

# Community of St Mary the Virgin

## **Retreat Wing Brochure - Groups**

Information for those wishing to visit St Mary's  
Convent Retreat Wing as an organised group.



St Mary's Convent is home to an Anglican religious community of Sisters, the **Community of St Mary the Virgin**.

Founded in 1848, it is dedicated to Mary the Mother of Jesus, the pondering one.

The Community has a strong history of hospitality and welcomes you to the Retreat Wing for quiet and reflection.

## **Worship, Rest and Reflect**

The flexible space of the Retreat Wing allows for group worship and discussion. The 21 bedrooms and comfortable sitting rooms allow for space to rest, while the peaceful gardens allow for space to reflect.

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**The Retreat Wing of St Mary's Convent is available for exclusive use to organised groups wishing to host a residential Retreat or Quiet Day.**

## Space to Worship

**Compassion** is an informal chapel located on the second floor of the **Retreat Wing**. A spacious, light room with vaulted ceilings it is an ideal space for to join together in group or individual prayer, whilst remaining within the comfort of the Retreat Wing.



Guests are welcome to join the Sisters for the Daily Office and Eucharist in **St Mary Magdalene's Chapel**. Retreatants are also invited to use **St Mary's Chapel** for personal prayer at any time, or by arrangement as a group.

## Space to Meet



**Peace** is situated on the first floor of the Retreat Wing. It is a large meeting room ideal for group reflection, talks and retreat addresses.

Two further rooms, **Bethany** and **Cana** are available to groups for one to one spiritual accompaniment or smaller meetings.

The rooms of the **Maribel Centre** can be made available should a group require more space. Please discuss with our hospitality team on booking.

## Space to Rest

The Retreat Wing comprises 21 individually designed bedrooms, 14 of which have en suite facilities including 2 specially adapted disabled access rooms.



The Retreat Wing houses two large communal sitting rooms – the Silent Sitting Room and the Talking Sitting Room, as well as an Art Room and a Library.

## Space to Reflect

The gardens of the Retreat Wing are open to guests. Retreatants are welcome to sit in the shade of the **Silent Garden** and walk the mown **Labyrinth**.



The **Orchard** also offers a peaceful haven. The **Water Garden**, situated adjacent to St Mary's Chapel, is a quiet corner to sit and relish the tranquillity of the Convent.

## Space to Eat

Meals for Retreat Wing Guests are served in the **Retreat Refectory**. All food is freshly cooked on the premises in our 5-star Food Hygiene rated kitchen. A seasonal menu is served, with produce from the Convent kitchen garden when available.



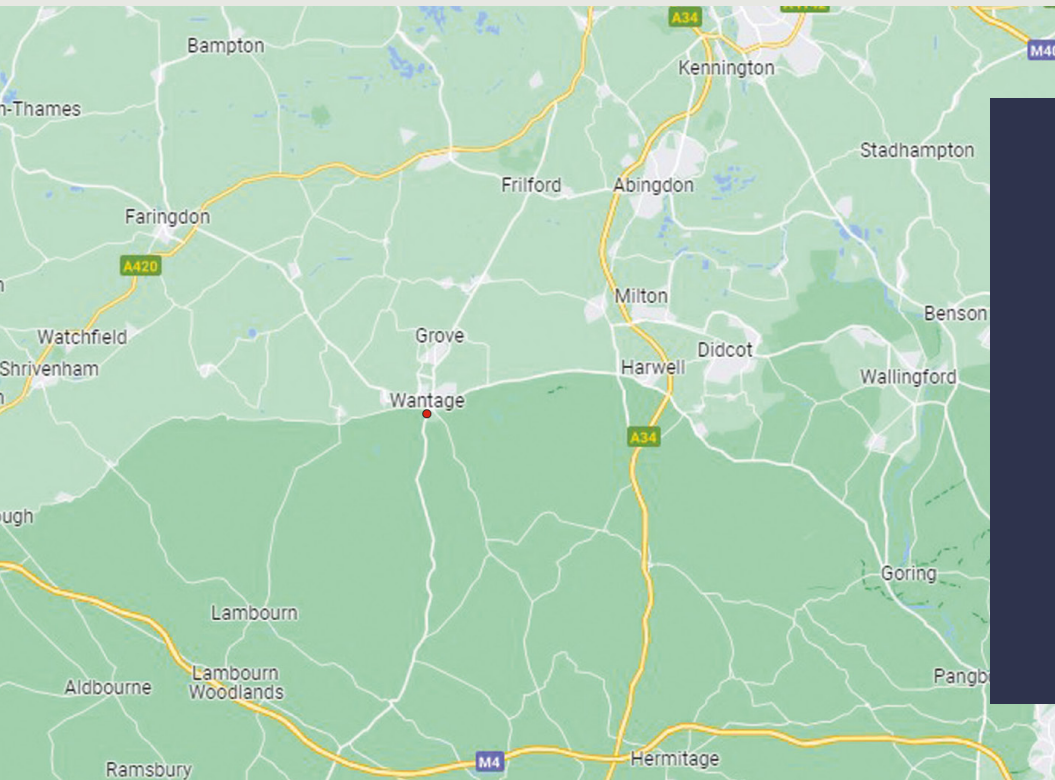
Continental Breakfast 7.45-9.00am  
Hot Lunch 1.00pm  
Light Supper 6.30pm

