



Tour Information



Roundheads & Cavaliers: The English Civil War





The tour commences and concludes at the **Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House Hotel, Oxford.**

Church Way

Iffley Village

Oxford

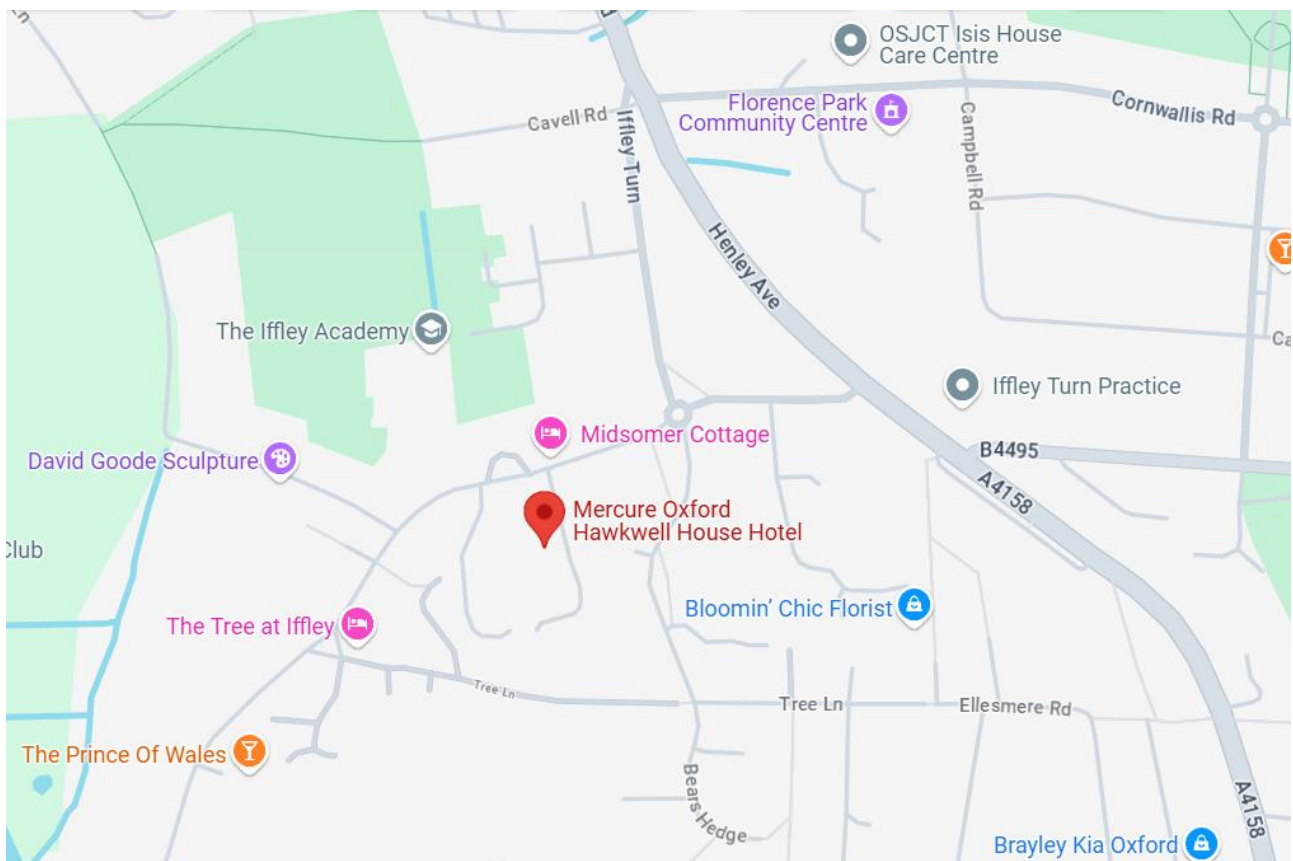
OX4 4DZ

Tel: +44(0) 1865 749 988

E-mail: hb6p4-fo1@accor.com

Transport

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



If you are travelling by car:

From the M4:

From the M4, take junction 13 for the A34 exit to Oxford / Newbury. Drive for approx. 22 miles and then take the exit off the A34 towards Oxford / A4144. Continue on Southern By-Pass Road / A423 to Iffley.

If you are travelling by train:

The nearest train station is Oxford Railway Station, approx. a 10-minute drive from the hotel. Regular services run from London Paddington and other major cities to Oxford, and taxis or rideshares are readily available to take you to the hotel.



Accommodation

Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House Hotel

Located in the tranquil surrounds of Oxford, only 10 minutes' drive from the city centre, this four-star hotel is set among three acres of private gardens. Facilities include a bar, restaurant and refined bedrooms with modern amenities including TV, WIFI, hairdryer, safe, and tea and coffee making facilities. Complimentary parking is available at the hotel.

