# FARINGDON HOUSE - TO LET

THE REAL

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## FARINGDON HOUSE Faringdon, oxfordshire

### A Georgian Gem

Reception hall • Drawing room • Morning room Music room • Kitchen/breakfast room • Dining room Utility room • Cloakroom • Interconnecting self-contained apartment and additional flat

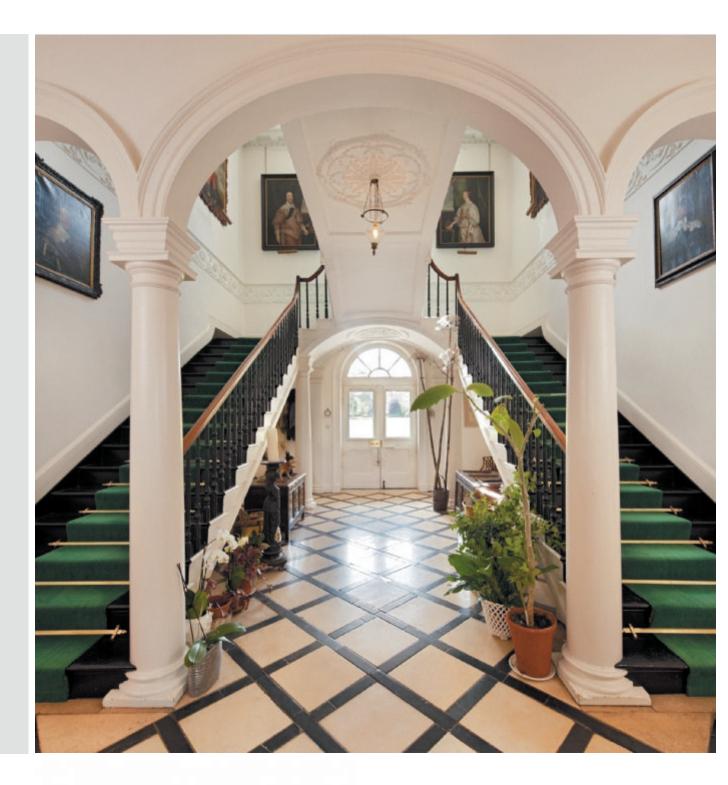
Master bedroom with ensuite bathroom 11 further bedrooms (2 ensuite) • 5 further bathrooms

Lower ground floor with 3 sitting rooms • 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms • 2 kitchens • Boiler room Wine cellar • Laundry room • Store rooms

Garaging • Swimming pool • Orangery • Walled garden Orchard • Plane tree avenue and access to Lake with Boathouse

#### Tenancy area of 14.81 acres

Swindon 12 miles • Abingdon 15 miles Cirencester 20 miles • Oxford 21 miles • London 77 miles Didcot Parkway 20 miles (trains to Paddington 40 mins) Swindon Train Station (trains to Paddington from 1 hour) (All distances and times are approximate)





#### **Faringdon House**

The present Faringdon House was constructed between 1770 and 1785 for Sir Henry Pye, who was to become Poet Laureate. His family lived in an earlier house on the site since the 1630s and during the Civil War the house withstood a siege by Oliver Cromwell and the son of the then owner.

The house is Grade I Listed and has many exquisite architectural features and details. It is thought that the architect may have been John Wood the Younger of Bath and its style is classically Georgian in form and proportion. The most stunning interior feature is a 2-storey entrance hall, with a staircase that returns on itself in a single central flight to the first floor.

As fascinating as the architecture is the list of former owners and the visitors they entertained. The Cunard shipping family were owners in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and through the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the 14<sup>th</sup> Lord Berners lived at the house. He was a composer, writer, artist and celebrated eccentric who entertained lavishly and exuberantly. Guests included Sir John Betjeman, Salvador Dali, Aldous Huxley, Igor Stravinsky and HG Wells.



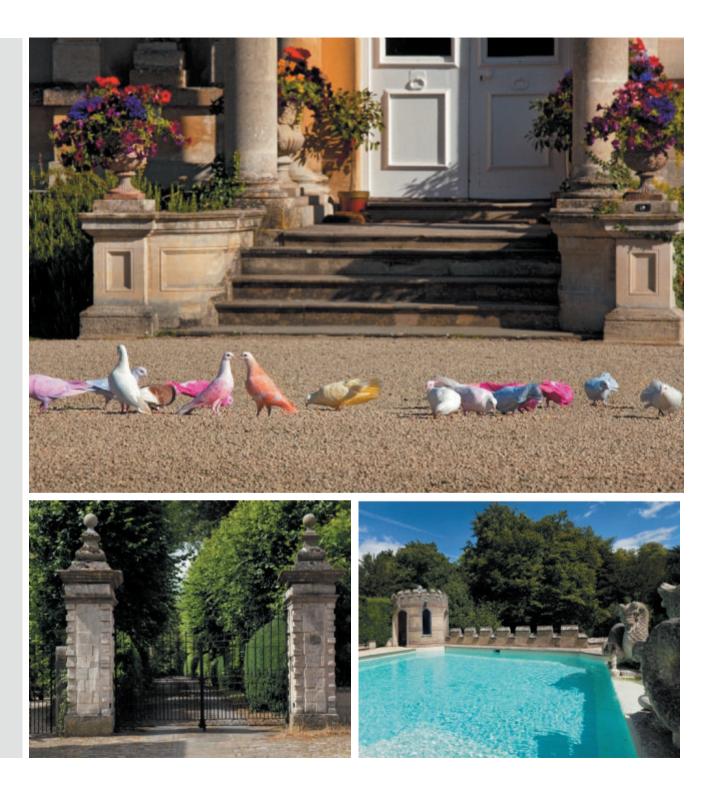
The main access to the house is via a gated entrance on the southern (town) side but there is also a wonderful occasional entrance between a pair of lodges to the northwest of the house, which sweep over a bridge and across the parkland.

