



[www.williams.edu](http://www.williams.edu)

50th Reunion Program  
75 Park Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
tel 413.597.4284  
fax 413.597.4039  
[50th.Reunion@williams.edu](mailto:50th.Reunion@williams.edu)

October 15, 2018

Dear Members and Honorary Members of the Williams Class of 1970,

I invite you to take part in a special Williams 50th Reunion tradition in June 2019 – the class trip to Oxford, England. Whether the trip is already on your radar or not, now is the time to sign up. Registration materials are enclosed.

*Please note that for logistical reasons space is limited to 50 travelers and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We will maintain a waiting list if interest exceeds capacity.*

Here's some background on the trip: Since 1985, Williams has offered a junior year abroad program at Exeter College, one of the University of Oxford's oldest constituent colleges. The Williams-Exeter Programme at Oxford (WEPO) is now the most popular study away program Williams offers. Over that same period, the 50th Reunion program has offered alumni, honorary members, spouses and partners an insider's view of WEPO, the University of Oxford, and the surrounding area through interactions with Williams faculty and students living there, Oxford lecturers, and expert guides.

**Your trip, organized by our 50th Reunion Program team, will run from June 17 to 24, 2019.** We price the trip to cover its costs, and past participants have said it offers great value. While in Oxford, we will stay at the Randolph Hotel, conveniently located in the center of town and within walking distance of city landmarks and parks. We will visit beautiful Oxford colleges and gardens, eat together in historic dining rooms, and hear from experts on a wide range of topics. We will have several day trips to sites around Oxford that pair with the morning lectures.

There also will be plenty of free time to explore the city on your own, including its world-class museums, casual pubs, galleries, and shops. We include a list of activities that previous travelers have enjoyed so you may plan your own time to explore areas of personal interest. Enclosed, in addition to the registration forms, you will find a tentative schedule of events, information about accommodations, and useful planning tips. **Note that the first event will be a welcome reception and dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, and that regular check-in begins that day at 3:30 p.m.**

The trip balances educational and cultural activities and free time. But based on the experiences of previous travelers, what makes it truly special is the chance to enjoy a week of camaraderie and fun with a comfortable number of classmates, honorary members, spouses and partners as your June 2020 50th Reunion draws near.

If you have any questions about the trip or the registration process, please contact Chris Robare at [50th.Reunion@williams.edu](mailto:50th.Reunion@williams.edu) or 413-597-4992. We hope to see you in Oxford next June!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark'.

Mark Robertson '02  
Director, 50th Reunion Program



# CLASS OF 1970 WILLIAMS IN OXFORD Registration Form

*Space is limited to 50 travelers.  
Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.*

Please complete and return this form  
with your deposit of \$400 per person by  
**December 17, 2018** to:

Williams College  
50th Reunion Program  
75 Park Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267

### TRIP FEES

**\$5,500** per couple for double occupancy  
**\$3,500** per person for single occupancy  
*Airfare & transportation to Oxford not included*

**\$400** per person deposit due by **December 17, 2018**  
Final payment due by **April 1, 2019**

Full Name(s) of Travelers:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred First Name(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es):

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

### DEPOSIT INFORMATION

*Please make checks payable to **Williams College***

My check is enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my credit card for the deposit amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visa / MasterCard / American Express (circle)

