

## How to find Maison Française



The entrance to the building is on Norham Road, more or less opposite the turning to Bradmore Road. There will be someone to greet you as you arrive in the foyer, which is only a few steps away from the playing area.

The nearest bus stop is on Banbury Road at Park Town.

## Contact us

For any questions before the start of the Festival, please contact Elena Jeffery by e-mail at [festival@oxfordshirebridge.co.uk](mailto:festival@oxfordshirebridge.co.uk). The Festival web page is at [www.oxfordbridgefestival.co.uk](http://www.oxfordbridgefestival.co.uk).

During the Festival, the emergency contact number will be **07561 837764**. Volunteers will also be on hand at each venue during the day to help deal with any problems.

## Oxford Festival of Bridge

# Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018

**Venue:**

**Maison Française, Norham Road, Oxford OX2 6SE**

## Programme

**1.30 pm onwards: Arrive at Maison Française** for registration. Meet some of your fellow festival-goers and start work on our fun bridge-themed quiz

**2.00 – 3.30: Duplicate bridge** (or play rubber if you prefer)

**3.45: Tea and quiz**, compiling your answers in teams at your tables

**4.45: More bridge**

**6.30: Short review** of some of the day's interesting hands



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**Please aim to reach Maison Française by 1.45 pm at the latest**, to allow time for registration before the bridge begins at 2.00. The earlier you arrive, the longer you'll get to tackle some of the entertaining puzzles in our bridge-themed quiz – be warned that these may not be quite what you expect!

At 2.00 you'll start play in the first half of the duplicate bridge session (or you can play rubber if you prefer – please let us know in advance if this is your choice). To restore your energy, at 3.45 you'll enjoy a scrumptious tea with sandwiches and cakes. The break will also give you more time to put together your answers to the quiz in teams at your tables, before the answers are revealed at around 4.30.

The second bridge session will end at around 6.15 and will be followed by a short review of a few of the day's most interesting hands, led by local expert and bridge teacher Jonathan Davis. The day's programme will finish at 7 pm.

## About the bridge

### Rubber or duplicate?

Both bridge sessions during the afternoon will offer a choice of either rubber or duplicate. Those who prefer rubber bridge can opt for supervised play, with expert advice available on request, or can simply enjoy a friendly game in congenial surroundings.

### Do I need a partner?

If you want to come with a partner, that's fine, but you don't need to. The duplicate bridge will be hosted, so that no one will be left without a partner. Rubber players will "cut in" if there are odd numbers.

### Will it be scary?

Our aim is to create a friendly and welcoming atmosphere at all times for all players, regardless of their level of experience. The duplicate sessions will be run by a volunteer Director, who will be there to help you with any problems that might arise while you're at the bridge table – so do let him or her know if anything seems to be going wrong.

### Can I try duplicate if I've never done it before?

Duplicate players will be playing pre-prepared random hands placed into duplicate boards. Bidding will be done using bidding boxes and the results will be scored electronically using Bridgemates.

If you'd like to have a go at duplicate but you haven't previously used any of this equipment, don't worry – we'll be there to help you! The only essential requirement is that you should be able to play at the same speed as everyone else, which is about eight hands in an hour.

### Where can I find the results?

We expect that results for Tuesday's duplicate bridge will be available on site by 7 pm.

Results of all bridge competitions will be displayed in St Hugh's College (our venue for Festival events on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening), and will also be available on the Festival website at [www.oxfordbridgefestival.co.uk](http://www.oxfordbridgefestival.co.uk).

### Who's running this event?

The Oxford Festival of Bridge is organised and sponsored by the Oxfordshire Bridge Association, with assistance from the Worcestershire and Gloucestershire Bridge Associations.

The duplicate bridge is licensed by the English Bridge Union. Summertown Bridge Club, which meets weekly at Maison Française, has kindly made its facilities available for our use.

## The practical stuff

**Parking and buses:** Parking in Oxford during the daytime can be both difficult and expensive. We hope to have a few spaces available in the Maison Française car park for those with restricted mobility – please contact Elena if you need this. Otherwise, we recommend using a park-and-ride

(see <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/park-and-ride>) .

The 500 bus from Water Eaton park-and-ride comes along the Banbury Road and stops at Park Town, about 200m from Maison Française. The same bus operates either from Oxford Parkway train station, or from the main Oxford train station.

There are frequent buses from Park Town to and from the city centre.

**Taxis:** Of course, Oxford also has numerous taxi companies: see <https://www.dailyinfo.co.uk/oxford/guide/taxi> for a list with phone numbers.

**Where can I stay?** Accommodation isn't included in the price of the Festival. If you search on the internet for B & B in Oxford, you'll find that many of the Oxford colleges offer such accommodation at reasonable prices. A number of last year's participants stayed at various colleges, including St Hugh's, Christ Church and New College, and all reported themselves well satisfied. There are also plenty of airbnb options available.

**Communication:** If you have one, please bring a smartphone with you. This will make it much easier for you to contact us in the event of any problem, and will also help you to find your way around Oxford if you aren't familiar with the city centre.

**Food and drink:** Included in your entry fee for Tuesday's event is a delicious – and plentiful! - tea with sandwiches, cakes, and tea or coffee. If you're a visitor to the area and you'd like to eat out in the evening, Daily Information, the guide to all things Oxonian, has an excellent list of local places to eat at <https://www.dailyinfo.co.uk/oxford/guide/food>. Several of these are within easy walking distance of Norham Road.

**Allergies and other special needs:** Please do let us know in advance of any allergies, special dietary requirements, or other needs such as extra lighting. If you're concerned about seating, it might be best to bring a portable cushion.

**Access:** All activities at Maison Française will be held on the ground floor, with easy access for anyone with restricted mobility. Taxis are allowed to drive right up to the entrance doors.

**First aid:** A trained first aider will be on call each day.

**More about Oxford:** Googling "what to do in Oxford" will get you more hits than you can shake a stick at, but if you need a place to start, you could do worse than try [this summary from the Daily Telegraph](#).