

# **ST HUGH'S**

## **FRESHERS'**

## **GUIDE 2025**



# FRESHERS' REP ADDRESS

Welcome to St Hugh's! I'm Oscar, a second year Philosophy and Politics student, and I'll be your Freshers' Rep in the upcoming year. Hopefully you will have already heard this dozens of times but, just to echo it, congratulations! I know that each and every one of you have worked hard to earn your place here, and I want to assure you that not only has that work been recognised in your offer and results, but also that it has payed off by landing you in the best possible place you could be- St Hugh's. It might take more than this guide to convince you that there is much more than college bias to this statement, but I will let the cats, grounds, and community convince you of it themselves when you arrive. I found them to be pretty compelling advocates when I first turned up here.

We write it not only to give you guys a preview into what life will look like from October, but also to help you prepare for your arrival. If you pay more attention to it than I did, you might be saved some awkward moments!

As for Freshers' week itself, you'll be busy with orientation talks, meeting your tutors, and whatever your college parents come up with. Most importantly, of course, is the social side through which you will really get to know Hugh's. We've worked out something for everyone, so channel any worries which you might have into excitement, and get ready to enjoy the experience. You've got an amazing year ahead.

I'm here to make your life easier, so please, reach out to me whenever, no matter how big or small ([oscar.mowatt@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:oscar.mowatt@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)). Everyone at Hugh's is excited to have you join us, and we hope after reading this you will be looking forward to it just as much. I'll see you in October if we don't speak before,  
Oscar







# FRESHERS' WELFARE REP ADDRESS

**I'm Annabelle, a second year History and Economics student whose job it is to make sure everyone is able to feel as happy and secure in Hugh's as possible. I'll be around all of freshers' week with oscar to help everyone settle in, and am always ready to answer any questions any of you might have. I'll be there to help with any struggles or issues that might crop up when you all first arrive, so please do just send me a message or email if you're ever feeling a bit lost in the madness of an Oxford term.**

**I'm part of a team of 3 welfare reps for St Hugh's, and our job throughout the year is to organise and sort all the welfare events and issues, as well as pidging (a weekly form which Hughsies can fill out for free welfare essentials such as condoms and sanitary products). The highlight welfare events are always the welfare teas, which take place every two weeks and are perfect for a piece of cake and a chat with your friends. Welfare week is also in week 5, so look forward to some exciting events lined up for then.**

**We have lots planned for your freshers' week and I'll also hopefully be seeing lots of you around throughout the year as social sec for St Hugh's netball and captain of the St Hugh's running club! Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions - [annabelle.parbrook@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:annabelle.parbrook@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)**



# WHAT TO BRING

## clothing

- sub fusc (we help with organising this, but bring shirt/tights etc)
- jumpers and a warm jacket (gets colder in winter than you might expect)
- slippers/shoes easy to slip on
- lots of socks and pants (saves laundry spend)
- flipflops/slides for showers
- a few pieces of formal attire (shirts/trousers/ties/long dresses/short dresses)
- costume items for bops

## essential

- passport and valid ID (UK driver's license/similar alternative)
- emergency cash
- NHS and insurance cards
- a strong bike lock (if you bring your bike)
- extension cord for plugs
- keyring
- food and snacks to at least get you through freshers' week

## academic

- strong bag to carry your things
- laptop
- paper/pens/items for taking notes
- good headphones
- long chargers (some libraries don't have personal sockets)
- keep cup (only way you can bring coffees/etc into libraries)
- water bottle



# WHAT TO BRING

## room

- bedding (unfortunately for us, college does not provide you with duvets and pillows. However, bedding packs can be bought from college)
- sheets (two sets makes laundry easier)
- pins for pin board
- photos/posters for decorating/making your room homely
- maybe a few extra cushions/two pillows
- clothes hangers

## cook/clean

- laundry bags
- laundry pods
- mug/cup/cutlery/pot/pan (you'll know how much you plan to cook but dont overpack - you can always ask to borrow from people)
- general hygiene and shower products
- dish soap
- room spray/diffuser (not essential but good when its too cold to open a window in winter)

## other

- basic medical kit (paracetamol, strepsils, lemsips, plasters)
- umbrella/good raincoat
- deck of cards
- tupperwares
- some books for personal reading
- condoms
- sanitary products



