

Pre-Conference Optional Visits – Friday 24th April 2020

The Conference Organisers plan to offer the following optional visits on the Friday afternoon before Conference starts.

Bodleian Library

During a 1-hour tour you will see the 15th-century Divinity School and Duke Humfrey's medieval library, Convocation House and Chancellor's Court.

Parking is limited in the centre of Oxford, so those wishing to take this tour will be advised to use the Park & Ride (very close to Jurys Inn Hotel) or public transport.

Oxford BMW MINI production Plant

The Oxford Plant is the birthplace and heart of MINI production. Manufactured to individual customer specifications, hundreds of MINIs leave the plant's assembly lines each day, off to meet new owners in more than 110 countries around the world. Since production of the new MINI started in 2001, almost 3 million cars have been made at Plant Oxford.

As this is a commercial production plant, there are certain restrictions on participation, and regulations regarding footwear, cameras and personal property. The tour lasts 2-2 ½ hours and you must be prepared to walk up to 3.5 kilometers during the tour. Full details will be sent with the final booking information.

Please note:

It is not yet possible to book either of these group visits for the Guild as next year's schedules and prices are under review. Places on all tours are limited, so priority will be given to those who book early for the Guild Conference and indicate their interest in one of these visits on the Booking Form.

Other places to visit in Oxford

If you are spending time in Oxford before or after the Conference, you may find the following of interest.

The Oxford Pass

The Oxford Pass is Oxford's official sightseeing card. It is valid for 2 consecutive days and allows access to a wide range of attractions in and around Oxford. For further information, visit <https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/oxfordpass>

Blenheim Palace

Blenheim Palace is a monumental country house in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, England. It is the principal residence of the Dukes of Marlborough, was the birthplace of Winston Churchill and is the only non-royal, non-episcopal country house in England to hold the title of palace.

For further information visit <https://www.blenheimpalace.com/>

Oxford Botanic Garden

The University of Oxford Botanic Garden is the oldest botanic garden in Great Britain and one of the oldest scientific gardens in the world. Founded in 1621 as a physic garden growing plants for medicinal research. today it contains over 6,000 different plant species on 1.8 ha.

For further information visit <https://www.obga.ox.ac.uk/>

Rycote Chapel

Rycote Chapel is a historic fifteenth-century chapel with exquisitely carved and painted woodwork and many intriguing features, including two early seventeenth-century roofed pews and a musicians' gallery. The yew tree to the south of the chapel was planted, according to tradition, at the coronation of King Stephen in 1135 as a seedling brought from the Garden of Gethsemane. It is one of the specimens measured by enthusiasts in the eighteenth century and its present circumference of twenty six feet differs very little from the measurements taken then.

For further information visit <http://rycote.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/home-page>

Other attractions

For ideas of other places to visit, go to

<https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/things-to-do/top-10-things-oxford-oxfordshire/>