



Helpful Information for Visiting Students Pembroke College, Oxford

What do you need to do now?

- ✓ Keep your contact details updated: It is essential that you tell us if your home address (as provided on your application form) and email address are changing, because we will send important information to you by email and in hard copy between now and October. Please send any updates to: admissions@pmb.ox.ac.uk
- ✓ Plan to return your freshers' pack: A freshers' pack will be sent to you in early August, including more information about some of the items below, together with a form to be completed online, and some paperwork to be returned in hard copy. The forms must be completed and returned before the end of August. If you expect to be away from home during this time, please let us have an alternative postal address and ensure that you check your email regularly.
- ✓ Put the dates of term in your diary!
Michaelmas Term: Sunday 1 October - Saturday 2 December 2017
Hilary Term: Wednesday 10 January - Saturday 10 March 2018
Trinity Term: Wednesday 18 April - Saturday 16 June 2018

These are the dates of required residence in Oxford and represent the eight weeks of 'Full Term' (which is when teaching occurs), plus seven days before the start of Michaelmas Term and four days before the start of Hilary and Trinity Terms.

You need to arrive in Pembroke College for registration by Sunday 1 October 2017. You are expected to complete the full academic year. Terms here are short and intense and it's important that all students study for the full duration of the term to get the full benefit from their courses. Any requests to arrive late or leave early will require approval; permission can only be granted in specific, limited situations.

- ✓ Do you have a disability?
If you have a disability or any other special needs, please contact Lynn Wilkinson (lynn.wilkinson@pmb.ox.ac.uk) without delay so that we can ensure adequate support is put in place. Please be assured that any such information will only be shared with your permission and on a need-to-know basis.

More information on health and welfare is available on both the College (<http://www.pmb.ox.ac.uk/welfare>) and University (<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare>) websites.

- ✓ Do you need a visa?
We have already sent you the data entry forms for completion - the information you provide will be used to create your University record. Once this done, and in liaison with the University's Visa Team, the College will then arrange to issue a Confirmation of Acceptance to Study (CAS) which you will need for your visa application. You cannot

apply for a visa until 3 months before the start of your course. For more information, please see: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/visa/before/tier4>

✓ **Plan your journey to Oxford:**

You may wish to start planning your journey already! If so, there is a 24 hour public bus service that runs from Heathrow and Gatwick airports to Oxford. The journey takes about 90 minutes from Heathrow and 2.5 hours from Gatwick. For times and further information, see <http://airline.oxfordbus.co.uk/>

If you are fly into Birmingham International Airport you can either take the train from the airport directly to Oxford. <https://www.thetrainline.com/> alternatively the Oxford Airline bus runs directly to Oxford. <https://airline.oxfordbus.co.uk/> as does the National Express Coach. <http://www.nationalexpress.com/home.aspx>

More travel information is available on the University website at:

www.ox.ac.uk/visitors/visiting-oxford/how-get-oxford and on the Pembroke College website at: www.pmb.ox.ac.uk/contact-us/getting-pembroke

More useful information:

More information about the below topics will be provided in your freshers' pack, but you may find it useful to know the following:

Your first week:

Freshers' week (Sunday 1 October – Friday Saturday 7 October 2017) will include a programme of activities to help you settle in to your course and life in Oxford. Special features include:

- A University-run orientation day for international students;
- The opportunity to meet your tutors and learn about the tutorial system;
- Library inductions;
- Drinks and a formal dinner with the Master and Fellows (Professors);
- Social and welfare events planned by the JCR (Junior Common Room – the body that represents all undergraduate students in College).

Your course at Pembroke

All of your teaching must be arranged through your Director of Studies, whose details were provided in your offer letter. You may hear from them during the summer break, but please do not be concerned if you do not, as it depends on your subject and tutor. All your teaching will be sorted out when you arrive in Oxford. If you do have any specific questions about your course, or any options that are mandatory for you, please do contact your Director of Studies. Please note that you should not contact other tutors directly to organise classes.

Catering

During Michaelmas Term, you will take your evening meals from Sunday – Friday in the Dining Hall, along with fresher undergraduates, and you will be charged accordingly on your termly battels (College bills). Breakfast and lunches will be charged on a pay-as-you-go basis.

In Hilary and Trinity Terms, you will be given the option to transfer to a flexible meal plan (which is a more expensive option) whereby meals can be taken in either Farthings Café or the Hall. If your home university pays for your meals, you will need to check that they are

happy to pay the increased charge. For more information on catering, see: <http://www.pmb.ox.ac.uk/catering> Information about your dietary requirements will be collected as part of the freshers' pack forms.

Accommodation

All visiting students are guaranteed a room on the main college site. Using the forms in the freshers' pack, you will be able to express a preference for an ensuite room (for an additional cost). Accommodation will be available to you for the entirety of your course, however, please note that students living in ensuite rooms may be asked to move to basin-only rooms in the vacations, when ensuite rooms are required for events and conferences. If you have any particular requirements about your accommodation related to a disability, please let us know as soon as possible.

Sub fusc and gowns:

You will need a gown for formal occasions (including the dinner with the Master and Fellows in freshers' week) – but details on where to purchase the gown once you get to Oxford will be included in the freshers' pack. Also, a group freshers' photograph will be taken in your second week, and if you would like to be included in this, then you will need to wear sub fusc (see: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/dress> for full details).

Any other questions?

You may find the answer on the University's website for new international students (<http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/internationalstudents/>) or on the Pembroke College website (www.pmb.ox.ac.uk/), but if not, please feel free to contact Lynn Wilkinson in the first instance (lynn.wilkinson@pmb.ox.ac.uk).