# ACCOM

## MAIN

If you're lucky enough to be in main next year, you will be right in the middle of all the fresher activities. There are two floors of corridors, each with around 24 rooms, and it's only for freshers! This makes it very social and perfect for finding your feet in the first few weeks. Each room comes with a single bed, desk, wardrobe, lamp, drawers and usually additional shelves and perhaps even a nice comfy chair! Unfortunately, you won't be given a sink, however this soon becomes easy to live with as you get into a routine. There are four showers and around five toilets to share, along with four separate sinks. Whilst this may sound intimidating, I can say I never had to wait for any in my whole year of living there. Another positive are the big kitchens on both floors, which can be both a social space to chat and the perfect place to cook. There should be plenty of fridge, freezer and cupboard space for everyone. However, to begin with try to keep the space you take up in the fridge small as they can get quite full.



Main building comes with more perks, in that you essentially never have to leave the building. You can get to hall, the library, the JCR, the bar, the gym in the span of a few minutes, all under the same roof (this is a lifesaver when it's cold and rainy). The plodge (porter's lodge) is also right outside for when you inevitably manage to lock yourself out. Sadly, the laundry does require you to drag all your dirty clothes out to either Kenyon or Maplethorpe.

Whilst the most "standard" of the Hugh's rooms, Main Building is the perfect place to be a fresher. The rooms come in varying shapes and sizes, but they all feel very homely once you get decorating. The storage space is also quite generous and easy to reach, plus space under your bed. It is the biggest freshers' accommodation and is an amazing home for your first year.







# ACCOM

## MAPLETHORPE

Maplethorpe is the true peak of all Hugh's accommodation. With double beds and en-suites (mostly, some people share a bathroom between 2) it is the luxury freshers' experience. Each corridor has 8 rooms and a separate, spacious kitchen which includes a large table (this is perfect for using when eating with your friends, so if you're not in MTB yourself, find a friend who is!).

Another major perk is the massive desk, especially with the natural light from the windows. The only downside to Maplethorpe is that corridors may be mixed with second, third and fourth years rather than just freshers'. However, with the activities of freshers' week and everything else, this poses little barrier to any social happenings. In fact, the thicker walls and quieter atmosphere becomes such a blessing whenever you try to do some work or go for a nap, as the other, older buildings tend to be full of noise and slamming doors (not very helpful when you're trying to get an early night and can hear people talking in the corridor). You are also likely to be near lots of other freshers' in the same building, and the kitchens mean that MTB is by no means anti-social, you will have no trouble finding fellow freshers' to congratulate on winning the room lottery for the best accommodation.

Maplethorpe is the perfect mix between the quiet and social life of Oxford, and its proximity to the laundry room and Wordsworth Tea Room makes it all the better (the iced coffees from the tea room do complete the start to a day).



# ACCOM

## KENYON



Whilst it may not be the prettiest from the outside, Kenyon is perfect for a lively freshers' environment. The floors are split into two sides of 6-8 rooms, along with a toilet and shower on each side. There is also a small kitchen on each floor, although this can get cramped when more than two people try to do anything in it, so plan your cooking times well! The rooms are also lucky enough to come with a sink, as well as a very spacious desk and aesthetic window seat. The big windows also provide lots of natural light. The rooms themselves are relatively big, and are perfect for pres and afters on a night out. Equally, they are just as perfect for watching a film in a group or just having a general chat due to all the space for people to sit.

The building is also in perfect proximity to the laundry room which is just at the bottom of the stairs, as well as being really close to the JCR and library. It can get noisy due to the thin walls but this is an inevitable experience of any fresher all across the university. The storage is pretty sizeable, so you should have no trouble fitting your things in, although room for any suitcases might be trickier so it may be helpful to find a place to store these during term time/give them back to family members if they are with you. Hugh's has recently updated their storage policy, and therefore storage now must be sourced privately by students rather than through the college. Therefore the option remains to rent some storage for your suitcases during term time for international students. For Kenyon, I would definitely recommend bringing lots of decorations to make your room feel more homely amongst the brutalist architecture and concrete. The rooms can be lovely once decorated, however without this they can feel quite stark.

Ultimately, Kenyon is a freshers' hub throughout the year and is wonderful in the summer when you get to fully appreciate the sunny Oxford days.





