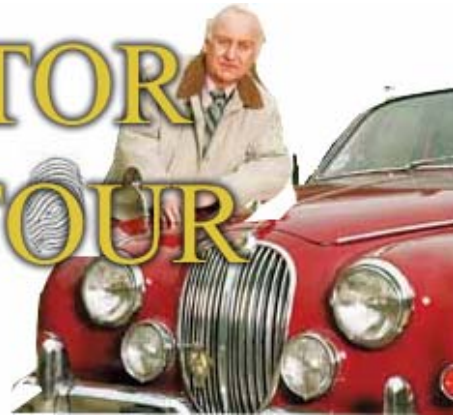


# INSPECTOR MORSE TOUR



So you are a fan of Inspector Morse? You have all the Inspector Morse DVDs, seen every episode and have all of Colin Dexter's books. Why not take our Inspector Morse Tour - its free! As you walk around this tour of Oxford you can imagine where Inspector Morse parked his famous Jaguar car and see many of the pubs and buildings where the TV series was set.

If you are looking for Beaumont College (in the TV episodes *The Last Enemy* and *The Infernal Serpent*) or Lonsdale College (in *The Riddle of the Third Mile*, the book on which that episode was based) be warned that they are both fictional Oxford colleges. In reality Brasenose College was used to represent Lonsdale, while Corpus Christi is used for Beaumont. Both fictional names for the Oxford Colleges were taken from real streets in Oxford.

## A - The Randolph



Oxford's leading hotel - The Macdonald Randolph - is situated in the heart of the city opposite the world famous Ashmolean Museum. Built in 1864 and recently refurbished, the hotel offers each guest the highest level of comfort and service in a traditional and welcoming environment. The location makes the Macdonald Randolph Hotel an ideal base for exploring the historic sights of Oxford or the thriving shopping centre just

two minutes walk away. The Randolph was one Oxford's only top rated hotel but now faces competition from the Old Parsonage Hotel and the more trendy boutique style Mal Maison hotel in the new Oxford Castle development.



### Tour Facts

The Randolph Hotel is host to The Morse Bar, which featured in the Inspector Morse episode, *The Jewel that Was Ours*. In this episode of Inspector Morse a group of Americans stay at the hotel as part of their historic England tour. The case seemed so simple, Inspector Morse even deemed it beneath his notice. A wealthy, elderly American tourist has a heart attack in her room at Oxford's luxurious Randolph Hotel. Missing from the scene is the lady's handbag, which contained the Wolvercote Tongue, a priceless jewel that her late husband had bequeathed to the Ashmolean Museum just across the street. Morse proceeds to spend a great deal of time thinking and drinking in the hotel's bar, certain the solution is close at hand until conflicting stories, suspicious doings, and a real murder convince him otherwise.... It is a delight to watch the brilliant, quirky, Inspector Morse deduce.

**Contact Details**

Tel: 0870 400 8200 Fax: 01865 791678

**Address**

Beaumont Street, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 2LN

**B - The Ashmolean Museum**

The Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology is a museum of the University of Oxford. Founded in 1683 it is one of the oldest public museums in the world and an example of the fine architecture one can see in this University city. Exhibitions change from season to season but you can be sure of learning something new with each visit.

You can currently enjoy the following exhibitions:

Treasures of the Ashmolean - an exhibition of over 200 of the museums finest objects displayed together in one room.

Chinese prints 1950-2006 - an exhibition reflecting the momentous changes in the Peoples republic of China over the last 50 years.

Plus family activities, lunch time talks and special events organised throughout the year.

**Tour Facts**

The Ashmolean Museum is home to The Alfred Jewel that inspired the Inspector Morse episode, The Wolvercote Tounge. This episode of Inspector Morse used the inside of the Ashmolean as a set. The museum features collections of Ancient Greek and Ancient Egyptian artifacts and you really can imagine Inspector Morse wandering the corridors in search of clues. The interior of the Ashmolean has been extensively modernised in recent years and now includes a restaurant and large gift shop. Why not stop at the coffee shop while you ponder the plot of the episode.

**Opening Times**

Open: Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm Sunday 12pm to 5pm Bank holidays: 10am to 5pm Closed: Monday Easter Opening: 6, 7, April 10am to 5pm 8 April 12pm to 5pm 9 April 10am to 5pm Closes for the St Giles Fair: 2 to 4 September 2007 Admission free.

