

# Anglo-Saxon City Trail

This trail starts at the **Town Hall**, where the new Museum of Oxford will be opening in 2021. It takes you to **Oxford Castle**, finishing at **St Michael's Church** in the city centre. Allow approximately an hour for the full trail.

## 1 Town Hall

Find a sign showing the name of this street and write it here:

S \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

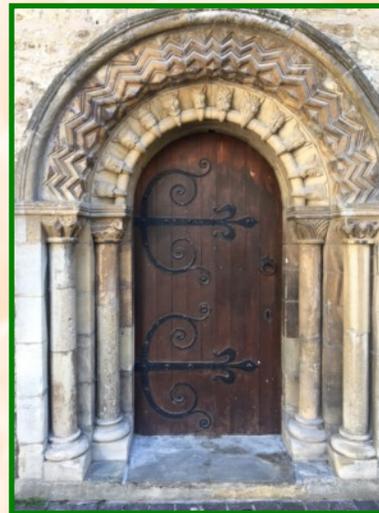
You are standing on one of the oldest roads in Oxford. The Anglo-Saxons built and named the city in the late 600s.

Find a picture of an Ox and the river (ford) that gave the city its name

**NEXT** Walk down **St Aldates** with the Town Hall on your left. Take first right down **Pembroke St**. You will see **St Ebbe's Church** in front of you at the end of the road.

## 2 St Ebbe's Church

Can you find the animals on this doorway?



St Ebbe's dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, but hardly any of the oldest parts survive. This door was built just after the Normans invaded in 1066 and fought against the Saxons.

**NEXT** Go past **Sainsbury's** into the **Westgate Centre**. Go down the steps to the right of **UNIQLO**. Cross the road and go down the passage next to the **Swan and Castle** pub to enter the castle grounds. Cross the courtyard and turn left down ramp. [To avoid the steps turn right, exit the Westgate, turn left and left again]

## 3 Saxon Wall, castle grounds

Find this plaque. What does it tell you?



What are the women in the picture underneath doing?

{Clue: answer on one of the rectangle metal signs}

**NEXT** Follow the ramp down to the right.

## 4 St George's Tower



We think this tower is older than the rest of the Norman built castle, and was linked to the Anglo Saxon wall that defended the town.

Can you see the doorway half way up the tower that Empress Mathilda used to escape from King Stephen, and cross the frozen river?

**NEXT** Turn right to follow signs to the Castle Yard.

## 5 Castle Yard Timelines

What year was Saxon Oxford attacked by the Danes?



When did St Frideswide, a Saxon princess, set up a monastery in Oxford?

**NEXT** Head out of the Castle Quarter, past the Mound to New Rd. Turn right and carry on past Bonn Square to Queen Street. Turn left at Carfax tower to go down Cornmarket. The Saxon tower of **St Michael's** will be on your right by Ship Street

## 6 St Michael's at Northgate



This Saxon church tower is the oldest in Oxford!

Can you spot any difference between this photograph (taken in Victorian times) and now?