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code\* \_\_\_\_\_

*\*3 digit code on back of MC or Visa card - 4 digit code on front of AmEx card*

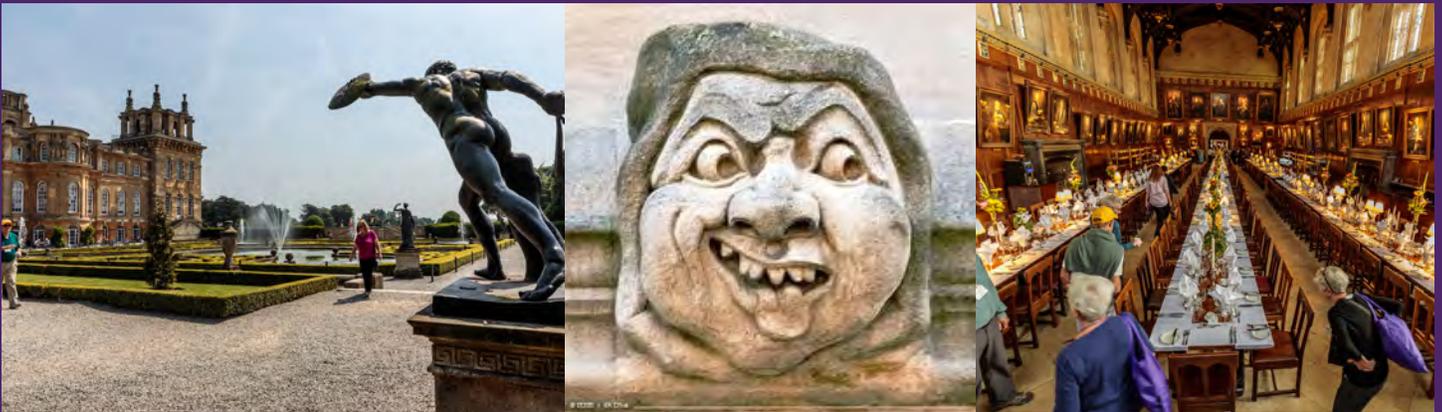
Billing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name (as shown on card): \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions? Please call us at 413-597-4992 or email us at 50th.Reunion@williams.edu**

# Williams in Oxford

A Special 50th Reunion Trip for the Class of 1970



June 17-24, 2019

Space is limited to 50 travelers - Register now!

# Why Oxford?

In 1985 Williams established a full-year academic program at the University of Oxford, one of the world's oldest and greatest universities and the model for the tutorial method of



teaching — which in the intervening years has become the heart of the Williams curriculum, in Williamstown as well as in Oxford. While in Oxford, Williams students are affiliated with Exeter College, one of the university's oldest constituent

colleges, taking tutorials and participating in activities alongside Exeter students. Over 700 Williams students have attended the Williams-Exeter Programme at Oxford (WEPO) since its founding.

Williams offers each 50th Reunion class a unique trip to Oxford that provides a taste of the Williams-Exeter Programme experience in the company of your classmates and friends.



Exeter College Chapel



Hertford Bridge (aka, "The Bridge of Sighs")

## Highlights for the week will include

### Private Guided Tours

- The city of Oxford and Exeter College
- The University of Oxford Botanical Gardens
- Broughton Castle

### Williams Visits

- A conversation with WEPO director & Exeter faculty member
- Dinner with 2018-19 WEPO students
- Private reception with Exeter College rector

### Lectures

- Lectures on British history and culture by Oxford professors

### Day Trips

- Blenheim Palace and Churchill's Grave
- The Cotswolds countryside and villages
- Bath and the American Museum of Britain with classmate Richard Wendorf '70

### Group Events and Free Time

- Daily group meals
- Organized activities and free time to explore

*"Oxford mounts a very rich array of academic offerings, some of them in areas we are unable to offer in Williamstown. And our program is much more successfully integrated into the host institution – Oxford University – than any other available study-abroad option open to our students."*

**Frank Oakley, Williams President Emeritus, and a 1953 graduate of Oxford University**

# Schedule of Events

*Schedule subject to change - the final schedule will be mailed in April to trip participants.*

## MONDAY, June 17

Welcome Reception & Dinner at The Vaults

## TUESDAY, June 18

Conversation with WEPO Faculty Director  
Guided Walking Tour of Oxford  
Reception in Exeter College Rector's Garden  
Dinner with WEPO Students at Ashmolean

## WEDNESDAY, June 19

Churchill Seminar  
Visit to Churchill's Grave  
Day-trip to Blenheim Palace  
Evensong Service at Christ Church

## THURSDAY, June 20

Tour of Christ Church College  
Dinner at the Randolph  
Evening play at Oxford Playhouse

## FRIDAY, June 21

English Civil War Seminar  
Tour of the Cotswolds Countryside  
Tour & Tea at Broughton Castle and Gardens

