

Oxford History

Oxford is one of the oldest towns in Maryland and is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Although already in existence for perhaps 20 years, Oxford marks the year 1683 as its official founding, for in that year Oxford was first named by the Maryland General Assembly as a seaport and was laid out as a town. In 1694, Oxford and a new town called Anne Arundel (now Annapolis) were selected the only ports of entry for the entire Maryland province. Until the American Revolution, Oxford enjoyed prominence as an international shipping center surrounded by wealthy tobacco plantations.

Early citizens included Robert Morris, Sr., agent for a Liverpool shipping firm who greatly influenced the town's growth; his son Robert Morris, Jr., known as "the financier of the Revolution;" Jeremiah Banning, sea captain, war hero, and statesman; The Reverend Thomas Bacon, Anglican clergyman who wrote the first compilation of the laws of Maryland; Matthew Tilghman, known as the "patriarch of Maryland" and "father of statehood" and Colonel Tench Tilghman, aide-de-camp to George Washington and the man who carried the message of Cornwallis' surrender to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

The American Revolution marked the end of Oxford's glory. Gone were the British ships with their variety of imported goods, and tobacco was replaced by wheat as a cash crop. Businesses went bankrupt, cattle grazed in the streets, and the population dwindled.

After the Civil War, Oxford emerged from its "long slumber" to nearly 100 years of a new prosperity signaled by completion of the railroad in 1871 and improved methods of canning and packing which opened national markets for oysters from the Chesapeake's bountiful beds. Business was booming, houses were going up everywhere, and tourists and boaters were arriving in droves. But it was not to last. In the early part of the 20th century, the oyster beds played out, the packing houses closed, other businesses went bankrupt, and the railway and steamships eventually disappeared. Oxford became a sleepy little town inhabited mainly by watermen who still worked the waters of the Tred Avon.

Oxford today is still a waterman's town, but is enjoying a new resurgence based on tourism and leisure activities. Its quiet charm, fresh air, summer breezes, and clean water provide a haven from the hustle and bustle of city life for boaters, weekend visitors, and summer residents.



ANNUAL EVENTS

- Oxford Day** • 4th Saturday in April
- Fine Arts Fair** • May
- Cardboard Boat Race** • Saturday after Father's Day
- Yacht Club Fireworks** • 4th of July week (date varies)
- Oxford Regatta** • 2nd weekend in August
- Heritage Regatta** • 4th weekend in August
- Picket Fence Auction** • Early October (date varies)
- OLA Antique Show** • Waterfowl weekend
- Christmas on the Creek** • 1st weekend in December

- On-going Events**
- Firehouse Pancake Breakfast** • 2nd Sunday monthly
- Farmers Market** • Wednesdays (May - Oct.)
- Sailboat Races** • Friday nights (May - Sept.)
- Oxford Museum Special Exhibits**
- Tred Avon Players Performances**

Exact dates for these events and other can be found at our website under "About Oxford" www.portofoxford.com

HISTORIC PLACES OF INTEREST IN OXFORD

Academy House (Bratt Mansion)

Officers' residence for the Maryland Military Academy from 1848-1855.
205 N. Morris St. (Private residence)

Barnaby House

Built in the 1770s by Captain Richard Barnaby. The Barnaby House features pine woodwork, corner fireplace and hand-made staircase.
212 N. Morris St. • (Private residence)

Byberry & Calico

Moved to the grounds of Cutts & Case in the 1930s, Byberry is Oxford's oldest house, dating from 1695. The original structure is a typical early Oxford cottage. Calico, a Tudor-style cottage, was built in the early 1700s.
(Private residence)

Grapevine House

Built by John Willis in 1798. The grapevine in front of the house was brought to Oxford from the Isle of Jersey in 1810.
309 N. Morris St. (Private residence)

Oxford-Bellevue Ferry

Believed to be the oldest privately operated ferry in the country. Started in 1683, service was discontinued after the American Revolution, was resumed in 1836, and has been in continuous operation since that time. A visit to Oxford is not complete without a ride on today's ferry, *Talbot*. Bring your car, bicycle or come as a passenger!
N. Morris St. & The Strand • 410-745-9023