Refreshments are served twice per day. At other times, guests are welcome to help themselves to hot drinks in the Retreat Wing kitchenettes.

## Find Us

Situated in the Vale of the White Horse, Oxfordshire, St Mary's Convent is located on the edge of the Berkshire Downs within easy reach of Oxford, Swindon, Newbury and Reading.

There are good bus links to nearby towns. Stagecoach West provide the main service between Wantage and Oxford, with frequent buses. Thames Travel provide bus services between Wantage and Didcot via Harwell Campus and East Hanney.



Eight miles east of Wantage is Didcot with good rail links to Reading, Oxford, London and Cardiff.

By road, Wantage is accessed via the A338 from the North and South, the A417 to the East and West. The nearest motorways are the M4 to the South and the M40 to the North. For sat-nav use St Mary's Convent, Denchworth Road, Wantage, Oxfordshire OX12 9AU.

For a map [click here](#).



## Further Information

Across the twenty-one bedrooms of the Retreat Wing, there are seven standard rooms, of which one is a twin room. There are ten single rooms with en suite, with either shower or bath. There are two further en suite twin rooms, one with a shower, one with a bath. There are two disabled access rooms with wet rooms en suite. Please make your room preferences known on your booking form and we will try to accommodate your wishes.

Our Bookstall can be found in the welcome area of Reception. Here guests can browse a selection of books, cards and gifts. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or card during Reception opening hours weekdays 9am-5pm.

Please note all dietary preferences must be confirmed with the hospitality team at CSMV at least 5 working days before your visit. CSMV cannot guarantee accommodating dietary preferences received any later than the cut-off date.

We are unable to offer individual personal support or one to one care for guests with additional needs. We would like to make guests aware that no CSMV staff are present on the premises between 5.00pm and 8.00am.

Quiet Day guests are welcome to arrive by 9am and leave by 5pm. Overnight guest arrivals are from 9.00am, latest arrivals are 4.45pm unless by special arrangement. Please note the Retreat Wing is closed on Mondays.

For all booking enquiries please contact the Retreat Wing Reception on 01235 763141 or email on [welcome@csmv.co.uk](mailto:welcome@csmv.co.uk)

Please see prices per person below.

<b>Quiet Day with Lunch</b>	<b>£30 per person</b>
<b>Overnight En Suite, Full Board</b>	<b>£90 per person</b>
<b>Overnight Standard, Full Board</b>	<b>£80 per person</b>

St Mary's Convent, Denchworth Road, Wantage, Oxfordshire OX12 9AU

01235 763141

[www.csmv.co.uk](http://www.csmv.co.uk)

[welcome@csmv.co.uk](mailto:welcome@csmv.co.uk)