## SATURDAY, June 22

Day trip to Bath with Richard Wendorf '70  
Visit to & Dinner at American Museum of Britain



Class of 1969 on guided walking tour of Oxford



Christ Church College

## SUNDAY, June 23

Private Tour of the University Botanic Gardens  
Farewell Reception & Dinner at Balliol College

## MONDAY, June 24

Departure after Breakfast

## Places Worth Exploring...

*During free time, we strongly encourage you to check out these spots on your own.*

**Ashmolean Museum:** The world's first university museum, a remarkable collection of art and artifacts from around the world and across human history.

**Bodleian Library:** The research library of the University and the second-oldest in Europe.

**Turf Tavern:** Oxford is a town of pubs, and the Turf is one of its most famous - and best-hidden. A student favorite. Visitors over the years include Bill Clinton, CS Lewis, Elizabeth Taylor, and Margaret Thatcher.

**The Thames:** The mighty river flows through Oxford. Walk the banks - or take out a traditional punt boat.

**Blackwell's:** Massive bookstore complex with incredible Norrington reading room downstairs.

# Travel Tips

## Airports

- Oxford Airport - 6.8 miles from Oxford  
[www.oxfordairport.co.uk](http://www.oxfordairport.co.uk)
- Heathrow - 40 miles from Oxford  
[www.heathrowairport.com](http://www.heathrowairport.com)
- Gatwick - 75 miles from Oxford  
[www.gatwickairport.com](http://www.gatwickairport.com)

## Ground Transportation

### By Bus

The simplest way to get to Oxford from Heathrow or Gatwick is via Oxford Bus Company's Airline service ([www.oxfordbus.co.uk](http://www.oxfordbus.co.uk)). It's a 1.5-hour ride from Heathrow and 2.5 hours from Gatwick. The Oxford bus station is an easy two-block walk from the hotel. Buses from London to Oxford are also available.

### By Car

Oxford is easily accessible by road. For those renting a car, the Randolph Hotel has parking available for £28.50 per night. The hotel requires that you pre-book parking by calling the concierge desk at 011-44-186-525-6404 (from the US). Transportation will be provided for all of the week's scheduled activities.

### By Rail

Oxford Station is 0.25 miles from the hotel; cabs are available at the curb. For rail schedules, visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk).

## Hotel Check In & Check Out

Rooms at the Randolph are not available for check in before 3:30 p.m. Check out is by 11 a.m. If you have an early morning arrival on Monday, you may want to book a room for Sunday night so you can recover from jet lag in comfort. Please contact the hotel directly to secure any additional nights ([www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/randolph](http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/randolph)). You will be responsible for booking and paying the hotel directly for these additions.

## Passports

A passport is required for entry into the UK; please check that yours is current well before your departure.



Class of 1968 visit to Blenheim Palace

## Cancellation Policy

Full refund for cancellations before April 1, 2019. After April 1 - full refund less \$200/person; after May 1 - full refund less \$400/person. No refunds for cancellations after June 1, 2019.

## Travel Insurance

If you would like to purchase travel insurance from Williams's provider, Travel Insure, call 800-937-1387 or visit <https://select.travelinsure.com/?pcode=32475> and indicate that you are travelling with Williams College.

## Weather and Clothing

June tends to be pleasant with average daytime temperatures in the 70s, cooler evenings and not infrequent showers. Attire for most events is casual; bring comfortable walking shoes, clothes for layering and rain gear for our day trips. For events and dinners, men may want a jacket and tie.

## Level of Exertion

Oxford is a city best explored on foot. Our day trips do require some walking, but we've had people with a wide range of mobility issues, including those sporting casts from recent foot surgery. If you have questions or concerns about whether mobility or medical issues will interfere with your enjoyment of the trip, please call the 50th Reunion Program at (413) 597-4992.

# The Randolph Hotel

Macdonald Randolph Hotel  
Beaumont Street Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 2LN  
[www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/randolph](http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/randolph)  
(011) 44 186-525-6400

Our base at the historic Randolph Hotel has all the modern conveniences and charm to make your stay enjoyable and relaxing. These include spa services, 24-hour room service, satellite TV, wifi internet access, mini-bar, and gym. The recently renovated dining room offers unique character and fine dining at the Acanthus Restaurant. The Randolph also includes a tea room and is home to the famous “Morse Bar” for those of you familiar with the writings of Colin Dexter and his Inspector Morse.

The location of the Randolph is perfect for walking to the myriad shops, galleries, cafes, and museums in Oxford. For more casual dining there are numerous pubs and restaurants nearby.

Our adventure will begin the evening of Monday, June 17 with a welcome reception and dinner. Departure will be after breakfast on Monday, June 24.

## This trip package includes

- Seven nights lodging at the Randolph Hotel
- Full English breakfast daily at the Randolph
- Three day trips via private coach
- Lectures by Oxford scholars
- Private tours with professional guides
- Paid admission to all scheduled venues and activities
- At least one group meal per day (lunch, dinner & high tea)

## The trip package does not include

- Airfare
- Ground transportation to and from Oxford
- Additional meals on your own



Entrance to the historic Randolph Hotel



Randolph Hotel dining room (Acanthus Restaurant)

*“On a scale of 1 to 10, the trip deserves at least a 15. Everything was smoothly handled, buses, meeting places, instructions and the like. The preparation was extensive resulting in a first class experience.”*

**Mike '68 and Penny Herlihy**



Ashmolean Museum, across the street from the Randolph

## In their words: Williams Class of '69 Travelers

*“The trip could not have been more organized and interesting, not to mention ‘fun.’ As a spouse, it was great to see those who I knew and to meet other classmates”* -Dale Brokaw

*“Obviously, the best part of the trip is the company. But you guys really put together a good trip. It was a wonderful time. And make sure you get the same great weather every time!”*

-Tom Goodbody '69

*“I can't say enough about how great this trip was. It was wonderful to connect with classmates and spouses. It was great to visit Oxford. Staff made the visit a no-hitch, seamless eat, drink, and soak-up the atmosphere adventure. The lectures were fascinating, the tours let us explore parts of the city we'd never have discovered on our own, and the catching up was great.”*

-John Halbrooks '69

*“The staff did an exceptional job in taking care of all of the details – from the smallest to the largest. They also kept us informed at every juncture and were sincerely*



Class of 1969 reception and dinner at Balliol College

*interested in everyone's well being and enjoyment of the trip.”* -Joy Camp

*“I have rarely enjoyed a vacation week more than this one. A wonderful chance to see old friends and get to know people who weren't close friends at Williams. The program was excellent and the Randolph was a delightfully British hotel.”*

- 1969 Alumnus

# Join us!

in Oxford, “the city of dreaming spires,”  
with your Williams College Class of 1970.

**Registration deadline is December 17, 2018**

Questions? Please contact the Williams 50th Reunion Program at  
413-597-4992 or [50th.Reunion@williams.edu](mailto:50th.Reunion@williams.edu)



CLASS OF 1970 WILLIAMS IN OXFORD

# Things to Do in Oxford

## General Oxford Information

In addition to the Randolph Hotel's Concierge Desk, the Tourist Information Centre at 15 Broad Street, just a few blocks away from the hotel, has a comprehensive range of maps, leaflets on visitor attractions, and a knowledgeable staff. Open Monday – Saturday from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sundays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## Public Transportation

Taxis can be called through the hotel desk or by a restaurant and can be waved down in the street. Public buses are also available for local travel; details are available from the concierge.