Oxford Custom House

Built in 1796, the building is an exact replica of the first Federal Custom House built by Jeremiah Banning, the first federal Collector of Customs.
N. Morris St. & The Strand

Oxford Library

Founded in 1939 and on its present site since 1950 the Oxford Library, Inc. strives to maintain the independent character that was its beginning. Staffed and operated by volunteers, it serves the community year-round with hours Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors welcome!
101 Market St. • 410-226-5727

Oxford Museum

Founded in 1964, the Oxford Museum houses a collection of artifacts and memorabilia from Oxford's past.
101 S. Morris St. (across from Town Park) • 410-226-0191

Robert Morris Inn

The original 1710 structure, incorporated into the present Inn, was the home of Robert Morris, Sr., and his son. Robert Morris, Jr. helped finance the Revolutionary War, counted George Washington as a friend, and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution.
N. Morris St. & The Strand

Colonel Tench Tilghman Monument

Aide de Camp to General George Washington.
Oxford Cemetery, just outside town limits on Route 333.



VISITOR SERVICES

U.S. Postal Service: Wilson & Banks Streets
410-226-5629

Oxford Library: 101 Market St. • 410-226-5727
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Monday through Saturday

Town Office: 100 N. Morris St. • 410-226-5122

Dog Park: J L Thompson Drive

Police: 410-226-5650 / 410-822-0095 for dispatch

Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergency: 911

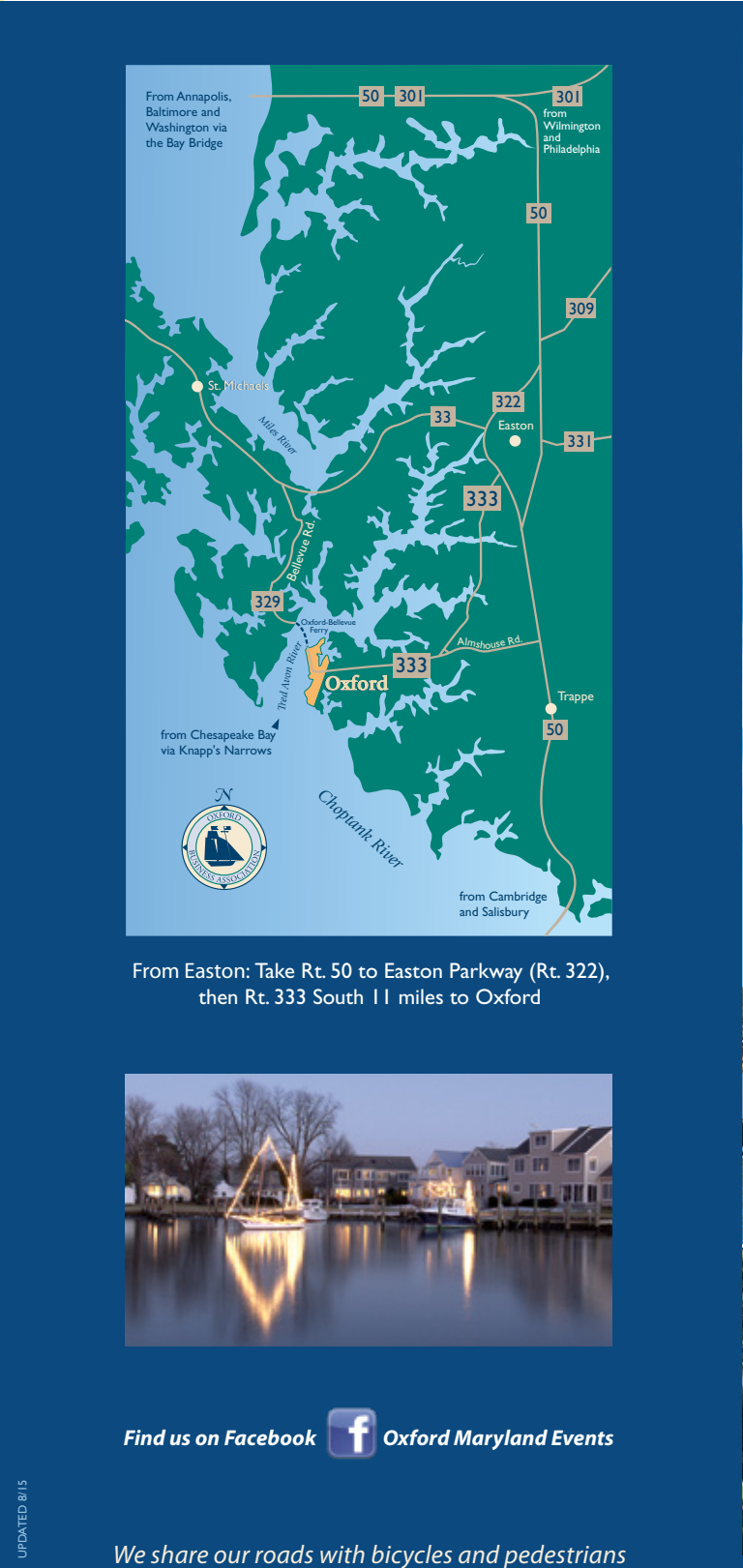
U.S. Coast Guard:
Non-Emergency 410-226-0581
Emergency 410-226-0580

