tennis, and cycling, and the college's Town & Gown 10k team is consistently the largest in Oxford. Music is a big part of Oriel's culture, with an active chapel choir, a music society organising concerts and lunch time recitals, and regular open mic nights (Oriel Fridays). Aspiring writers can write for the Poor Print, the college's student newspaper, or join the creative writing society, and those interested in theatre can join the Oriel Lions, who put on a garden play in the college grounds every summer.

Other College facilities: Chapel & multi-faith prayer room, on-site gyms free for students to use, music rooms available for students to book, 24/7 library, off-site sports grounds.

Guaranteed college accommodation for duration of course: our satellite site, James Mellon Hall, accommodates older students (typically 3rd year and above) in flat-style accommodation.