2025 Oxford Conference Details:

Venue Details

Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford

Godstow Road, Oxford, OX2 8AL, United Kingdom
+44 1865 489988

https://www.leonardo-hotels.com/oxford/leonardo-royal-hotel-oxford

Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA)

in preparation for traveling to the UK, anyone outside of Europe will need to apply for the UK Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA). Below are the steps to apply for it. Please plan to apply for the ETA before you depart for the workshop.

To get an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) for the UK, you can: 🕢

- 1. Go to the UK government's Home Office website or use the UK ETA app
- 2. Have a passport, a valid email address, and a way to pay online
- 3. Apply in advance of travel
- 4. Pay £10 per person
- 5. Expect a decision within three working days

The ETA is valid for two years or until the traveler's passport expires, whichever is sooner. You can travel to the UK while waiting for a decision.

You can download the UK ETA app from the <u>Google Play</u> or <u>Apple App Store</u>. The app is safe and secure, and no information is stored on the app or your phone after you close it.

You must apply for an ETA before you travel to the UK. If your ETA is approved, it will be linked to the passport you applied with, and you must use that passport to travel to the UK.

Getting to the Venue - By Train, Bus, or Driving

Heathrow to Leonardo Hotel By Train

To get from Heathrow Airport to the Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford by train, there isn't a direct train route, so you'll need to make a couple of transfers. Here's a step-by-step guide based on the most efficient and commonly used options as of March 4, 2025:

1. From Heathrow Airport to London Paddington:

- Take the **Heathrow Express** from Heathrow Terminals 2 & 3 or Terminal 5
 (depending on your arrival terminal). This is the fastest option, taking about 15
 minutes to reach London Paddington. Trains run every 15 minutes.
- If you're at Terminal 4, use the free shuttle train to Terminals 2 & 3 first, then board the Heathrow Express.
- Alternatively, you could take the **Elizabeth Line** from Heathrow to Paddington, which is slower (around 30-40 minutes) but cheaper.

2. From London Paddington to Oxford Station:

- At Paddington, switch to a Great Western Railway (GWR) train heading to Oxford. Direct trains to Oxford depart frequently, roughly every 30 minutes, and the journey takes about 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes, depending on the service (faster trains take closer to an hour).
- Check the departure boards at Paddington for platforms (usually 1-5 for Oxfordbound trains) and ensure you're on a direct service to avoid additional changes.

3. From Oxford Station to Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford:

- Oxford Station is about 3.5 miles (5.6 km) from the Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford, located on Godstow Road. There's no direct train station closer to the hotel (Oxford Parkway is nearer but not directly served from Paddington).
- From Oxford Station, you have two main options:
 - Taxi: A taxi from the station to the hotel takes about 10-15 minutes and costs around £10-£15, depending on traffic and time of day. Taxis are readily available outside the station.
 - Bus: Take the No. 6 bus operated by Oxford Bus Company from the station (stop R4 or nearby) towards Wolvercote. Get off at the "Harefields" or "Godstow Road" stop, which is a short walk from the hotel. The bus runs every 20-30 minutes, takes about 20-25 minutes, and costs roughly £2-£3 one way. Check the latest timetable online or at the station.

Total Journey Time: Approximately 1 hour 45 minutes to 2 hours 15 minutes, depending on connections, wait times, and your final transport from Oxford Station to the hotel.

Cost:

- Heathrow Express to Paddington: Around £25 (standard class, peak) or £15-£20 (off-peak/advance).
- Paddington to Oxford: Roughly £20-£40 (standard class, depending on booking time; cheaper with advance tickets from £10-£15).
- Taxi or bus from Oxford Station: £2-£15.
- Total: Expect £40-£80 one way, though booking in advance can lower this significantly.

Tips:

- Use the National Rail Enquiries website (national rail.co.uk) or Trainline app to check live schedules and book tickets.
- Allow extra time for transfers, especially if your flight is delayed.
- If you're carrying luggage, the taxi from Oxford Station might be more convenient than the bus.