# COLLEGE SPACES

## DINING HALL



Hall is one of the beauties of Oxford living. Not having to cook can be an absolute lifesaver when you've got a busy deadlines week, and can also be the perfect place to take a social break in between library sessions. Often when it's sunny people choose to sit outside, and if you're in a rush there is also a handy takeaway option. Hall is only open for brunch on Saturdays and Sundays from 10.30 to 1.30, however is open for three meals a day during the week. There is a pay-as-you-go system using your bod card and UPAY, meaning you only pay for what you want. There is also a weekly menu released, which allows you to plan which meals you might want to go to.

## FORMAL HALL

Formal hall is another key aspect of Hugh's life. We have them once a week, usually on a Tuesday, although sometimes the themed ones can fall on a Friday. Hugh's formals fall around mid-range price wise out of all of the colleges, at £15.50. You can't bring your own wine, meaning this has to be bought from the college (usually around £8 per bottle). Formals are always great fun, especially if you can muster a good group, and everyone tends to go to the bar after meaning a guaranteed good atmosphere. As far as formal food goes, Hugh's can be really good, and you can see more on the @chefs\_at\_sthughs instagram! It can also be great fun to visit other colleges for formals, so don't miss that opportunity. You will be getting your first taste of the formal scene in Freshers Week, so make sure to have a nice shirt/long dress lined up!





# COLLEGE SPACES



## BAR

The Hugh's College Bar is a staple social area within the college, whether you drink or not. Whilst perhaps not having the prestige that other, older college bars in town may have, the space in ours allows for us to throw some amazing bops during the term (these often attract quite a few people from other colleges too). Most colleges have their own trademark college drink, although Hugh's never quite appears to have found theirs. For a time we had a nominal concoction of the "golden swan" (a delicious mix of a vodka shot and a pint of Stella), however those who prefer the sweeter cocktails may want to stick to the likes of the "blue swan". The drinks are usually very reasonably priced, with a pint usually being between £2.80 to £3.80 depending on your choice. Especially in first term, the bar is the perfect place to meet some of the rest of the freshers' who perhaps live in another building, and to get closer to the ones you've already met. It's also never a miss to go on a Tuesday after a formal, even if you weren't at the dinner.



## JCR

The JCR is right above the bar, meaning it's perfect for anyone who wants a game of pool in between pints. There are lots of sofas, as well as two pool tables, and a PlayStation. As it's also quite close to the library, it means it provides the perfect social study break. The Hugh's pool tournaments can get quite hotly contested, something which you will all hopefully get a taste of in freshers' week. The only downside to the JCR is its temperature regulation, which hopefully should get fixed at some point during your time in college. In the winter it becomes absolutely freezing, and in the summer it's a melting pot. Other than providing a relaxing social space, the JCR also hosts the JCR meetings every second week (where you can get yourself some free pizza and take part in discussions about improving college life). It is also home to the chaotic free pizza's after our bops (be quick or miss out).





# COLLEGE SPACES



## TEA ROOM

The Wordsworth Tea Room is located on the bottom floor of the China Centre, and is therefore often shared with those few Oxford students who study Chinese (although Hugh's itself doesn't offer the course). It's a great place to work in a more relaxed/social environment and offers a reasonable snack selection. The iced coffees are their popular fan favourite, at £2.50 per drink. The big windows also mean it often manages to attract more natural light, which always makes work a bit less effort. It is always the best spot for a chat/debrief mid essay-writing, and is a good space to bump into people for a quick chat.

## GYM

The college gym is in the basement near the bar. Whilst somewhat limited in its machinery, it never gets particularly busy and obviously has the perks of proximity. In the gym, you'll have access to six rowing machines, two treadmills, an indoor bike, some weights (both bench-based and free weights), a few resistance machines (chest press, shoulder press, pulldown machine and leg press) and some yoga mats. This is across three rooms. For those weightlifting addicts, you may prefer the trek to PureGym in Westgate where machines are more varied. Nevertheless, at £70 for the whole year, it is perfect for any Hughsies wishing to spend a quick 30 minutes on an incline walk when it's cold and rainy. Also for those in the Boat Club, you're lucky enough for a free membership!

## CHAPEL

The Chapel is another wonderful aspect of Hugh's life, and is on the first floor of the main building. It operates as a multi-faith space, and has regular services (called evensongs) at 6.30 every Sunday. These usually follow Anglican tradition, however this is not a prerequisite. The services are a peaceful end to a stressful week, and are followed by a free communal dinner after. There is also a college choir, which practices twice a week. If you're musically inclined, there are generous choral scholarships to be won.