**Contact Details**

Tel: (01865) 278000 Fax: (01865) 278018

**Address**

Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2PH

## C - The Bookbinders



Lovely, rambling (yet smallish and cosy), friendly real ale pub with Wednesday Jazz Club. Games available (chess, etc); darts; barrel of free peanuts!! (Plus occasional parrot, if the man's in)

### Tour Facts

When Inspector Morse was shown regularly it was compulsory viewing for most of Oxford, as we hoped to catch glimpses of friends and neighbours, and we laughed knowingly as Morse's Jaguar glided effortlessly from one end of town to mysteriously appear at the other end of Oxford moments later.

Many Oxford people were also involved in the filming as extras, or offered up their houses as makeshift film sets. In the area of Oxford known as Jericho, residents remember the filming of the first episode of Inspector Morse, *The Dead of Jericho*, which was set in Combe Road, which leads from Canal Street down to the boatyard. The street was renamed Canal Walk, but that was the only change made and the episode of Morse. The Old Book Binders Ale House, a Jericho pub, featured in the episode *The Dead of Jericho*. In the original novel, the pub was actually called the Printer's Devil.

### Contact Details

01865 553 549 51758702,-1269229

### Address

17-18 Victor St, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 6BT

## D - Eagle And Child



The Eagle And Child is a longstanding institution for Oxford University students offering fine ales and excellent quality pub grub. The Sunday lunch is highly recommended. The Eagle and Child was a frequent haunt for authors CS Lewis and JRR Tolkien.

### Tour Facts

The Eagle & Child was a frequent haunt for Inspector Morse ? a place where he could often be found soaking away the troubles of the job.

Interestingly the pub was also a favourite haunt of Colin Dexter the author behind Inspector Morse. The pub also has link with the Inklings a group of famous authors including Tolkein.

Why not pop in for a pint of Inspector Morses favourite ale and see if you feel inspired to write a world famous detective series...

### Contact Details

01865 302 925

### Address

49 St. Giles, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 3LU

## E - Pitt Rivers Museum



The Pitt Rivers Museum (often spelt Pit Rivers Museum) was founded in 1884 when Lt General Pitt Rivers, an influential figure in the development of archaeology and evolutionary anthropology, gave his collection to Oxford University. His two conditions were that a museum was built to house it and that someone should be appointed to lecture in anthropology.

Oxford University agreed to his request and the Pit Rivers Museum of natural history was founded. The Generals founding gift contained more than 18,000 objects but there are now over half a million. The Pitt Rivers Museum features displays of archaeological and ethnographic objects from all parts of the world. Many were donated by early anthropologists and explorers. Today the Museum is an active teaching department of the

University of Oxford.

The Pitt Rivers is the only natural history museum in Oxford so if you would like a souveneir dont forget to visit the museum gift shop!

### Tour Facts

This museum can be seen in Inspector Morse Episode The Daughters of Cain and was where the knife-wielding Ted Brooks stole his murder weapon. On June 6th 2005 the famous Oxford author Colin Dexter, creator of Inspector Morse came to the Museum to oversee the the burying of a time capsule beneath the foundations of the new extension. Sealed into the capsule are a number of small objects brought by a class of local children from Rosehill Primary School. Other items placed in the capsule were selected by Museum staff to represent this important turning point in its history, including a digital copy of the collections database. Maybe an Inspector Morse of the future will be the one to discover it.

### Opening Times

Every Day 12.00 - 16.30 From the 1st May 2007 the opening hours will be extended to: Tuesday-Sunday 10.00 - 16.30, Monday 12.00 - 16.30, Bank Holidays 10.00 - 16.30.

### Contact Details

+44 (1865) 270927

### Address

South Parks Rd, Oxford, Oxfordshire OX1 3PP

## F - The Turf Tavern



Old pub with two busy bars and 3 outdoor courtyards. Numbered among drunken poet Dylan Thomas haunts when in Oxford. Serves real ales and has friendly staff. Heatlamps and braziers in winter; popular all year round, it is often packed in summer, particularly with celebrating finalists. Occasional live music in rear courtyard.

### Tour Facts

Many scenes from Inspector Morse played by John Thaw, were filmed at the Turf Tavern which has to be the most enchanting pub in Oxford, and well worth going out of your way to find. In the back streets around the

Turf you can easily imagine, Inspector Morse, solving murder mysteries while driving around in his Jaguar, listening to Wagner and drinking real ale from the Turf pub. Finding this pub is half the fun. It is tucked behind Hertford College and the Holywell Road, and can be reached only by tiny alleys. If you are coming from the Radcliffe Camera then step under the Bridge of Sighs to New College Lane. The alley leading to the Turf Tavern is only a meter wide and on the north side of the street. If you follow it behind the college accommodation and gardens and take a swift left, you'll find the beer garden of the Turf Tavern. From the north is the better way, and once you have found your way to Holywell Street, it is just a sidestep to the south. The alley to look out for is Bath Place, which is only 2-feet wide and lined with cobbles. At the end is the pink Georgian hotel called, suitably, the Bath Hotel. But it is a passageway to the left you must look for. And this will bring you out into the beer garden of the Turf Tavern. If you were wondering where you saw the pub cast your mind back to the an episode of Inspector Morse called The Daughters of Cain where the Turf Tavern features.

