Six Reasons Why We Love Oriel...

1. Location
Oriel first caught my interest because it's right on the High Street: everything is within a few minutes of you. And yet despite its central location, it still has a sense of isolation – tourists aren't constantly thronging on your doorstep. Now that I'm at Oriel, I see that we have a great general atmosphere too: everyone feels at home.

Mike

2. Tutors
The tutors thoroughly enjoy sharing their expertise and love of the subject with you. They give you so much individual attention and ensure your understanding and opinions are heard and nurtured.

Rachel

3. Accommodation
Oriel guarantees accommodation for the duration of your course – no need to worry about the costs associated with trying to find a privately rented house.

Mike

4. Friendly
I love the atmosphere here at Oriel. I really like having so many familiar faces around and people to just stop and chat to when you’re around college. We’ve got communal spaces like the bar and the JCR where you can see people as well.

Freya

5. Affordable
Oriel’s affordable! Our meal and rent costs are some of the lowest in Oxford, and the College provides generous travel grants and hardship funds are available.

Emma

6. Size
Oriel is a great college if you want to get to know as many people as possible! With only 90 in a year it didn’t take me long to get to know everyone. Of course there are natural friendship groups that form but everyone is constantly meeting thanks to the many different subject, sporting, and musical groups! I was always a bit apprehensive about everyone being rich geniuses in Oxford, but everyone has their own personality, from all ends of the spectrum. One thing we are united in though is our love for the Oriel; I’ve found the only rivalry we have is with other colleges!

Gillian

We've come from a wide variety of backgrounds, places and schools to study at Oriel. But we have two things in common:

We love Oriel, it’s our home. We’re sure you’ll love it too.

Rufus Stirling, English; William Foster, Music; Christy Callaway-Gale, Spanish and Linguistics; Emma Williams, Law; Gillian McClay, Physics; David Kelly, Chemistry; Imogen Duffy, Biochemistry; Kit Owens, History; Rachel Evans, Philosophy and Theology; Melissa Barber, Engineering; Mike Whitehorn, Maths; Keith Chan, Law; Freya Walker, PPE.

Other who contributed include: Mia Smith, Classics; George Graves, History and Economics; Amy Lingham, Medicine; Charlotte Smyth, Computer Science and Rosie Marshall, Biomedical Sciences.

Best of luck with your university applications!
Life at Oriel

Library

Oriel has a large in-college library, open 24 hours a day. The library has a broad collection of books and is the main source of study space for Oriel students. The library is free to all students and is open 24 hours a day, allowing students to study whenever they want.

Music

Oriel has a thriving music scene. A resident college music society provides opportunities for students to perform, and there are regular music evenings featuring guest performers and student groups. There are also opportunities to join orchestras and choirs, as well as to attend concerts and other musical events. The college organizes a number of music events throughout the year, including film nights and music evenings.

Accommodation

In short, it's great. There's a variety of options on offer, from small, single rooms to large, shared flats. There are options for all budgets, and the college provides a range of support services to help students find the right accommodation for them. There are shared flats and single rooms available, and students are encouraged to use the college's accommodation service to help them find the right place to live.

Facilities

Oriel's facilities are extensive and include a range of spaces designed to support learning and social activities. The library is open 24 hours a day, providing a quiet space for study, while the common rooms are ideal for socializing and relaxing. There are also sports facilities on site, including a pitch and a gym, as well as access to outdoor spaces.

Drama

Oriel's Dramatic Society is very active, with a number of productions throughout the year, including musicals and plays. The college also runs a number of other clubs, such as the Oriel Rugby Club, which has a strong team and active social calendar.

Carvans

Oriel's Carvans Service is very valuable, providing transport and amenities for students and staff. The service is available 24 hours a day, and provides a range of facilities, including a kitchen, a lounge, and a bathroom.

City

Oriel is a very beautiful college, with many unique and historic buildings. The college is also located in a fantastic area of Oxford, with plenty of things to do and see.

Dinner & Formal Hall

Dining is an important part of college life at Oriel. The college has a range of dining options, including a formal hall, a casual dining room, and a canteen. The formal hall is open for dinner most nights, and provides a range of menu options. The casual dining room is open all day, and provides a range of food and drinks.

Faith

Oriel is a very welcoming place to be for LGBTQ+ students. The college has a number of LGBTQ+ societies, and is very supportive of all beliefs and faiths. There are also opportunities to get involved in religious activities, such as attending services or participating in religious organizations.

Sport

Oriel has a high quality in-college sports team to support you in your athletic pursuits. The college provides a range of sports facilities, including a pitch, a gym, and a swimming pool. The college also offers a variety of sports clubs, including rugby, football, tennis, and cricket.

Experiences

Oriel is an amazing place to live and study. The college provides a huge range of experiences, from academic to social. The college is very welcoming and supportive, and is a great place to call home.

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When I came to Oxford, I never realised how comfortable I would feel in my college.

“Oriel has truly become my second home, and that’s all down to the great community we have here. From my first day, everyone has been so warm and friendly. I think you’d struggle to find another college with such a close undergraduate body!”

Kit Owens
Second Year, History,
George Spencer Academy, Derby

What Oriel really encapsulates for me is ‘community’.

“All students, no matter what year they are in, treat you as their equal and are more than willing to help with anything. Oriel’s tutors thoroughly enjoy sharing their expertise and love of the subject with you. They give you so much individual attention and ensure your understanding and opinions are heard and nurtured.”

Rachel Evans
First Year, Philosophy and Theology,
Bassaleg School, Newport, Wales

A worry for me was being away from home for the first time, but I have not thought about this once since arriving as a fresher.

“Everyone is so friendly and inclusive, it made me feel like I belonged from the start. I made friends instantly, from all different backgrounds and with so many different experiences. I honestly feel like Oriel is a place that creates lifelong friendships. Oriel is a very special family, and one which I feel greatly privileged to be a part of.”

Emma Williams
Second Year, Law,
Altrincham Girls Grammar School, Altrincham, Greater Manchester

Please visit Oriel’s JCR website

www.orieljcr.org

for more information about the College, life at Oriel, and applying to Oxford.