# COLLEGE LIBRARIES

## HOWARD PIPER

The Howard Piper is Hugh's 24/7 library. It has a network study rooms with different atmospheres, although my favourite is always the main top floor room as it has the biggest windows and attracts the most natural light. The Law Library is good for any wishing to have complete silence/a more private study space. There is also a study room for group collaborations on the top floor. The library is usually kept quite warm, which means in the winter when your room never quite gets hot enough it's almost enjoyable to settle yourself at one of the library desks. The library is also well stocked with a quite impressive amount of books (especially for the history section, which hosts some incredibly niche books which can really make your essays, although I can't speak for all subjects). Most desks also have individual plug sockets, which mean they're ideal for a proper extended work. One of the rooms on the bottom floor also has individual booth-style desks which can really prevent you from being distracted by nearby friends. Finally, the foyer has a relaxed area with a desk and beanbags which allows for a social library work space.



## KB CHEN LIBRARY

Part of the Bodleian Library network, the China Centre library can make a much needed change once you've spent too much time in the Howard Piper. It's open Monday to Friday from 9am-7pm, and 11am-2pm on Saturdays. To have a Bodleian Library so nearby is a lifesaver, as it allows you to order any of the books from any of the Bodleian Libraries straight to there. Other than that, the library has some floor to ceiling windows surrounding the China Centre courtyard, meaning it's usually bright and open. The desks are also spacious, and it doesn't tend to get massively busy, meaning you can spread your stuff out without worrying about disturbing anyone around you. The two person study booths along the back are also helpful spaces to truly focus, and I know they were a popular choice for those sitting online prelim exams as well as intense solo revision sessions. They also have multiple sockets, individual desk lights, and some even come with closing doors.







# COLLEGE EVENTS

## BOPS

Bops are college parties, and are a feature of Oxford life across the University. Our bops are around every two-ish weeks, and in the last two terms they've started to get a good rep for being worth a visit across other colleges as well. We're luckily the only college allowed to stay running until 1.30am, as well as having a space large enough to host a big group of people in the area behind the bar. Somehow there always seems to be something happening at every bop, so they never disappoint when it comes to the debrief the morning afterwards. The bops technically start at 9.30, however people tend to come in later on at around 11. DJing is also free to sign up to, so if you're so inclined I would definitely give it a go, even if just for the fun of standing behind the stage. Bops also usually have some kind of theme to them (for example our freshers' week theme was British Icons), and it's always great fun to try and pull together a mismatched costume. Bops are always followed by pizza and chat in the JCR just above, and then often a much needed welfare tea the next day, which resets you in time for any 9am Monday tutorials.

## OTHER EVENTS

Whilst BOPs are a regular feature of every term, Hughs also has occasional events which you should definitely make sure to attend. The RAG ball, Christmas Formal, Burns night, Sports Formal, and JCR Summer Formal are standout events during the year. The RAG ball is always a highlight in Michaelmas term, and it attracts Hughsies from all yeargroups (plus an open bar!). It's a guaranteed amazing night where you really bond with the rest of your year group cohort. Trinity term also means Oxford Ball season, and whilst Hughs rarely hosts one itself, I would definitely recommend trying to attend at least one (although tickets aren't cheap, usually £150-£200).



# COLLEGE ADMIN STORAGE



Unfortunately, Hugh's no longer has availability for on site storage facilities. However, College has arranged a contract with an external storage organisation which providea the same service for other colleges across the University. The cost of this storage will need to be financed by students themselves, but financial assistance is available for any who might need it. Storage is extremely helpful as you may want to leave items such as your bedding and room decorations in town, to save hauling them all home. College is aiming to provide more details on how the new storage system will operate at the start of term.

There is also the option to sort your own storage individually, seperate from the college. This may allow you more flexibility with luggage drop of and pick up times. The downside is obviously that you have to bring your luggage to the storage facility on your own terms, which may prove more complicated.

## LAUNDRY

Laundry facilities are located in the basement of Maplethorpe and in Kenyon. These can get quite crowded, especially at the weekend, so you may need to time your washes strategically. There are around 6/7 washers and 6 dryers in Maplethorpe, so this is where people mostly go (Kenyon only has two of each). Each wash+dry cycle costs a bit under 4 pounds (2.40 for a regular wash and spin, 2.50 for an extra wash, 2.60 for an extra wash and spin; 1.40 for drying).

You will need a contactless card to pay, your own washing pods/laundry products, a bigger bag to carry your laundry to and from your room (recommend finding one as big as possible), and perhaps also smaller mesh bags for loose items like socks.