## Places to Visit in Oxford

### Museums

**The Ashmolean Museum of Art & Archaeology** is the world's first university museum and houses a remarkable collection of antiquities ranging from the Paleolithic to Victorian eras from around the globe. *Located directly across the street from the Randolph Hotel.*

**The Oxford University Museum of Natural History** holds the university's internationally significant collections of geological and zoological specimens. Housed in a stunning example of neo-Gothic architecture, the museum's most famous features are the Oxfordshire dinosaurs, the Dodo, and the swifts in the tower. *Located on Parks Road, a 10-minute walk from the Randolph Hotel.*

**The Pitt Rivers Museum** houses Oxford's archaeological and anthropological collections. *Accessible only through the University Museum of Natural History, on Parks Road, a 10-minute walk from the Randolph Hotel.*

**Christ Church Picture Gallery** in Oriel Square has an important collection of Old Master paintings and drawings, housed in a purpose-built gallery of considerable architectural interest in itself. *Located within the walls of Christ Church College, a 10-minute walk from the Randolph Hotel. To visit the gallery without visiting the rest of the college, enter through Canterbury Gate off Oriel Square.*

### Colleges

Please note that many of Oxford's colleges restrict admission to certain hours, reserved tours or by ticket. A full list of colleges, open times and rates is available from the Randolph Hotel concierge and online at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/visitors/visiting-oxford/visiting-the-colleges>.

**The Bodleian Library** is the main research library of the University of Oxford, the second-largest library in Britain, and one of the oldest libraries in Europe. Features guided tours daily of varying lengths that include access to Duke Humfrey's medieval library. *Tickets available for purchase at the Great Gate ticket office off of Cattle Street, located less than a 10-minute walk from the Randolph Hotel.*

**Christ Church College** is one of Oxford's most recognized colleges and home to the famous Tom Tower, by Christopher Wren, and a stunning dining hall that was the model for the Hogwart's dining hall in Harry Potter films. *Located on Saint Aldate's, a 10-minute walk from the Randolph Hotel. (Private tour planned for group on Thursday.)*

## Gardens

**Oxford Botanic Garden** is the oldest botanical garden in Britain and one of the oldest scientific gardens in the world. *Located on High Street, a 15-minute walk from the Randolph.* (Private tour planned for group on Sunday afternoon.)

**Christ Church Meadow**, south of Christ Church College, is a good place to explore on either side of Sunday's Botanical Garden tour.

**Worcester College's Gardens** are open to the public and considered among the best at the University. Open to the public most afternoons. *Located a short walk down Beaumont Street from the Randolph Hotel main entrance.*

**University Parks** includes a range of gardens and open spaces perfect for walking. *Located northeast of Keble College, a 10-15 minute walk from the Randolph Hotel.*

## Historic Churches

**University Church of St. Mary the Virgin** on High Street is thought to be the oldest university building. Views of Oxford from the tower. Main service Sunday at 10:30 am. Church of England.

**Christ Church Cathedral**, open daily until 4:30 pm, Evensong nightly at 6 pm. Sunday services at 8 am, 10 am, and 11:15 am. Church of England.

**Magdalen College Chapel** on High Street features Evensong nightly at 6 pm. Sunday service at 11 am. Church of England.

*Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist, and Baptist services are also held within walking distance of the Randolph. Times and further details available from the concierge desk.*

## Dining Out & Shopping

Oxford has a lively restaurant scene ranging from pubs to five-star venues. Here are some favorites from past trip participants.

## Pubs

Oxford is full of pubs, many of them historic. Many of them serve bar food, and all have a good selection of beers including what is known in Britain as "real ale"—unfiltered and unpasteurized beer which is conditioned (including secondary fermentation) and served from a cask without additional nitrogen or carbon dioxide pressure. Some of the recommended pubs are:

**The Eagle and Child**, 49 St. Giles, not fancy, but noted as the place where J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis used to meet every Tuesday.

**The Turf Tavern**, 4 Bath Place, old, quaint, and well-hidden pub with good food and a nice garden. Located at the end of a narrow winding alley, St Helens Passage (originally Hell's passage), between Holywell Street and New College Lane, near the Bridge of Sighs.

**The Bear**, Alfred Street, one of the oldest pubs in town. Look for the Williams tie among the collection of over 4,500 snippets of club ties in glass cases.

