

WHEN	July 7th
WHERE	Combe Mill Long Hanborough
WHAT	<p>A Grade II* Listed Building, Combe Mill is the original sawmill and workshop of the Blenheim Palace Estate. This working industrial museum offers visitors a good insight into what work was like in Victorian times on a rural estate.</p> <p>There is a lot to see at Combe Mill. The Mill Building itself has many interesting features and close examination of its structure and markings tell us a lot about how this industrial building was used during its long history.</p> <p>The original timber sawmill is at right angles to the museum building and is now office accommodation. Power to turn the sawmill machinery was delivered from under the workshop floor by means of pulleys and belts long ago removed from the undercroft. However, quite a lot still remains in the museum building and visitors may still see the line shafting and belts in operation and driving exhibits.</p> <p>Power for the Mill was usually taken from the water wheel unless the River Evenlode was running too low to power the wheel. When this happened the steam engine was used until 1912 as the source of power.</p> <p>Remember that this site was the workshop for Blenheim Palace Estate and not just a timber mill. Upstairs in the Mill building was the pattern shop. Here skilled craftsmen made the patterns and moulds from which to cast the various iron objects needed by the estate. Visitors can see several such patterns for window frames and gear wheels, for example.</p> <p>Carpenters, wood turners and wheelwrights also worked in the building and some of their machinery and tools can be seen.</p> <p>https://www.combemill.co.uk/</p>
LOCATION	<p>Travel time – 80 min</p> <p>Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills ,Combe , OX29 8ET</p>
FACILITIES	Toilets, café
TIMING	Leave Weston Turville 5 Bells Car park 9-45 to arrive before 11-00 am. Leave site at 3-00pm
COSTS	Including Tea on arrival and before leaving £20 - Bring Packed Lunch. We will have a guide tour and talk about the history of the site. The Museum will open especially for us
OTHER ACTIVITIES	The Oxfordshire Museum is about 5 miles miles away in Woodstock and has free entry.