Do be mindful about collecting your washing, be on time otherwise you might find someone has decided to take it all out for you (even if not, it's frustrating for everyone else waiting).

There are also irons in both locations.

To find the laundry, go down the stairs after Maplethorpe staircase IV (pictured).







# COLLEGE COMMUNITY

## SOCIETIES

Hugh's has a range of sports and societies you can join. The options will be full displayed at the Hugh's Freshers Fair, however some of the more eccentric ones include pickle society, coffee society, and mixed futsal. We have our own magazine, The Swan, which you can opt to write for. To keep up with all the events and goings on I would definitely give the Hugh's JCR Facebook a follow. Sports wise, our more popular teams are the rugby team (joint with LMH), the football team (joint with Wadham), and the netball team. Ability to play is also not required for any of these, as they also operate socials which you can do without necessarily partaking in the matches.

Beyond Hugh's there are also obviously a wide range of societies throughout the University. These will all be presented to you at the Freshers Fair, where you can also hopefully pick up some free items along the way (so bring a bag). It's also worth signing up to things just to get on the mailing lists, whether you go or not, just in case.

## JCR COMMITTEE

Every college also has a JCR, although they are organised and structured differently depending on the college. The Committee is the student governing body of St Hugh's, and deals with the student led issues. It has an allocated budget to delegate between petitions submitted by students, a process which happens every second Sunday alongside free pizza. There are a range of roles, including welfare, entz (entertainment), international, charities, and more. The committee is voted once a year at the end of Michaelmas, and is a lovely community which works hard to bridge the gap between the college governing body and the students. There are often events put on throughout the year, such as the pink (charity) formal, international movie nights, cultural cooking with BAME and the welfare teas.

## COLLEGE FAMILIES

The College Family system is one of the lovely Oxford traditions which spans across colleges, although each college has different ways of organising. The family system allocates freshers' to two (or more) second years, who have chosen to be "married" together. Most people propose some time in Michaelmas, to varying levels of effort. Whilst the name may be deceiving, being College married is almost always between friends, and in Hugh's people tend to get married in the same subject (although this is seen as weird by other colleges). Your parents are your mentors when you come to the uni, there for any specific/course questions. They will take you on a pub/coffee trip hopefully in freshers' week to get to know you. Tradition also dictates your parents get you your flowers for your prelims/mods, and then you get theirs for their finals.

