

# The Feathers Hotel History

The Feathers Hotel is situated right in the heart of the historic town of Woodstock.

Woodstock is home to Blenheim Palace, seat of the 11<sup>th</sup> Duke of Marlborough and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. It is ideally located for that special occasion or family get together and is within one hours drive of London, Birmingham, Cheltenham and a mere 45 minutes from Shakespeare's Stratford upon Avon.

The Feathers is a 17<sup>th</sup> Century country town house hotel, filled with antiques, roaring log fires and traditional furnishings. Being privately owned only helps to enhance the charm and character. Relax in the friendly, welcoming atmosphere and dine in our restaurant or delightful courtyard garden - a recipe that could only lead to a memorable stay.

From the front of the hotel, overlooking the restaurant, you will see a statue, which, we have been told, is said to represent the Virgin Mary. This is said to have been found in the building as part of a wall, which was probably built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century during the English Civil War.

During the war all traces of Catholicism were to be destroyed and the only way to keep religious items or statues was to hide or disguise their existence by using them as building materials, i.e. part of a wall.

The front reception area and study was a Sanatorium in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century for people recovering from tuberculosis. "The Feathers House", to the right of the archway was originally two storeys and joined to No. 10. In 1888 it was converted to red brick and a third floor was added, hence the dated plaque at the top of the building.

The Reception area of the Hotel was a Draper's shop at the turn of the century called Alexander Bryden. The Draper's shop was then taken over by Mr Robinson who ran this as a Butcher's shop until early 1950. It is said that he roasted an ox in the grounds of Blenheim Palace, to celebrate the Queen's coronation. If you look from the side of the building you can still see where the shop window was!

The restaurant was once a line of cottages. If you look carefully from the outside, you can see that by every bay window there are traces of a doorway, or a door still in place. In all we believe there were four cottages. Following the closure of the butcher's shop and purchase of other houses the main section of the hotel was bought and converted in to a hotel called The Dorchester in the 1960's.

The Feathers is sister hotel to Lords of the Manor in Upper Slaughter.

We do hope that this literature will give you a brief look into the history of The Feathers.  
**Conferences, Boardroom Meetings, Seminars and Team Building**

## **At the Feathers**

### ***“Pure Business, Pure Pleasure”***

The Feathers Hotel is the ideal retreat for all your needs. Ideally located within easy reach of the M40 motorway and Oxford Airport (Kidlington).

The Drawing room at the Feathers offers a tranquil location to get away from work and focus your mind on the matters at hand.

Let us do things differently, why not have lunch in the courtyard garden and soak up the sun or in winter month's work by the open fires.

The hotel is within walking distance of Blenheim palace. Let us arrange a private tour as part of your activities, a picnic within the grounds, or outdoor events in the magnificent parkland.

As the principle meeting room at The Feathers, The Drawing room is secluded and quiet and has the benefit of natural daylight. This room will accommodate a maximum of 30 delegates in a variety of layouts.

We have put together a delegate package which is designed to suit a variety of needs and budgets and is available to groups of 6 or more. Please feel free to choose any of the extra options as supplements or let us work out a package to meet your individual needs.

### **DAILY DELEGATE RATE**

(Minimum 8 delegates)

#### **Standard Package £65.00 per person excluding VAT**

Tea and Coffee on Arrival

Mid Morning Coffee Break with Homemade Shortbread

Two course Chefs Choice Buffet Lunch

Afternoon Coffee Break with Homemade Shortbread

Still and Sparkling Water and Cordials

Fresh Fruit Bowl

Flipchart, Screen and Room Hire.

#### **Optional Extras**

Bacon Rolls on arrival £4.50 pp

Danish Pastries £2.50 pp

Afternoon Cream Teas £3.50 pp

Upgrade to a Restaurant Lunch £15 pp

## **24 HOUR DELEGATE RATE**

We have put together three 24hr delegate packages, each designed to meet your individual needs.  
(Minimum 8 delegates)

### **Manager's Package.**

Fully inclusive rate of daily delegate package,  
A three course dinner in the oak panelled restaurant  
And overnight accommodation, single occupancy of double bedroom.

**Standard from £160 per person excluding VAT**

### **Directors Package**

Fully inclusive rate of daily delegate package,  
A seven course tasting menu in the oak panelled restaurant  
And overnight accommodation, single occupancy of a double bedroom.

**Standard from £180 per person excluding VAT**

### **Chairman's Package**

Fully inclusive rate of daily delegate package,  
A seven course tasting menu in the oak panelled restaurant with wines that compliment the meal  
And overnight accommodation, single occupancy of a double bedroom.

**Standard from £210 per person excluding VAT**

**Upgrade to a superior double bedroom from £20**

**Upgrade to a suite from £40**

## **ROOM HIRE**

Room Hire is included in both the day delegate and 24hour delegate rate.  
These charges are for groups that don't qualify for delegate rates or for events wishing not to utilise the delegate packages.

Restaurant Daily Charge from £600  
Half Day Charge from £450  
Additional Flipchart stand and pad from £17.50  
Data Projector Hire from £150.00 per day  
Tea and Coffee from £3.25 per serving  
Buffet Lunch from £17.50