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Area Comparison: Oxford vs Cambridge

All property types · Last 5 years · Generated 25 Jul 2026

Oxford

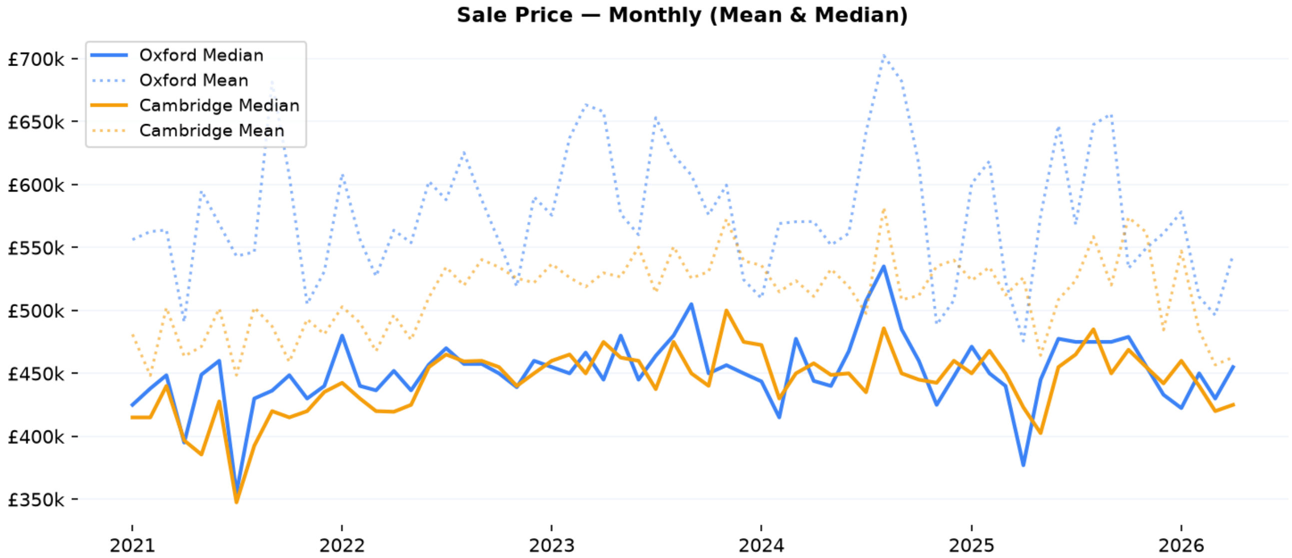
Median: £451,508

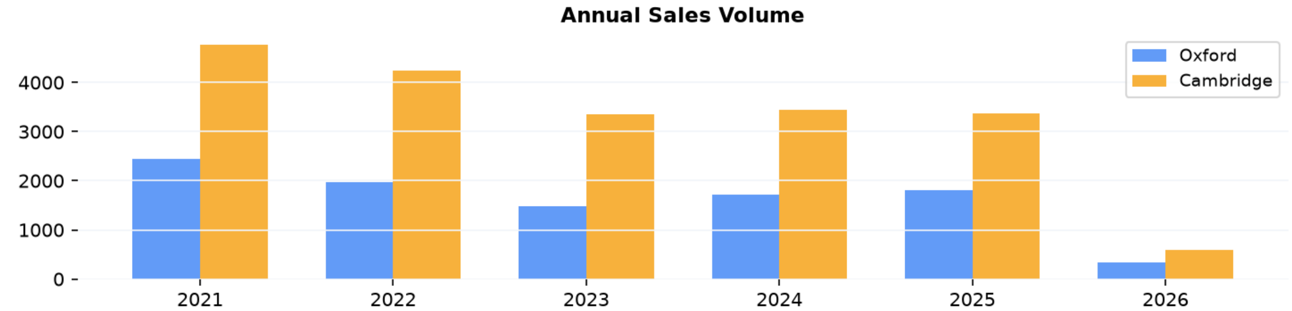
Sales: 9,760 | Change: +5.2%

Cambridge

Median: £443,256

Sales: 19,761 | Change: +10.3%





Comparison Commentary

Oxford holds a modest price premium over Cambridge, with a median of £451,508 compared to £443,256—a difference of roughly £8,250 or 1.9 percent. However, Cambridge has recorded nearly double the transaction volume with 19,761 sales against Oxford's 9,760 over the five-year period, suggesting a more active and liquid market. The mean prices tell a similar story, with Oxford at £577,225 and Cambridge at £513,090, indicating that both areas attract high-value properties but Oxford's top end is marginally stronger.

Cambridge's price growth substantially outpaces Oxford's, rising 10.3 percent against 5.2 percent over five years. Oxford's median peaked at £462,500 in 2023 before softening slightly to £458,000 by 2025, while Cambridge climbed steadily from £420,000 in 2021 to £460,000 in 2023 and held around £455,000 into 2025. This pattern suggests Cambridge's market has momentum and resilience, whereas Oxford has experienced minor consolidation after peak valuations—a meaningful distinction for buyers considering long-term appreciation.

For value, Cambridge emerges the stronger proposition. It offers lower entry prices, significantly higher transaction frequency indicating easier onward sale, and superior price growth momentum. Both are university cities with educated populations (83.1 percent degree-level qualifications in Cambridge versus 79.4 percent in Oxford) and typical city-centre crime profiles. Cambridge's rail connectivity is fractionally closer at 2.3 kilometres and includes a direct 50-minute service to London Kings Cross with 69 daily trains, versus Oxford's 51-minute Paddington route with 44 trains daily—a meaningful advantage for regular London commuters seeking frequency and reliability.

A detailed Commute Report comparing journey times, delay patterns, and season ticket costs between Cambridge's Kings Cross route and Oxford's Paddington corridor would help identify which city genuinely offers better value for London-dependent workers.