This route combines speed and reliability, though it's worth noting that taking a direct coach from Heathrow to Oxford (e.g., the Oxford Bus Company's "Airline" service) might be simpler and cheaper (£19-£25, 1 hour 30 minutes), dropping you closer to the hotel with a short taxi or bus ride afterward. However, since you asked for a train-specific route, the above is your best option!

Heathrow to Leonardo Hotel By Bus

To travel from Heathrow Airport to the Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford by bus, there isn't a direct bus that drops you right at the hotel's doorstep, but you can get very close with a combination of services. Here's a straightforward guide based on current options as of March 4, 2025:

1. From Heathrow Airport to Oxford City Centre:

- Take the Oxford Bus Company "Airline" service from Heathrow. This is a reliable coach service designed for airport transfers.
 - From Terminals 2 or 3: Depart from the Heathrow Central Bus Station (a short walk from the terminals via pedestrian underpass). Buses run every 20-30 minutes during the day, less frequently at night (e.g., hourly from midnight to 4:00 AM). The journey takes about 1 hour 30 minutes.
 - From Terminal 5: Board at Bus Stop 10 outside the arrivals area. The trip is slightly shorter, around 1 hour 20 minutes.

- From Terminal 4: Use the free shuttle train to Terminals 2/3 or Terminal 5 (takes 5-10 minutes), then catch the Airline bus from there.
- Cost: A one-way ticket is approximately £25 (children 5-15 get 50% off, under 5s are free). Book online via the Oxford Bus Company website or app for the best rates, or pay the driver (contactless up to £100 accepted).
- Destination in Oxford: The bus stops at several points, but the most convenient for your next step is Gloucester Green Bus Station in central Oxford.

2. From Gloucester Green Bus Station to Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford:

- The hotel is located at Godstow Road, OX2 8AL, about 3.5 miles northwest of Gloucester Green. No direct bus goes straight to the hotel, but you can get close with a local service:
 - Walk from Gloucester Green to the nearby Magdalen Street or George Street bus stops (5 minutes).
 - Take the No. 6 bus operated by Oxford Bus Company towards
 Wolvercote. This bus runs every 20-30 minutes and takes about 20-25 minutes.
 - Get off at the Harefields or Godstow Road stop (check with the driver or a live bus app like Moovit to confirm the closest stop). From there, it's a short walk (about 5-10 minutes) to the hotel—head north along Godstow Road.
 - Cost: Around £2-£3 one way; contactless payment is accepted on board.
- Alternative: If you have luggage or prefer simplicity, take a taxi from Gloucester
 Green to the hotel. It's a 10-15 minute ride costing £10-£15, depending on traffic.

Total Journey Time: Around 2 hours to 2 hours 30 minutes, including the transfer and wait times. The Airline bus is the bulk of the trip (1.5 hours), with the local bus or taxi adding 20-30 minutes.

Total Cost: Approximately £27-£28 (bus only) or £35-£40 (bus + taxi).

Tips:

- Check the Oxford Bus Company website (oxfordbus.co.uk) or app for real-time Airline schedules, as times can vary slightly due to traffic or demand.
- If your flight lands late, the Airline still operates 24/7, though you might need to plan the local leg carefully—late-night No. 6 buses are less frequent (last one around midnight).
- For a smoother trip with luggage, consider the taxi from Gloucester Green instead of the local bus.

This route leverages the efficient Airline service to Oxford and a short local connection to reach the Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford, balancing cost and convenience.

Driving from London to Leonardo Hotel

To drive from London to the Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford, follow these steps:

- 1. Start in London: Head west on the A40.
- 2. Continue on the A40: Follow signs for the M40.
- 3. Merge onto the M40: Continue on the M40 for about 50 miles.
- 4. **Take exit 8**: Follow signs for Oxford/A40.
- 5. Continue on the A40: Follow signs for Oxford.
- 6. Take the exit toward Wolvercote: Follow signs for Wolvercote.
- 7. **Turn left onto Godstow Road**: The hotel will be on your right.

The journey is approximately 58 miles and should take around 1 hour and 9 minutes, depending on traffic

Contact Information

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