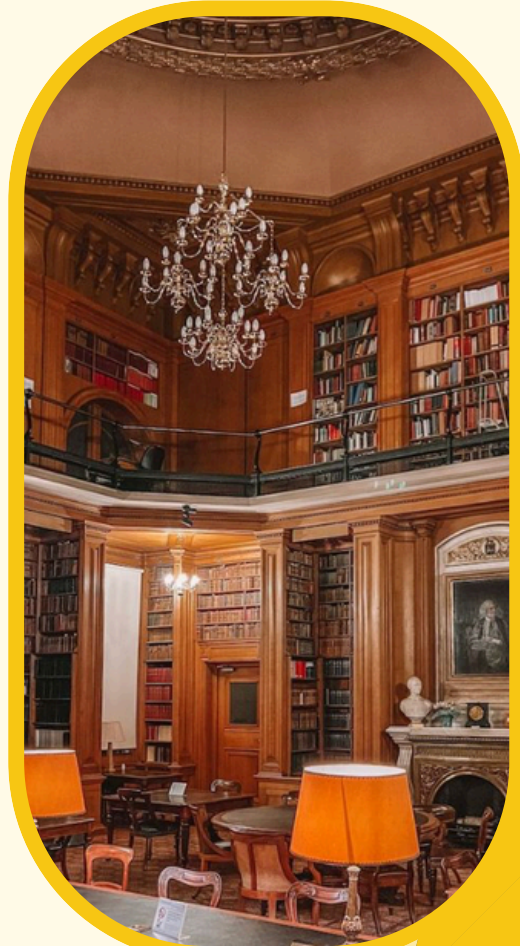




# OXFORD LIBRARIES



The Bodleian Libraries of Oxford are part of what makes the University so famous. As an Oxford student you have access to all 26 libraries, and I would definitely explore them as you'll discover that it doesn't take long for the Hugh's libraries to become repetitive. The classic libraries are the RadCam and Old Bod, and during exam seasons the RadCam can be completely (and I mean completely) full by 10am. All the libraries have different opening and closing times depending on the day, with the Law Library open the latest (until 10pm on weekdays). On weekends, all the libraries tend to close earlier, and you won't find any of them open after 7pm on either day. During term time this doesn't tend to be a massive issue, however when it comes to prelims/mods it can be frustrating. I would recommend making a friend who does E&M to gain access to the Saïd Business school library. This stays open until midnight every night, and can be the setting for an intense work session (especially during prelims). The Business school also has great lunch options, which are reasonably priced (you can get a big, hot meal for £5). Other favourites tend to be the Taylorian (near the Ashmolean) and the Radcliffe Science Library (opposite Keble). I would also make personal mention of the Vere Harmsworth and Social Sciences Library, which I have found to be very productive (although they lack the rustic, old charm of the older libraries). The Gladstone Link (Glink) is another option for those of you who find natural light a distraction. In the basement between the RadCam and the Bod, it can be a bit depressing but also a good place to focus without distraction.



Do also note that you have to have drinks in a keep cup/water bottle, and some libraries require your things to remain in a separate locker (apart from obviously laptops etc)







# GROCERIES

## CENTRE

The centre of Oxford, just a fifteen minute walk from Hughs, has both a Sainsbury's and Tesco Express. Most people tend to buy their weekly shops at the Tesco, as it is the biggest supermarket in close proximity to most colleges. It contains the infamous Tescalator and always tends to be well stocked (although the hummus appears to be missing from the shelves). The only downside is the chance of bumping into half of the people you know in Oxford in between the aisles. It is also handy for those less keen on walking, as it is right next to the bus stop. Either the 2A or 300 takes you right up to Hughs. I would also make sure you've kitted yourself out with a clubcard to make sure you can make the most of the discounts. Apart from the Sainsbury's, there is also a M&S further towards Westgate, and a second Sainsbury's in Westgate which does offer nectar card discounts (unlike many of the others).

## JERICOHO

The closest supermarket to Hugh's is in Jericho, where you can reach Sainsbury's in 10 minutes. Whilst I probably wouldn't recommend for a weekly shop (the prices are often steeper than in town), it is very useful for a late night sweet treat break as it stays open until 11pm. There are also a variety of corner shops near Hughs. The 9-to-9 is essentially right next to college, and is the go to for a quick snack stop or for buying essentials such as milk or deodorant. This small corner shop is a staple of Hugh's college life, and is the perfect excuse for work procrastination. It tends to be well stocked with most uni student necessities. The East West Provisions is another alternative in between college and Sainsbury's, and it sells a better range of energy drinks as well as cheaper alcohol.

## SUMMERTOWN

Summertown is a hidden Oxford gem that most of the in town colleges never bother to appreciate. Once again, it has a Sainsbury's, a Tesco Express, and an M&S right next to each other. Whilst the Tesco is more limited than the one in town, the M&S is more sizeable and offers a much better yellow reduced sticker selection than its counterpart. There is also no risk of being caught sleep-deprived on a Sunday morning by faces you may not wish to see. There is also a Boots and Holland and Barrett, for those who may want some niche health items. Unfortunately, all the nearby supermarkets are small "express" or "local" ones, with the closest Aldi being a good hour trip away.





# OXFORD LIVING RESTAURANTS

I must confess, I am not a regular on the restaurant scene. However, I have heard good things about places to I can be a somewhat reliable source. Little Venice pizzas, Pepper's burgers, and Viny's cafe paninis are classic easy eats very close to Hugh's. Branca and Koto in Jericho are also nice spots for a fancier/proper meal out, although these are definitely on the pricier side. Ramen Kulture, just next to Pusey Street, always boasts a long queue and I have never heard anything but rave reviews about it. If you're wanting somewhere to go when you have a family visit, Quod and the Dishoom Permit Room are a good shout for a bit of a nicer meal. There are also a host of your classic chain restaurants dotted around, with lots in Westgate shopping centre (and don't miss the half price itsu an hour before closing) . The Covered Market has lots of options for a quick, and somewhat cheaper, lunch when you're in town. There are also a commendable number of kebab vans which pop up at around 5pm every day. These are perfect for cheesy chips after a night out, and everyone has different allegiances to their favourite ones.

## SHOPS

Oxford shopping is mostly focused around Westgate shopping centre. You can find your classic high street shops, and can probably source most of what you might need from around here. If not, deliveries to college are very simple, as the plodge just send you an email when it arrives.



