



Newbury u3a Travel Planning Group

CHRISTCHURCH COLLEGE, OXFORD AND TEA ON THE THAMES Friday 28th June 2024

We shall be visiting Christ Church at our own pace on a self-guided multimedia tour. Their state-of-the-art multimedia guides are included in the price of admission and are required to visit Christ Church. Members of the team will be on hand to answer your questions around the site. The multimedia guide acts as your pass to the Christ Church site and must be worn around your neck at all times for security purposes.

Although Christ Church attracts many thousands of visitors each year, it remains a working institution with a twofold purpose: the pursuit of learning and Cathedral worship.

There are many areas to visit, including the following:

Meadow Quad: The Meadow Building, through which visitors enter and exit, was built expressly for undergraduates in the 19th century – a time when Christ Church, like the rest of the University, was undergoing a series of important reforms to strengthen the emphasis on undergraduate education.

Hall Staircase: The elegant staircase may be familiar, having been used in a number of film and television projects including *Lewis* and *Harry Potter*.

The Great Hall: The walls are adorned with a number of portraits, each celebrating famous members of the college from WH Auden to Professor Judith Pallot. At the far end, the founder of Christ Church, Henry VIII, is portrayed.

Light enters the Hall through a series of stained-glass windows celebrating Christ Church's vibrant heritage. One window celebrates the fantastical work of Charles Dodgson – or Lewis Carroll – and the inspiration for his works, Alice Liddell, who was the daughter of Dean Liddell.

Other areas of Christchurch that you will also be able to visit include:
Tom Quad, The Cathedral and the Cloisters.

After lunch (at your own expense), we board our boat at the Head of the River for our 2½ hr afternoon cruise along the Thames which will include cream tea and commentary.

We shall disembark in Abingdon, where the coach will meet us for our return journey to Newbury.