CHURCHES


Oxford Methodist Church
Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
N. Morris St. – next to the Park, PO Box 117


Waters United Methodist Church
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Market & Bank Streets, PO Box 124

Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal)
Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Combined Eucharist: 1st Sunday each month, 9:30 a.m.
S. Morris & Caroline Streets, PO Box 637



From Easton: Take Rt. 50 to Easton Parkway (Rt. 322), then Rt. 333 South 11 miles to Oxford




Find us on Facebook  Oxford Maryland Events

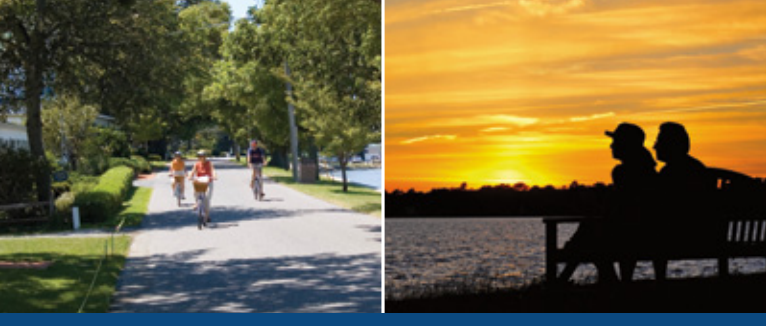

We share our roads with bicycles and pedestrians so please observe the 25 MPH speed limit in town

OXFORD

MARYLAND



More than a Ferry Tale



DINE • DOCK • DREAM • DISCOVER

FIRST PORT OF ENTRY ON THE EASTERN SHORE – 1683

ACCOMMODATIONS

1 Combsberry Inn

Elegantly restored 1730 English Country mansion, carriage house and cottage nestled on 30 secluded waterfront acres. Spectacular water views. Jacuzzis, fireplaces, private baths, dock, canoes and paddle-boats. Conferences & weddings welcome.
4837 Evergreen Rd. / 410-226-5353 www.combsberry.net

2 Nichols House Cottage B&B

217 S. Morris St., PO Box 657 / 410-226-5799
nicholshouse@verizon.net / www.nicholshouseoxford.com

3 Sandaway Waterfront Lodging

Come and experience one of the best waterfront locations in Talbot County. Private sandy beach with sunset views. Many of the 18 rooms & suites have large porches overlooking the water. Lite fare breakfast included and delivered to your door! Free in-room WiFi. All suites have mini-fridge and cable TV.
103 West Strand Rd. / 1-888-726-3292 (1-888-SANDAWAY)
www.sandaway.com



4 The Robert Morris Inn

Historic inn dating back to 1710, and now the Eastern Shore's most unique tavern and Inn. Colonial bed and breakfast rooms available overlooking the Tred Avon River. Located near the Oxford Bellevue Ferry, which provides a 7 mile shortcut to St. Michaels.
314 N. Morris St. / 410-226-5111
www.robertmorrisinn.com

5 Ruffled Duck Inn Bed & Breakfast

110 N. Morris St. / 410-226-5496 / www.ruffledduckinn.com

6 The Oxford Inn and Pope's Tavern

The Oxford Inn has seven quaint, comfortable rooms. Enjoy The Library Room, which is available to our guests.
504 S. Morris St. / 410-226-5220 / info@oxfordinn.net
www.oxfordinn.net

RESTAURANTS

7 Latitude 38 Bistro & Spirits

Oxford's most unique Bistro is a favorite of the locals. Spectacular paintings from local artists complement the casual décor. The finest seafood, beef and veal are creatively prepared. Serving Lunch, Dinner, Sunday Brunch. Closed Mondays. Complimentary transportation to and from local marinas.
26342 Oxford Rd., PO Box 144 / 410-226-5303 / www.latitude38.org

8 The Robert Morris Inn

Once the home of Robert Morris who gained fame as "Financier of the Revolution". Now the Eastern Shore's most unique historic restaurant and Inn under Chef Proprietor, Mark Salter.
314 N. Morris St. / 410-226-5111 / www.robertmorrisinn.com

9 The Masthead at Pier Street Marina – Crabhouse

Every table has a view at this favorite waterside restaurant! The best place to watch the sunset is on the deck at The Masthead. Come enjoy steamed crabs, delicious crab cakes, local rockfish and more!
104 West Pier St. / 410-226-5171
www.themastheadatpierstreetmarina.com



Pope's Tavern at the Oxford Inn

A European Bistro at the Oxford Inn - offers a casual yet elegant dining experience. Visit our intimate dining room and charming library lounge, offering cocktails, wine, starters, and desserts.
405 S. Morris St. / 410-226-5220

SHOPPES

10 Mystery Loves Company Booksellers

Full-service bookstore specializing in mystery books about the Chesapeake. Nautical books, books by local authors & books for all ages. Open year round. Special orders taken. Frequent author events.
202 S. Morris St. / 410-226-0010 / www.mysterylovescompany.com

11 Oxford Market & Deli

All your provisioning needs can be filled here. Groceries, beer, wine and liquor. Homemade subs, sandwiches, and cold cuts. Salads, soups, baked goods, assorted fruits and vegetables, and fresh baked breads. Hand-dipped ice cream. Newspapers, maps and ATM.
203 S. Morris St., PO Box 217 410-226-0015 / Fax: 410-226-0175

12 The Scottish Highland Creamery

"Hand crafted, gourmet ice cream and sorbets made daily on site, gelato style, with fresh ingredients. Come taste a bit of Italy with Scottish flair! An Eastern Shore favorite! Behind Schooner's by the boat ramp.
314 Tilghman St. / 410-924-6298
www.scottishhighlandcreamery.com



The Sea Captain's Lady

Featuring an eclectic mix of old and new items, including gifts, antiques, furniture and home decor. Imagine what the sea captain's lady would collect in her travels!
201 Tilghman St. / 410-226-6099
seacaptainslady@gmail.com

13 The Treasure Chest

Small gift shop on the Main Street featuring locally made jewelry, pottery, stained glass, Oxford memorabilia, soaps and lotions made in Maryland, 'Skipper Bags' made in Oxford, t-shirts, notecards, artwork, postcards and much more!
214 N. Morris Street / 410-924-8817 / treasurechesttoxford@gmail.com

ATTRACTIONS

14 Oxford Bellevue Ferry

America's oldest privately owned ferry shuttles back and forth across the Tred Avon River each day from 9 am until sunset (call for exact times). The ferry carries nine (9) cars, numerous motorcycles, bicycles, and pedestrians on each trip. RV's, trucks and trailers also accommodated. Operates April through November. (Mailing address: 27456 Oxford Road, Oxford, MD)
101 E. Strand St. in Oxford, or 5536 Bellevue Road in Bellevue
410-745-9023 / obferry@aol.com / www.oxfordferry.com

15 Oxford Community Center

200 Oxford Rd., PO Box 308
410-226-5904 / www.oxfordcc.org

Tred Avon Players

Reservations: 410-226-0061
www.tredavonplayers.org

16 Dockside Boat Rentals

104 W. Pier St. / 410-652-6533
410-971-2707

Oxford Museum/Gift Shop

101 S. Morris St. (across from Town Park) / 410-226-0191

Tumblehome Yacht Cruises

Reservations: jpsassoc@atlanticbb.net / 410-226-1119

MARINE

17 Campbell's Bachelor Pt. Yacht Co.

At the mouth of the Tred Avon River, this 80-slip marina has pool and picnic area. The facility offers full service maintenance, repowers and repairs. Travel lift and dry storage available. Certified Cummins dealer. Transient slips available. Complimentary seasonal Wi-Fi. Campbell's Yacht Sales on premises.
26106A Bachelor Harbor Dr. / 410-226-5592 / Fax: 410-226-5489
mstein@campbellsboatyards.com / www.campbellsboatyards.com

18 Campbell's Boatyard @ Jack's Pt.

On Town Creek, this full service boatyard offers boat repair, maintenance and repowers, slip rentals, haul-outs, and dry storage. Transient slips available. Complimentary seasonal Wi-Fi.
106 Richardson St. / 410-226-5105 / Fax: 410-226-5962
dfrey@campbellsboatyards.com / www.campbellsboatyards.com

19 Campbell's Town Creek Boatyard

At the head of Town Creek, this 42 slip marina offers dockage. The shop at Town Creek specializes in custom boat building. Transient slips available. Complimentary seasonal Wi-Fi.
109 Myrtle Ave. / 410-226-0213 / Fax: 410-226-0214
tcampbell@campbellsboatyards.com / www.campbellsboatyards.com



20 Hinckley Yacht Services

Located on the south side of Town Creek, Hinckley offers a full service marina and boat repair facility with additional features including bike rentals, Ship Store, and swimming pool.
202 Banks St., PO Box 369 / 410-226-5113 / Fax: 410-226-5602
eanderson@hinckleyyachts.com / www.hinckleyyachts.com

21 Brewer Oxford Boat Yard & Marina

A comprehensive, full service yard and marina. Services include mechanical, rigging, electrical/electronics, carpentry, fiberglass repair, Awl Grip and varnish. Permanent/transient dockage, 75-ton lift, dry-covered storage, laundry, swimming pool, and Ship's Store. Bicycle rentals available.
402 E. Strand / 410-226-5101 / Fuel & Dockmaster: 410-226 5450
oby@byy.com / <http://www.byy.com/oxford>

22 Acadia Yacht Sales, LLC

Northern Chesapeake Bay's exclusive dealers for Sabre & Back Cove Yachts & brokers for pre-owned power and sailing yachts of all brands.
402 E. Strand / 410-226-0100 / info@acadiayachtsales.com

Cutts and Case, Inc.

306 Tilghman Street, PO Box 9 / 410-226-5416 / Fax: 410-226-5035

Ship Shape, LLC

410-463-1425 / shipshapeox@comcast.net

Tred Avon Yacht Sales, Inc./Choptank Charters

102 S. Morris St., PO Box 41 / 410-226-5000 / 877-226-5080 / info@tays.com

BUSINESS SERVICES

23 1880 Bank

104 Factory St., PO Box 309 / 410-226-0200 / Fax: 410-226-0303

Benson & Mangold Real Estate

27999 Oxford Rd. / 410-822-1415 / info@bensonandmangold.com
220 N. Morris St. / 410-226-0111

Henry S. Hale of Benson and Mangold Real Estate

220 N. Morris Street, PO Box 142 / 410-829-3777 / henryshale@gmail.com

Jane M. McCarthy of Benson and Mangold Real Estate

27999 Oxford Road / 410-310-6692 / www.oxfordmaryland.com

Ray Stevens of Benson & Mangold Real Estate

220 N. Morris Street / PO Box 208 / 410-310-6060
info@bensonandmangold.com

CaseWorks

210 East Pier Street / 410-336-3400 / www.caseworks.bz

Catherine Bitter Interiors

410-226-0541, catherine@catherinebitter.com

Exit Latham Realty

410-924-3212 / skipper3212@gmail.com

Oxford Lawn & Landscape, Inc.

4820 Evergreen Rd., Oxford, MD
410-226-5474

Tidewater Times

102 Myrtle Ave. / 410-226-0422

T B Kearns Design

Tidewater Residential Designs since 1989.
210 Tred Avon Ave., PO Box 177 / 410-226-5100 tbkearns@verizon.net
www.tbkearnsdesign.com

Wilson Mowing (Lawn Service)

4601 Old Trappe Road, Trappe, MD / 410-476-7804
wilsonmowing@gmail.com