## CAFÉS

Oxford has an amazing selection of little cafés all around town. In Jericho, The Coffee Guild has the unique trait of being open until 11pm, meaning it's a cute spot to get some late night work done once the libraries close. Barefoot café on North Parade is also a shout if you're wanting a place close to home. In town, the Missing Bean, Jericho Coffee Traders and Crosstown doughnuts are popular spots for a quick catch up with friends. There are also your standard Starbucks, Pret, and Black Sheep Coffee along Cornmarket street. G&D's is another Oxford staple, both a café and ice cream shop, which always has unique and inventive flavours. You can also visit multiple Gails and Taylors which are all around Oxford, which both double as nice lunch spots as well.





# PUBS AND BARS CENTRE

The centre of Oxford has more of the busier pubs, where you'll be more likely to bump into fellow Oxford students. Personally, I would recommend the Kings Arms, White Rabbit, Chequers and the White Horse (especially when it's sunny outside, people tend to fill Broad Street and it's great fun). Turf Tavern is another good choice, although it can sometimes be a bit more expensive (as are most Oxford pubs). There is also the Lamb and Flag a bit closer to Hugh's, although I would tend to say this is usually a bit of an older student crowd, and The Bear which is more of a trek. Of course, there is also the Oxford spoons, the Four Candles. The centre is also home to lots of the Oxford College Bars. You will need to know someone to let you in, but they often offer much cheaper drinks and a good atmosphere. I'd recommend the Balliol and Peter's ones as they're usually quite busy, but it's definitely worth trying to visit as many as possible.

## COWLEY

You probably won't be going to many Cowley pubs and bars unless you're planning to go out in the area. Nevertheless, the Cowley Retreat and The Cape of Good Hope are safe bets for a drink. There is also The Star, which is a bit smaller and more authentic. In terms of bars, my personal favourite is Baba's for cheap drinks (£6.50 for a Long Island, and other cocktails from £4). It's got a very unique vibe which is great fun with your friends. The Mad Hatter is a good bar when events are on, especially when one of the Oxford bands are playing it's a nice way to go and support the university music scene.

## JERICHO

Jericho pubs are the staple for a Hugh's pub night. Honorary mention (although not quite Jericho) are our own two pubs on North Parade, which are extremely convenient. The Rose and Crown is very authentic and old, and a popular choice. The owner can be a bit snippy with students however. The Gardeners Arms has also recently reopened after closing a few weeks into our Michaelmas term. I've yet to visit the new one, but have high hopes. Further into Jericho there is the Jericho Tavern and Jude the Obscure. The Tav did remove its student discount, however I think it might be bringing back some student deal since this lost them a fair few customers (naturally since Jude kept theirs going). There is also The Victoria, which stays open until 12am and has a really lovely upstairs seating area. The only downside is it's a bit more expensive than the other two.







# NIGHTLIFE

## OXO

Although not a club, Oxo deserves a mention as a key stepping stone between spoons and Bridge. It's right between the two, meaning it's impossible to resist the £4 cocktails or 4 for £10 shots as you make your way past. It can get really quite busy, especially on the big nights of the year like Halloween and May Day. Nevertheless, it's a great place to meet new people, and the music and drinks allow for an easy atmosphere to get you ready for the club (it even has a proper DJ most nights). It is also usually open until around 1/1.30 which means you arrive at Bridge with more of a tolerance to stay until close.

## BRIDGE

Bridge is the staple Oxford University club, as it is the closest to most of the colleges (except maybe Magdalen and Hilda's). The time to go is definitely Wednesdays and Thursdays. On Wednesday it hosts the weekly "Park End" Sports Night, where you can often find those sportiest members of the university dressed in all sorts of eccentric costumes. It also has an exclusive "sports only" room called Tiki which requires wristbands for entry, but I would definitely recommend trying to get in here. On Wednesdays usually Bridge will close earlier at 2am. Thursdays are another bigger night, where there is always a theme. The top floor gets opened and the club stays open until 3am. Honorable mentions should also go to Monday Night Bridge, if you're looking for a night out with Brookes, and Saturdays if there is an organised event (such as the rowing Summer VIII's Afterparty). Whilst not a particularly good club in itself, being surrounded by the same faces every week makes a great atmosphere. Also, there is always a cameraman around to pap you at your worst moment and post it for the rest of the University to see. If you don't get caught at least once, you're missing out on a true fresher experience.

