



Kelmscott Manor

Thurs 28 May 2026

Kelmscott dates from around 1570. The house and later extension was originally built for a local farmer, Thomas Turner, and called Lower House. It remained in the family for generations, only becoming Kelmscott Manor when James Turner purchased manorial land together with the lordship in 1864. On his death, the property passed to a nephew who put the house up for rent.

The property is famously known as the country home of the writer, designer and socialist William Morris who leased it in 1871 until his death in 1896. William drew great inspiration from the unspoilt authenticity of the house, and especially the gardens, when creating his works. Today the internal décor is that of Morris including much of his textile patterns and furniture.

After William's death, the tenancy passed to his widow who purchased Kelmscott in 1913. On her death the estate passed to their younger daughter May who bequeathed in her will that the Manor be left to her companion and then to Oxford University. The estate eventually passed to the Society of Antiquaries who completed a major restoration of the decaying Manor.

Coach departs 9.00am from Wonersh (first pick-up)

Cost £49.00 p/person

Application/payment must be received before or by Thur 19 Feb latest