More information can be found via the hotel's website: <https://mercureoxfordhawkwellhouse.com/>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival, you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15:00, and the tour manager and lecturer will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

On the last day, the tour will not finish until approximately 17:30 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on a bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 12:00 noon.

Dining

On the first night, dinner with wine is provided at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. For the second evening, dinner will be provided in the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on all days of your stay is included in the price but meals other than these stated are not included.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.



Places Visited

St Edward's Church

The church is primarily a product of the 11th century with later additions in the 15th century. Quite apart from the lovely architecture, the church has a significant historical connection with the Battle of Stow on the Wold. The battle was the final conflict of the English Civil War.

In 1646 a Royalist army marched through the Cotswolds in a desperate attempt to join up with King Charles at Oxford. They were finally confronted at Stow on the Wold by a Parliamentary force. The fighting was fierce and deadly. The Royalists were defeated and over 1000 imprisoned within the church.

St Edward's Hall

A much later addition to Stow is St Edwards Hall in the market square. This was built in 1878. Money for the building came from funds left unclaimed in the town Savings Bank. The Hall houses the public library and exhibitions of Civil War artefacts

Burford Church

One of Oxfordshire's most impressive landmark churches to be found at the heart of the picturesque town of Burford. Dating back to the 15th century, this splendid building was financed by the prosperity of the local wool trade, which links it to other magnificent churches in Lechlade, Fairford and Northleach. The church has a spectacular interior with fine stained-glass windows and monuments.

Christ Church College

Christ Church is a unique institution, one of the largest colleges in the University of Oxford and the Cathedral Church for the Diocese of Oxford. It has a world-famous Cathedral Choir and scholarly collections of books and art.

The Cathedral stands on the site of an ancient Saxon Church, founded in the 8th century by Saint Frideswide, the Patron Saint of Oxford. Though nothing now remains of this church, a saxon cemetery lies under the cathedral cloister, discovered in 1985. The present building was constructed in the last quarter of the 12th century as the monastery church for a community of Augustinian Canons. The monastery was called St Frideswide's Priory, and inside the church stood an ornate shrine on which were kept the relics of the saint. Pilgrims visited the shrine throughout the Middle Ages, including Catherine of Aragon, who, in 1518, came to pray for the birth of a son. In 1524, just prior to the General Dissolution of the Monasteries, Cardinal Wolsey gained permission from the Pope to close St Frideswide's Priory in order to use the land to build a vast new college for the university. He had planned to include a new chapel for his 'Cardinal's College' but died before the building was completed so the old monastery church was retained. When, in 1546, Henry VIII moved the first Bishop of Oxford into the church, he created a unique institution, 'Christ Church', for its chapel is also the Cathedral for the Diocese of Oxford.

<http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/>

Broughton Castle

The core of the house was built in 1306 and the gatehouse in the early fifteenth century, but most of what you see today dates from the 1550's. It was a centre of opposition to Charles I and was besieged and damaged after the Battle of Edgehill in 1642.

<http://www.broughtoncastle.com/>

Castle Inn

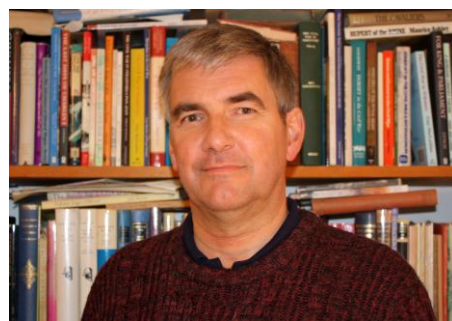
The tower was built in 1742 by Sanderson Miller on the centenary of the battle and is said to mark the spot where King Charles raised the standard before the two sides clashed. The Tower; also known as the Radway or Round Tower was intended to replicate Guy's Tower at nearby Warwick Castle.

The Tower first became a pub in 1822, when it was sold by a descendant of Sanderson Miller to become a free house. Then in 1922 the Inn was acquired by Hook Norton Brewery. The pub is built on the summit of Edgehill, some 700ft above sea level, overlooking the plain below which served as the backdrop for the first major battle of The English Civil War.

<http://www.castleatedgehill.co.uk/>

Your Expert Lecturer

Julian Humphrys will be your host for the duration of this tour. Julian read history at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, has worked at historical sites both in Britain and overseas and is now a trustee of the Battlefields Trust and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He has a very infectious enthusiasm for history and has published numerous books on castles and battles. He currently leads more than a dozen tours for Travel Editions and imparts his extraordinary historical knowledge with wit and panache, making a tour led by him both an educational and entertaining experience.



Julian will give the following talks during the tour:

"This war without an enemy – the origins of the British civil wars"

"Battles of the Civil Wars"

Practical Information

Tour manager – Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping – To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services.

Grading – This tour has been graded as **Demanding**: On your feet all day, uneven terrain (e.g. cobbles).



Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday, please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason, you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 09:00-17:00), telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807 or 07441 343850

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

Travel Editions

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