



orientation

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Finding Your Way to Oxford: A Guide for New International Students

Welcome to the UK. We hope you will settle in comfortably during your first few days here. There are good public transport links to Oxford, and you should be able to use public transport to get here from wherever you arrive in the UK—services generally run throughout the day and night.



Below are details on bus services operating from Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports, and details about Eurostar if you plan to come via rail.

Heathrow Airport

The bus departs every 30 minutes during peak day-time hours and once an hour at off-peak times. The bus has charging points for your phone/laptop (remember your plug adapter), toilets, and free WiFi internet access. The journey time to Oxford is approximately 1 hour 40 minutes. The cost of a ticket is £23 one way or £29 for a 3 month period return and you can pay in cash (£, €, US \$) on the bus, or by credit or debit card in the bus station—you do not need to book in advance.

- ⇒ **Arriving at Terminal 1, 2 or 3:** follow the signs in the arrival hall to the Central Bus Station, then take the lift up to the bus station and you will arrive in the ticket hall.
- ⇒ **Arriving at Terminal 4:** follow the signs in the arrival hall to ‘the trains’ and take the free Heathrow Express train service to ‘Heathrow Central’; a three-minute train journey. Follow the signs to the Central Bus Station, take the lift up to the bus station and you will arrive in the ticket hall.
- ⇒ **Arriving at Terminal 5:** the bus service to Oxford also departs from Terminal 5 next to the arrival area (stop 10), so you do not need to go to the Central Bus Station.



Gatwick Airport

A similar bus service operates from Gatwick to Oxford (see the website below) with buses departing every hour. The bus journey is longer than the journey from Heathrow: between 2 hours and 2 hours 30 minutes and costs £28 single or £37 for a 3 month period return.

- ⇒ **Arriving at Gatwick North Terminal:** the bus leaves from Lower Forecourt stands 4 and 5.
- ⇒ **Arriving at Gatwick South Terminal:** the bus leaves from Lower Forecourt stands 1 and 2.

For times and further information from Heathrow or Gatwick, see <http://airline.oxfordbus.co.uk/>

Stansted Airport

A number of airlines arrive at Stansted from European destinations but it is a longer journey to reach Oxford from Stansted than it is from Heathrow or Gatwick. You will either need to take the [National Express](#) bus to central London (Victoria Coach Station) and change to the Oxford Tube bus, or take the [Stansted Express](#) train to London Liverpool Street station and then change on the Underground to reach London Paddington and then take the train to Oxford. Prices and journey times vary and you should check travel times before you book your flight to ensure that connecting travel to Oxford is available at the time you land in the UK.



Eurostar/Train

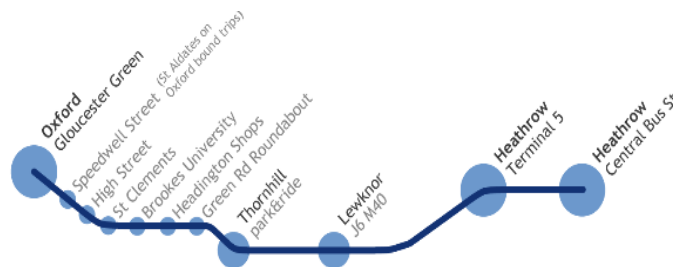
From the [Eurostar](#) terminus at London St Pancras station you can either take the Underground to London Paddington station (20 minutes- Circle or Hammersmith & City line) and then the train to Oxford (one hour) or take the Underground to Victoria (Victoria line) and then the Oxford Tube bus to Oxford (one hour and a half). When you arrive at Oxford train station there are taxis available outside the station to take you to your college/accommodation.

Arriving in Oxford

The bus stops at St Clements, the High Street (outside Exam Schools), St Aldates, with the last stop at Gloucester Green Bus Station in the city centre. Check in advance where you need to go to collect your keys for your accommodation and find which stop you need to get off at.



At Gloucester Green Bus Station you will find taxis waiting in the large square behind the bus station. These can take you to your accommodation. The average fare will be about £5 to £10 for Oxford colleges in the city centre or just over £10 if your college is further away from the city centre.



If you have a lot of luggage the last stop might be more convenient for you, and it's easier to get a taxi there.

If you are arriving late in the evening you should let your college know, but there is usually a night porter who you can contact by ringing the bell at the entrance.

Useful websites

- Bus Service to Oxford from Heathrow and Gatwick <http://airline.oxfordbus.co.uk/>
- Heathrow terminal maps www.heathrowairport.com/heathrow-airport-guide/airport-maps
- Oxford Tube (bus service from central London) www.oxfordtube.com
- National Express bus (Stansted, other destinations) www.nationalexpress.com
- National Rail timetables www.nationalrail.co.uk
- London Underground www.tfl.gov.uk/modes/tube/



Connect with Us

Finally, **don't miss out....**

Register for the [Orientation Programme](#) and please email us for any further help you may need:

student.information@admin.ox.ac.uk