Through the front door and magnificent hall is the drawing room, which is full of light from 3 full height windows and looks out over a terrace, lawn, fountain and parkland with far-reaching views beyond. This room links with the sitting room, to create a remarkable 50ft long space for entertaining. Elsewhere on the ground floor is a study, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room and a link through to the housekeeper's flat. The first floor begins with a spectacular landing with views through to the church and from here is access to the master ensuite bedroom and 4 further bedrooms (2 ensuite). On the second floor are a further 6 bedrooms with 2 bathrooms and the lower ground floor features a number of general rooms and space for accommodation, storage and other uses.

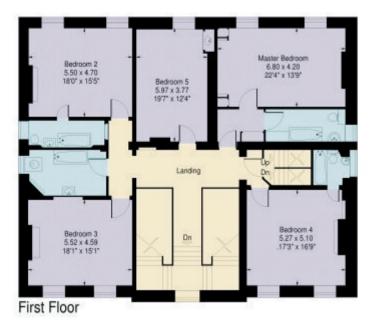
In addition to the house there are extensive gardens and grounds, a walled garden, greenhouses, swimming pool, garaging and stables. Gardening is included in the tenancy and the gardener lives in a cottage near the gates.

Faringdon House lies on elevated ground to the north of the town of Faringdon. Faringdon is an historic Oxfordshire market town situated in the Vale of the White Horse between the Cotswolds and the upper reaches of The Thames to the north and the Ridgeway and Berkshire Downs to the south. The town retains its weekly market and the distinctive Faringdon Folly which is one of the last of its kind and built by a former owner of Faringdon House.

Communications to Oxford and Swindon (M4) are good and London can be reached in less than an hour by train from Swindon or Didcot Parkway. The Vale is rich in beauty and history and offers many attractions and opportunities to enjoy country life.

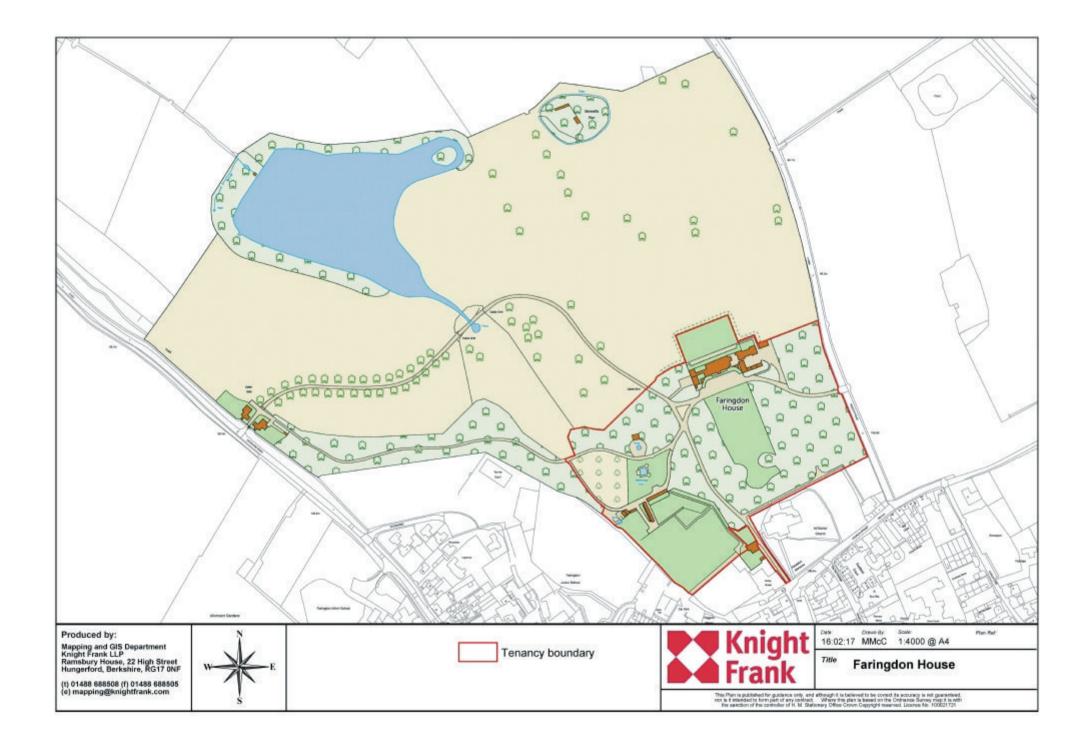












#### **Directions (Postcode SN7 8AE)**

From London take the M4 heading west and exit J14, to Hungerford/Wantage (A338), continue to Wantage and follow the sign to Faringdon on the A417. After 9 miles turn right onto A420, take first left to London Street. Continue to the middle of Faringdon, and head north from the town square on the A4095 signed to Witney. The entrance gates are straight ahead before the right hand turn past the church.

#### Services

Mains water and electricity. Oil fired central heating. Propane gas. Private drains.

#### Terms

Furnishings: The house is available unfurnished

Fees: All potential tenants should be advised that as well as rent and deposit, an administration fee of £274 and referencing fees of £48 per person will apply when renting a property. Please ask us for more information about other fees that may apply <u>www.knightfrank.co.uk/tenantcharges</u>





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