**The Kings Arms**, corners of Holywell Street and Parks Road (opposite the New Bodleian).

**The Lamb and Flag**, 12 St. Giles (opposite the Eagle and Child).

**The Chequers**, High Street, an historic pub with lots of atmosphere.

## Restaurants

Reservations are recommended for dinner at most Oxford restaurants, especially as the week we will be visiting will be end-of-term with many families visiting their students.

**Quod**, opposite the University Church in the High Street at number 92-94, is a busy restaurant with a wide menu. Reservations recommended.

**Cherwell Boathouse**, on Bardwell Road, serves excellent international cuisine with a lovely riverside setting. A short taxi ride or 30-minute walk from the Randolph Hotel.

**The Mitre**, at the junction of High Street with the Turl, is Oxford's oldest pub and now a Beefeater restaurant with English steak-house menu. Reservations recommended.

**The Old Parsonage Hotel**, 1 Banbury Road, a high standard restaurant in a beautiful Cotswold House. Quite small, so reservations are essential.

**Browns Restaurant and Bar**, 7 Woodstock Road, a lively restaurant with a good menu and fast service if needed. Popular with residents, students and visitors.

**Loch Fyne**, 55 Walton Street, to quote a recent Oxford guide book, has an ethos governed by one simple idea that "fish is great."

**The Trout at Godstow**, 195 Godstow Road, Wolvercote, stands beside the River Thames, and you can dine outside on a veranda overlooking a weir. Travel there on bus route 6 or call a taxi (about three miles from the city centre).

**The Perch at Binsey**, Binsey Lane is an historic pub with a beautiful garden beside the River Thames.

**Turl Street Kitchen**, 16 Turl Street, features a farm to table menu that changes nightly.

**Gee's Restaurant**, 61 Banbury Road, features Mediterranean grills and sharing plates served up in an elegant Victorian glass conservatory, bar, and terrace.

**Jamie's Italian**, 24 George Street, one of celebrity chef Jamie Oliver's restaurants.

There are several restaurants on Little Clarendon Street and George Street, each a short walk from the Randolph Hotel, where you may be able to find a table without a reservation. The Covered Market also has some food stalls, which are good for a quick meal.

## Afternoon Tea

Enjoy it at the Randolph Hotel, the Grand Café or The Rose (both on High Street).

## Shopping

Groceries, lunches and toiletries. **Tesco**, Magdalen Street (around the corner from the Randolph).

Toiletries, cosmetics, or medicines. **Boots** or **Supadrug**, on Market Street.

Electric plug adaptors. **Boots** or **Boswells** (corner of Broad Street and Cornmarket).

Clothing basics. **Marks & Spencer** on Queen Street.

Magazines, candy, sodas, gum, stamps. **Wendys News** on Broad Street.

### Souvenirs

- **The Covered Market** (entrances off High Street & Market Street) for small shops and stalls
- **The Bodleian Shop**, Old Schools Quadrangle
- **The Ashmolean Museum Shop**
- **The Oxford University Shop** in the High Street opposite the University Church of St. Mary
- **Flea Market in Gloucester Green**, Thursdays from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm
- **Oxford Campus Stores and Flags** (both in Broad St. almost next to the Information Centre)

## Bookshops

**Blackwell's** at 48-51 Broad Street is one of the most popular bookshops in the world and houses the largest single room devoted to book sales in Europe, the cavernous Norrington Room (10,000 sqft)

**Oxford University Press** at 116 High Street

**Waterstones** on the corner of Broad Street and the Cornmarket

## Tax-Free Shopping

Residents of non-European Union countries can shop tax-free in the United Kingdom and save the 20 percent VAT tax already included in the prices of most goods. Look for the "Tax Free shopping" signs in stores and ask the sales assistant for details. Different schemes apply in different stores and there is a "minimum spend" figure, often £50. You must show your passport to the retailer and obtain from the store a certificate showing the tax details. After you have completed this, your claim will be authorized when submitted to the tax desk at your departure airport.

If you are extending your visit in another EU country, submit the claim at the airport from which you depart to return home. A simple till receipt is not sufficient to support a claim. The tax rebate scheme applies only to goods and not services. If goods are shipped from the point of purchase to your home, the tax will be deducted at the time of purchase.