#### **Contact Details**

01865 243 235

#### **Address**

7 Bath Place, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 3SU

## **G - The Sheldonian Theatre**



The Sheldonian Theatre was erected in 1664-8 to a design by Sir Christopher Wren (1632-1723) from funds donated by Gilbert Sheldon (1598-1677), who during his long career held office as Warden of All Souls Bishop of London and Archbishop of Canterbury and was elected as Chancellor of the University of Oxford. In 1994 the Theatre was described by the European Commission as one of the architectural jewels of Oxford. Its purpose was to provide an appropriate secular venue for the principal meetings and public ceremonies of the University, and this remains its purpose today.

#### **Tour Facts**

Detective Morse investigate Diva Gladys Probert murder inthe Sheldonian Theatre in the Inspector Morse episode, The Twilight of the Gods. in this episode a nasty but very rich business man and a world-famous opera singer are in Oxford to receive honorary degrees from the Chancellor of the University. However, the ceremony has to be abandoned when a sniper opens fire on the procession of dignitaries. The singer is seriously wounded, but was she the intended target?

#### **Opening Times**

Monday to Saturday 10.00 to 12.30 hrs 14.00 to 16.30 hrs March to October 14.00 to 15.30 hrs November to February (Opening hours will be curtailed when the theatre is in use for University Ceremonies, meetings or concerts)

#### **Contact Details**

Tel: (01865) 277299 Fax: (01865) 277295 Email: [custodian@sheldon.ox.ac.uk](mailto:custodian@sheldon.ox.ac.uk)

#### **Address**

University of Oxford, Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ

## H - Brasenose College



One of the more attractive Oxford colleges, based at the heart of the University, Brasenose was founded in 1509 by Sir Richard Sutton, a lawyer, and William Smyth, a Bishop of Licoln. Brasenose was built on the site of Brasenose Hall, a medaevil lodging house that grew into a seat of learning. Brasenose features as Lonsdale College in the Inspector Morse novels and TV adaptations, as well as Brazenface College in the Cuthbert Bede comic novel of the 19th century, Verdant Green, an Oxford Freshman.

### Interesting Facts

Brasenose College was used in the TV adaptation of Inspector Morse to represent the fictional Lonsdale College. Lonsdale College was created by author Colin Dexter and featured in several of his novels, *The Riddle of the Third Mile* and *Death is Now My Neighbour*.

### Tour Facts

If you are looking for the Lonsdale College featured in Inspector Morse you have just found it! Lonsdale College was a fictional creation of the author Colin Dexter and in reality Brasenose college was used to film a lot of the footage used in the TV series.

Lonsdale college feature in the Inspector Morse episode *Death is now my neighbour*. In this most fascinating mystery, Morse faces his own mortality in some rather surprising ways while trying to resolve a murder that appears to have been a mistake. Blackmail, tabloid journalism and the secrets of Oxford dons all weave together in ways that ultimately reveal a devious but logical solution.

### Opening Times

Daily 10am-11.30am (tour groups only), 2pm-4.30pm (until 5pm in summer)

### Contact Details

Tel: 01865 277830

### Address

Radcliffe Square, OX1 4AJ

### Cost

Individuals £1, group charge varies according to size (contact the college for details)

## I - The Bear Inn



This small, white, surprisingly three-storeyed building claims to be the oldest pub in Oxford (as do the Chequers and the Turf). It's mostly surrounded by chunks of Christ Church and anonymous financial services companies, which might account for the tipsy dons and men in suits. The cut-off tie collection covers most of the surfaces of the pub, except for the floors, and it is dark, warm, and possibly tricky to get a seat.

### Tour Facts

The Bear pub in Oxford is where Inspector Morse investigated the murder in Death is now my Neighbour. In this episode an apparently motiveless murder in an Oxfordshire village is quickly followed by an identical murder in the house next door. Inspector Morse investigates. This was featured in episode five of series seven. I wonder if Inspector Morse knew that it was reputedly built over a bear pit in 1242?

We are not sure how the film crew of Morse managed to fit into this pub because it is so small and there is definitely nowhere for the detective to park his Jaguar!

### Contact Details

01865 728 164

### Address

6 Alfred St, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 4EH

## Map of Attractions:

