

CAMBRIDGE TO OXFORD: WWII & COLLEGES

PRIVATE GROUP ADVENTURE

Explore the highlights of two illustrious English cities, delving deep into their Second World War history

Discover the highlights of Cambridge and Oxford, two of the most prestigious cities in England. Known globally for their world-leading universities, they are also surrounded by Second World War history, which we explore in depth on this culture-rich adventure. Recount the heroics of the Bloody Hundredth US airman, explore the once-secret Bletchley Park (home of the Codebreakers), and visit Sir Winston Churchill's magnificent Blenheim Palace. There's also time to tour university colleges and dig further into the history and heritage of these illustrious cities.

This tour is specifically designed as a private departure only and can be operated on a date of your choice.

Highlights

- Explore two of England's most historic cities with a focus on WWII history
- Walk through Cambridge and Oxford with expert guides
- Learn about the 'Bloody Hundredth' at the Fields of Little America
- Visit Bletchley Park, home of the Codebreakers
- Tour Waddesdon Manor and Blenheim Palace, Churchill's birthplace



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TRIP CODE: **AEC**

PROGRAMME



Culture

ACTIVITY LEVEL



Easy

COMFORT LEVEL



Superior

Itinerary

DAY 1

Arrive in Cambridge

Arrive in Cambridge and meet your private group and guide at the hotel at 4pm. If you're early, stroll to the Botanic Garden or take a punt along the River Cam. This evening, gather for a welcome dinner — no need for intros, just a toast to the adventures ahead.

Accommodation: Hilton Cambridge City Centre (or similar)

Meals included: Dinner

DAY 2

Walking Tour & IWM Duxford

Start with a guided walking tour of Cambridge, visiting iconic university colleges and soaking up centuries of academic history. After lunch, travel to the Imperial War Museum Duxford to explore WWII aircraft, exhibitions and preserved hangars that tell the story of the Battle of Britain. Return to Cambridge by late afternoon.

Accommodation: Hilton Cambridge City Centre (or similar)

Meals included: Breakfast

DAY 3

The Bloody Hundredth

Travel to Thorpe Abbots for a guided visit to the 100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum. Explore the original control tower, the recreated teleprinter room, and learn how the 'Bloody Hundredth' became a legend of the US Eighth Air Force. Head back to Cambridge for a free afternoon to spend as you like.

Accommodation: Hilton Cambridge City Centre (or similar)

Meals included: Breakfast

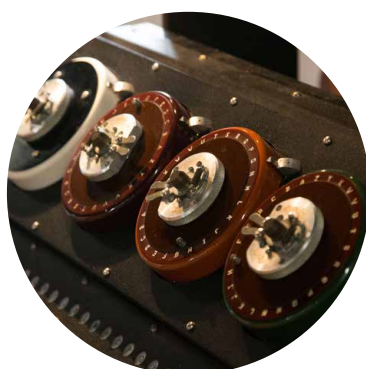
DAY 4

Bletchley Park & Waddesdon Manor

Tour Bletchley Park and uncover the secrets of Britain's fascinating wartime codebreakers. Walk through Enigma exhibits, film rooms and recreated workspaces. After lunch, visit Waddesdon Manor for a guided tour of its French-style interiors and landscaped gardens. In the evening, continue to Oxford and settle in for the night.

Accommodation: voco Oxford Spires (or similar)

Meals included: Breakfast



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DAY 5

Explore Oxford

Take a guided walking tour through Oxford's historic streets and world-famous colleges, including filming sites from 'Masters of the Air'. The afternoon is free—walk the Thames, tour Christ Church or enjoy a coffee where England's café culture began. Your guide is on hand to tailor suggestions for the group.

Accommodation: voco Oxford Spires (or similar)

Meals included: Breakfast



DAY 6

Blenheim Palace & Charlbury Walk

Tour Blenheim Palace—Churchill's birthplace—and explore its baroque interiors, Churchill exhibition, and sweeping Capability Brown gardens. Optional lunch in The Orangery offers a stately pause. In the afternoon, you'll walk past golden-stone houses in Charlbury. The day ends with a farewell dinner and toast to good company in Oxford.

