

YAC Leaders' Weekend: Oakham Castle Excavation

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th of June 2019

Advance Information



Travel

Arrival by Car

The excavation will take place in the Inner Bailey of Oakham Castle. There is no parking available in the castle grounds. The nearest all-day public pay and display car park is the Burley Road Car Park at **LE15 6DH**. To access the castle environs from there, go across the outer wall, via the wooden staircase.

The accessible entrance involves exiting the car park on Burley Road to your right, head past Osprey Lettings. The road is a 4-way junction with a mini round-about. Turn right on to High Street and in about 10 metres, enter right into the Market Place. Follow the pathway to Café Nero and take the narrow lane left into the castle (see photos below). Head to the right of the castle to the meeting point at the rear.

The Council operate a Ringo online payment. The carpark number is 4181. The charge is currently £4.80 per day for cash with an additional fee of £0.20 if you are paying by phone.

More information on car parks in Oakham can be found here:

<https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-community/parking/council-car-parks/>

Arrival by Train

Oakham Castle is a short 10-minute walk from the train station.

It has two platforms. If your train arrives at Platform 1 exit through the ticketing office, which leads on to Northgate. If you arrive at Platform 2, you can either go across the bridge to Platform 1 or leave via Platform 2, where you exit left onto Stamford Road. About 50m ahead is a signal box, turn left to go across the level crossing at road level and take the 1st road left. Turn into Northgate immediately on your right.

Follow Northgate for about 500 metres, pass the Griffin Pub and the Wheatsheaf Pub on your right, to a T junction with Church Street.



You will now be facing All Saints Church. Just to the right is a footpath, which leads to the Market Place.



At the end of the walled footpath is the Buttercross in the Market Place.



In the Market Place, 50 metres on the left-hand side is the lane to the castle, Café Nero is on the corner.

Follow the lane through the castle gates and you will enter an open area with the main castle door facing you. Head around to the right-hand side of the building, the meeting point is at the rear of the castle.

Travel Expenses

We have allocated a maximum of £100 per branch to cover travel costs, either public transport or car mileage. If you would like to claim travel expenses, please keep any receipts or tickets for public transport and we will provide claim forms at the weekend.

Kit List

As we will be working on an ongoing excavation please ensure that you have warm and wet weather clothing that you do not mind getting dirty and sturdy shoes are essential. Sunscreen, a hat and a bag will also be useful on the day. You do not need to bring any archaeological equipment with you. Everything will be supplied by the ULAS team.

We will be getting together in the evening for a meal in a local restaurant, so please bring something to change into.

Activity Venues

On **Saturday 15th of June** the excavation will be based within the grounds of Oakham Castle

Address: Castle Grounds, Market Pl, Oakham LE15 6DR

The day will begin at 10.00 a.m. CBA staff will be on site from 9.00 a.m.

Please enter through the side door on the right of the building featured in the picture below. For those arriving on the Saturday morning there will be space to store luggage should you need to.



On **Sunday 16th of June** the morning training sessions will be held at Rutland County Museum

Address: Catmos St, Oakham LE15 6HW

The morning's activities will begin at 10.30 a.m. CBA staff will be on site from 10.00 a.m.

Please enter through the main door featured in the picture below.



For those participants who have opted to take part in the excavation at Oakham Castle on the Sunday afternoon, a member of CBA staff will walk you back to the castle site.

Accommodation Venues

As Oakham is small (and the larger hotels have a two-night minimum stay) participants will be staying at three venues in Oakham. To avoid confusion, separate information will be supplied to you about your accommodation.

Meals

NOTE: Dietary information and meal choices for the evening meal will be requested prior to the weekend start.

- Saturday lunch will be catered on site at Oakham Castle
- Saturday dinner will be a two-course meal at The Wisteria Hotel

