# YOUR CAMBRIDGE

November – December 2026

Discover more. Learn something new. Make Cambridge your home.

A student guide to the ideas, museums, music, culture and winter experiences taking place between 1 November and 17 December 2026.

ST. ANDREWS COLLEGE
Cambridge

Dukes
EDUCATION

# Discover more. Make Cambridge your home.

Cambridge is much more than a place to study. It is a city of world-leading research, extraordinary museums, live music, independent shops, historic streets and exciting cultural experiences. This autumn, step beyond the classroom, explore something new and make the most of the opportunities on your doorstep.

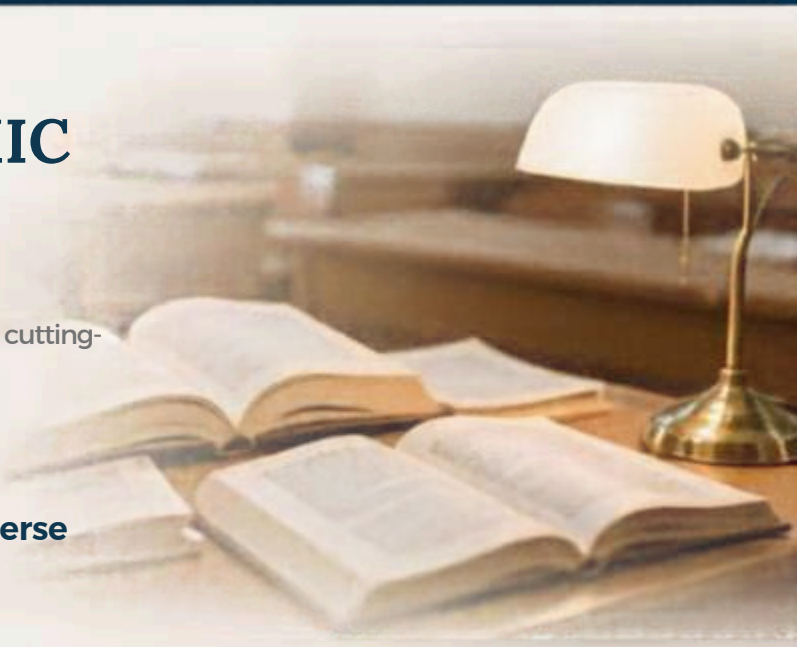
## WHAT'S INSIDE

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Make Cambridge your own

Highlights take place between 1 November and 17 December 2026. Always check official event pages before travelling.



# 1. THINK BIG: ACADEMIC TALKS AND IDEAS



Go beyond your syllabus and experience research at the cutting-edge.

## Supercomputer Simulations of the Universe

Wednesday 25 November | 4.15pm
Where: Ray Dolby Auditorium, Cavendish Laboratory

Professor Volker Springel of the Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics explores how supercomputer simulations investigate galaxies, dark matter, black holes and the evolution of the cosmos. Ideal for Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, AI or Astrophysics students.

Find out more: https://www.phy.cam.ac.uk/news-events/events/cavendish-big-science-colloquium-series/
Please check the event page for attendance arrangements before travelling.

## Civic Rights and Duties as Collective Responsibility

Tuesday 10 November | 4.00pm
Where: Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge

Professor Ekow Yankah of the University of Michigan explores civic rights, duties and our responsibilities to one another. A chance to think critically about justice, citizenship and society.

Find out more: https://www.cflpp.law.cam.ac.uk/press/events/2026/11/cflpp-public-lecture-civic-rights-and-duties-collective-responsibility
The organisers welcome everyone interested in legal, political and moral philosophy.

## A world of research on your doorstep

Explore the University's public events listings: https://www.cam.ac.uk/public-engagement/public events

Check department calendars for Medicine, Biomedical Science, Economics, Law, Engineering and Data Science. Confirm whether visitors can attend specialist seminars.

# 2. EXPLORE CAMBRIDGE'S MUSEUMS



Remarkable collections, often free, are waiting to be discovered.

## Whipple Museum of the History of Science

Saturday 7 November | 3.00-3.30pm
Free highlights tour exploring objects from scientific discovery.
Find out more: https://museums.Cam.ac.uk/whats-on

## Bridging Binaries: LGBTQ+ Tour

Saturday 7 November | 2.30-3.30pm
Where: Museum of Classical Archaeology
Explore identity, relationships and desire in the ancient world. Further dates on the museum calendar.
Find out more: https://museums.Cam.ac.uk/whats-on

## From Darwin to Dodos

Friday 13 November | 3.00-3.45pm
Where: University Museum of Zoology
Free guided tour exploring evolution, biodiversity and the variety of life on Earth. Ideal for Biology students and future medics.
Find out more: https://museums.cam.ac.uk/whats-on

## African Legacies in Cambridge Museums

Sunday 22 November | 2.30-4.00pm
Meet at the Fitzgerald Museum. Free, bookable tour led by Uncomfortable Cambridge exploring African objects, histories and cultural heritage. Adults 18+ . Check access information.
Find out more: https://museums.Cam.ac.uk/whats-on

## Kettle's Yard: Art, Ideas and Inspiration

Wednesday 25 November | 6.00-9.00pm
LATE at Kettle's Yard: art, talks, music and creative activities inspired by Sunil Gupta: Life with a Camera, 1970-Now. Tickets £5 for students. Adults 18+ . Check access information.
Find out more: https://www.museums.Cam.ac.uk/events/late-kettles-yard-4

Check the official museum calendar for current timings, access and booking arrangements.