## O2

O2 is usually only open for specific events and artists playing, as well as "Indie Fridays" which happens around twice a term. I would definitely recommend looking at what's on, as a good night at O2 can be super fun. Indie Fridays always tends to attract a large Oxford crowd, although it can get quite packed and pushy, and drinks operate on scaled pricing so they get more expensive as the night goes on. Nevertheless, usually tickets for Indie Fridays are £5, so it's hard to miss. Other than that, some of the artist sets can be good to check out. The downside is that it does mean quite a journey down from Hugh's as it is in Cowley.





# NIGHTLIFE

## GLAM

I have never personally been to Glam, but it is the preferred haunt of the OURFC and regular attendees of the Uni rugby matches at Iffley on Saturdays. It's a gay bar and club, and it does have a certain level of strictness on dress code (no shorts/tracksuits). It is also open late (2/3am) every night except Monday (hence why the only time I ever came close to going was a Sunday night). I would say it's probably the type of place you would want to go knowing a fair number of people there, although it also does host occasional events which I would definitely recommend looking into. Location wise, it is at the roundabout at the bottom of Magdalen Bridge, towards the start of Cowley.

## BULLINGDON

Another Cowley club, Bullingdon is another club which can do some really good events and DJ nights. It's often the choice venue for Oxford societies such as the magazines and HipHop Soc to put on special events. It also has events such as Boogaloo, which is also usually a very popular choice and good fun. Sometimes you'll even get lucky with the bouncer and see the man who works at the 9-to-9, so it's definitely worth getting to know him. Sometimes it's even possible to get behind the stage, which always makes the night.

## OTHER

There's also Thirst and Varsity, which are often used for College Bops and Megabops (intercollegiate bops). There probably isn't much point going unless one of these have been organised, although they're good fun for the events. You can also make the most of other college bops, although not all are worth it. Sometimes a guest list is required as well, making this a bit more difficult.

## PLUSH

Plush is another one of Oxford's gay clubs, and the time to go is usually a Tuesday for "Tuesgays" (usually this starts in one of the College bars and then goes on to Plush, however you know the atmosphere will be fun whether you go to the pres or not). It can also be good fun on a Saturday if you're with the right people. It has a reputation for being extremely sweaty and hot, but this does somewhat add to its character. However, I would only go if you know it's going to be busy, and would probably say it won't necessarily be one you go to regularly unless for Tuesgays. It is handy location wise though, as it's right on Cornmarket street.





# USEFUL INFO

## INSTAGRAMS

- sthughscollege
- sthughsfreshers'2025
- st.hughsjcr
- hughscookiefairy (welfare team)
- hughsiecats
- chefs\_at\_sthughs
- hughsbame
- entztagram
- sthughs.lgbtq
- sthughsboatclub
- sthughsnetball.club
- hughdham
- sthughslmh.rfc

and more - follow whichever ones interest you most!  
I would also recommend making a facebook if you don't have one already, and joining Oxtickets and St Hugh's JCR 2025.

## CATS

Hugh's is also home to two lovely college cats, Biscuit and Flapjack. These cats roam around the college generally as they please, but do make sure if either is with you that you don't leave them trapped within a building or room. Biscuit is the female tabby cat, and Flapjack is the ginger male. Both cats are also on a managed diet at the moment, so as tempting as it may be, feeding them is not allowed for their own sake. Please also submit any photos you may have of the two to the hughsiecats instagram page.

## GETTING AROUND

As you probably already know through whatever research on colleges you have done, Hugh's is furthest out from the town centre. Favoured modes of transport amongst Hughsies tends to be

- **cycling**
  - If you have a bike, it may be worth bringing it to college. Alternatively, there are many listings on facebook and Oxtickets for second hand bikes. Buying a strong bike lock is essential, and bikes can be easily locked at kept on Hugh's grounds.
- **walking**
  - if you prefer your own feet, the town centre is a relatively scenic 20 minute walk
- **voi**
  - Voi's are another feature of Oxford travel. These electric scooters can make any journey much quicker, although do beware that crashes are quite a common occurrence.
- **bus**
  - The Oxford buses are good if you manage to get them at the right time. If not, you may better of walking if there are delays around. They can be a good option to cut the walking distance to the club, and can be easily tracked through GoogleMaps



# AND THAT'S IT

## ANY MORE QUESTIONS PLEASE JUST SEND AN EMAIL

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