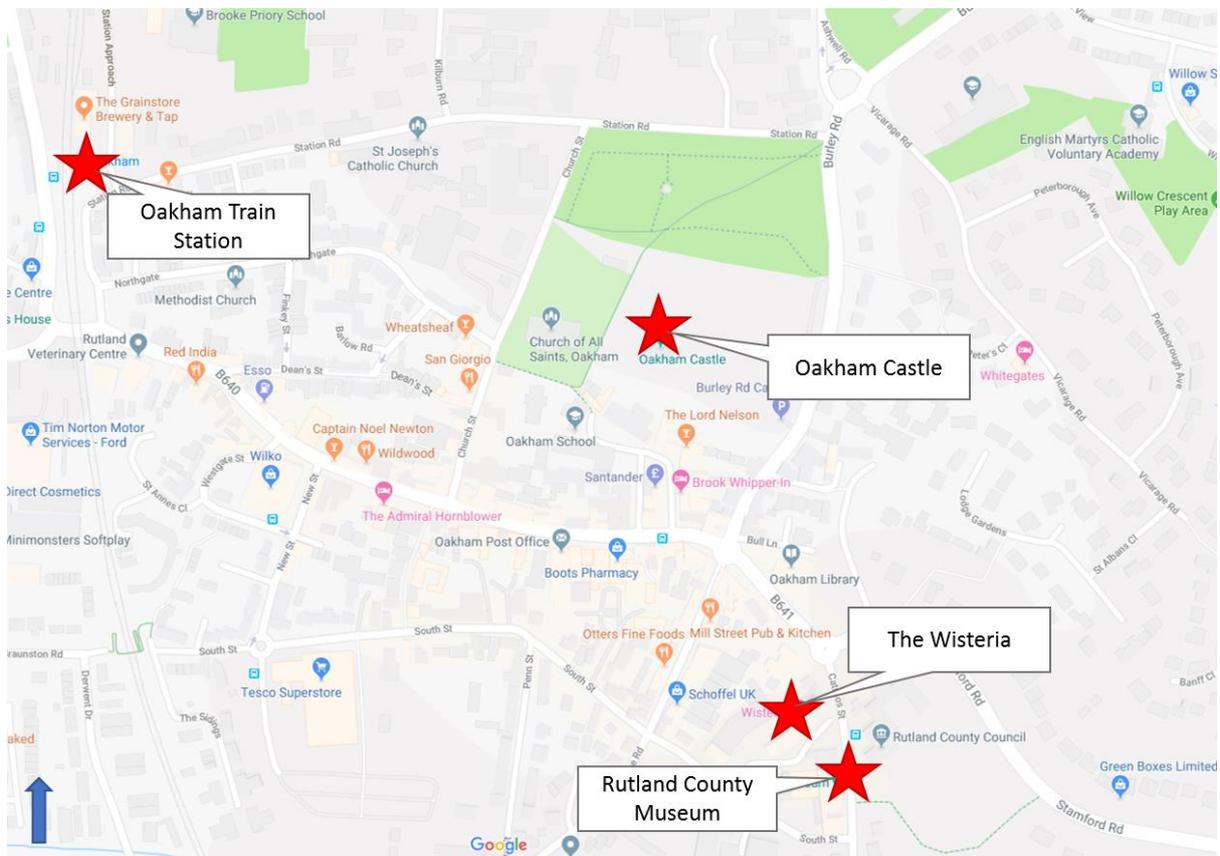
Address: 4 Catmos St, Oakham LE15 6HW



- Sunday breakfast will be provided by your respective hotel.
- There will also be numerous tea-breaks – please see full itinerary for timings.

Lunch on Sunday is not provided; people staying for the optional excavation afternoon will need to ensure that they make their own arrangements. The museum and castle are based in the centre of Oakham with numerous shops/cafes serving food. There will be time for you to purchase food prior to starting the afternoons excavation.

Key Locations



Emergency Contact Details

If you have any issues throughout the weekend, or getting to it, please contact either Jo or Claire. They will also be your First Aiders for the weekend.

Joanne Kirton: 0773859174

Claire Corkill: 07702003298

Itinerary

Saturday 15th of June

10.00-10.30: Arrival, welcome and tour of excavations from JK and MM

10.30-13.00: Morning session – participants split into two groups

Group 1: Excavation Skills (excavation, planning, recording and levelling) sub-groups to be split in three and spend approx. 50 minutes on each skill

Group 2: Post-excavation Skills (photogrammetry, finds processing and archaeological illustration) sub-groups to be split in three and spend approx. 50 minutes on each skill.

13.00-13.30: Lunch – provided onsite (potential to stagger this if needs be)

13.30-16.00: Afternoon session (as above)

16.00-17.00: ‘Finding the Story’: how to apply these skills to digging test-pits

17.00-19.00: Participants check-in at accommodation

19.00-19.30: Drinks and YAC round-up (delivered by JK) (The Wisteria)

19.30: Evening meal (The Wisteria)

Sunday 16th of June

10.30 – 11.30: Training Session 1 (Rutland County Museum)

Group 1: Making the Most of the Web: social media, comms, marketing and safeguarding (delivered by JK and Rutland Council)

Group 2: Heritage Heroes intro and training (delivered by Archaeology Scotland)

11.30 - 11.45: Tea break

11.45 – 12.45: Training Session 2 as above (Rutland County Museum)

12.45 – 13.00: Finish

Optional: opportunity for participants to spend the afternoon on the Oakham Castle excavation

13.00-13.45: Lunch and walk over to Oakham Castle from Rutland County Museum

13.45 – 16.00: Excavation at Oakham Castle