# 3. MUSIC, CULTURE AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Make time for live performance, music and the shared energy of Cambridge after dark.



## Cambridge Christmas Lights: Station Square

Thursday 12 November | 4.30-7.00pm
Live music from The Los Amigos, festive quizzes, giveaways and illuminated performers.
Find out more: https://www.cambridgebid.co.uk/cambridge-bid events/2026/11/12/station-ssquare Switch-on

## The BIG Christmas Lights Switch On

Sunday 15 November | 12.00-5.30pm
Where: Market Square
Performances, entertainment, games and the grand switch-on at 5.00pm.
Find out more: https://www.visitcambridge.org/event/the-big Switch-on-at-market-square/

## Contemplation with Cambridge Schola

Monday 16 November | from 8.15pm
Where: Museum of Classical Archaeology
Choral performance in the atmospheric Cast Gallery, with music including Debussy and Elgar.
Find out more: https://www.visitcambridge.org/event/contemplation-with-cambridge-schola/

## Free Choral Music at Robinson College

Friday 13 November | 6.30-7.05pm
The Haylock Consort presents Welsh composer Thomas Tomkins in Robinson College Chapel.
Find out more: https://www.visitcambridge.org/event/haylock-consort-tomkins-these-distracted-times/



# 4. FESTIVE CAMBRIDGE: MAKE THE MOST OF WINTER

Illuminated gardens, local makers and independent places to explore.

## Cambridge Botanic Lights

Selected evenings: 27 November-17 December
Where: Cambridge University Botanic Garden
Illuminated trail celebrating plants, nature and the changing seasons. Tickets from £18.15 standard adult off-peak, student discounts and group discounts for six or more. Advance booking essential. Check dates, entry times and eligibility.
Book: https://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk/whats-on/cambridge-botanic-lights-2026/

## Trumpington Eco Christmas Market

Sunday 29 November | 10.00am-2.00pm
Where: Clay Farm Centre, Trumpington
Free-entry market with local makers, artwork, jewellery, books, ceramics, candles, decorations, hot vegan food and drinks.
Find out more: https://www.visitcambridge.org/event/trumpington-eco-christmas-market/

## Discover Cambridge's independent shops

Explore Mill Road and the historic city centre for bookshops, cafés, vintage shops, galleries and markets. Try somewhere new, find a favourite café or a unique gift, and build confidence, independence and belonging.



# 5. FOR TECHNOLOGY AND GAMING ENTHUSIASTS



Cambridge's history of innovation continues through hands-on events and communities.

## Retro Computer Festival: Space Edition

Saturday 14 November
Where: Centre for Computing History

Travel through computing history at this space-themed festival. Discover retro technology, classic computers and the machines that helped shape the digital world. A fun choice for Computer Science, Engineering, gaming or technology history enthusiasts.

Find out more: https://www.visitcambridge.org/whats-on/
Check the listing for admission prices, timings and booking requirements.

## 6. YOUR CAMBRIDGE CHALLENGE

This term, challenge yourself to do three things:

Try something academic: attend a public lecture, explore a museum collection or hear a researcher explain an idea.

Discover somewhere new: visit a museum, explore another part of Cambridge or find a new place to study or relax.

Experience something cultural: go to a concert, exhibition or festive event, or try an activity with friends.

Many museums and cultural events are free; student discounts can make other experiences more affordable.

# A FEW PRACTICAL TIPS

Plan ahead, check details and enjoy exploring together.

## CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

Event details, admission arrangements and availability can change. Always use the official event link.

## BOOK EARLY

Popular events, particularly Botanic Lights, may sell out.

## PLAN YOUR JOURNEY

Check bus times, walking routes and your return journey before setting off.

## GO WITH FRIENDS

Exploring somewhere new together is a great way to build friendships and confidence.

## KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR BUDGET

Look for free events, student concessions and group discounts.

## MAKE CAMBRIDGE YOUR OWN

Living and studying in Cambridge gives you access to an extraordinary range of ideas, people and experiences. Look beyond your timetable, discover new interests and make the most of the city you are part of.

Have you discovered an event, exhibition, club or place that other students would enjoy? Share it with the team so we can include it in a future edition.

Enjoy exploring!