Accommodation: voco Oxford Spires (or similar)

Meals included: Breakfast and dinner



DAY 7

Depart Oxford

After breakfast, it's time to part ways. Trains run direct from Oxford to London Paddington—or stay on to explore more golden-stone villages or riverside pubs. From Bletchley Park to Blenheim, Cambridge quads to Cotswold lanes, it's been a journey through British history, shared with your favourite people, at your pace.

Meals included: Breakfast

KEY INFORMATION

- Accommodation: 6 Superior nights (hotels)
- Travel by private air-conditioned minibuss or van
- Countries visited: United Kingdom

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All breakfasts and two dinners
- All accommodation
- Tour leader throughout
- All transport and listed activities

Accommodation

On this culture-packed adventure, we split our time between the two great university cities of England, Cambridge and Oxford, staying in contemporary four-star hotels.

Cambridge – Hilton City Centre Modern hotel near shops, colleges, and the River Cam, with Crabtree & Evelyn amenities, a piano bar, and seasonal dining at Bull & Bass.

Oxford – voco Oxford Spires Stylish stay near Oxford colleges and the Thames, with spa access and fine dining by a MasterChef alum at Deacons restaurant.



Essential Info

IS THIS TRIP FOR YOU?

This trip has been graded Activity Level 1 (Easy). For more information on our trip gradings please visit the [Activity Level Guidelines](#) page. If you have any queries about the difficulty of the trip please do not hesitate to contact us.

TRANSPORT

We use a minibus for all transfers to the areas where we are walking.

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

Start point: Hilton Cambridge City Centre, 20 Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DT

Phone: +44 1223 464491

Recommended arrival time: Meet at the start hotel at 4pm for the main welcome briefing

GETTING TO THE START POINT

There are direct trains from London to Cambridge from several stations but the quickest (50 minutes) is from London King's Cross and they run every hour. If coming from London Heathrow, take the Elizabeth underground line and change at Farringdon to reach King's Cross station.

RETURN JOURNEY

We finish in Oxford, where there are direct trains to London Paddington. For more information, please speak to your sales representative.

Full joining instructions including local emergency numbers will be sent to you as part of our Final Joining Instructions. If you do not receive these at least a week before departure, or require them earlier please contact our office or your travel agent.

WEATHER & SEASONALITY

Temperatures typically rise from around 12C (54F) in April to the high 20Cs (around 80F-85F) or above in September. Like most of the UK in recent years there have been some hotter days in the middle of summer. Rain can come at any time of year.

WHAT TO TAKE

Essential Equipment

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Small backpack for camera, water etc
- Refillable water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Waterproofs

Practical Info

VISA - UNITED KINGDOM

Travellers from the US and EU normally do not need a visa to enter the United Kingdom. Please note, visa requirements often change and it is your responsibility to obtain any required visas for this trip. Therefore, we recommend that you check with the nearest embassy or consulate of your chosen destination(s), including any countries you may be transiting or transferring through.

Some local governments provide guidance on what visas their citizens need. To help, we've gathered a selection of useful links below.

Australia: www.smarttraveller.gov.au/destinations/europe/united-kingdom

Canada: www.travel.gc.ca/destinations/united-kingdom

USA: www.travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/UnitedKingdom.html

VACCINATIONS AND HEALTH

United Kingdom

There are no required vaccinations. However, you may want to consider vaccinations for polio, tetanus and rabies (bat lyssavirus). Please confirm with your doctor or travel clinic.

LOCAL TIME

United Kingdom's time zone:
Europe/London (UTC +01:00)

ELECTRICITY

United Kingdom's electricity: Plug type G (three rectangular pins) – 230V, 50Hz

MONEY

United Kingdom's currency:
Pound sterling (GBP)

Extra Expenses & Spending Money:

A typical lunch costs £15, dinner £25, a pint of beer £5, and a glass of wine £4-£7

TIPPING

Although optional, a tip for the leader at the end of the trip is greatly appreciated. As a guideline, we recommend a starting point of £50 per person for the guides.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

All vehicles used by us should be equipped with working seatbelts, except where approved by us based on the vehicle type or journey. Wherever seatbelts are available, we require our customers to use them for their own safety, even where it may not be a legal requirement.

Private Group Adventures

This tour is specially designed as a private departure and can be operated on a date of your choice. Please contact our sales team for prices and more information:

EMAIL: PRIVATEDEPARTURES@EXODUS.CO.UK | OR CALL: **0203 733 6775**