



**Aberdeen City
Heritage Trust**

Production of this leaflet
supported by Aberdeen
City Heritage Trust

DOORS OPEN DAYS 2023

ABERDEEN CITY

2nd & 3rd of September

Doors Open Days is Scotland's largest free festival that celebrates places and stories, new and old.

Explore the national programme:
[DOOROPENDAYS.ORG.UK](https://dooropendays.org.uk)



International School Aberdeen

North Deeside Road, AB15 9PN

SAT 10am - 2pm

Established in 1972, ISA is Scotland's first international school. With an international approach and firm roots in Aberdeen, almost half of their 500- student population is local. This year they are proudly celebrating a belated 50 years of educational excellence in Aberdeen and welcome you to visit their impressive campus.

Facilities:   

Aberdeen Central Library

Rosemount Viaduct, AB25 1GW

SAT 9am - 5pm

Opened in 1892, Central Library is the main branch of Aberdeen City Libraries. Currently home to the Lending Library, Children's Library, Media Centra and Information Centre.

Facilities:   



Bon Accord Baths

Justice Mill Ln, AB11 6EP

SAT 10am - 3.30pm

Visitors will have the opportunity to explore some of the public areas of the Baths building, see the remaining private bathing area and experience the large atmospheric pool hall, whilst also viewing an exhibition on the building's history, learning about the project to save it to date, and viewing plans for its future.

Facilities:  



The Zoology Museum

Zoology Building, Tillydrone Avenue, AB24 2TZ

SAT 10am - 4pm

Enjoy a meet and greet with a formal introduction to gallery displays, specimen handling in the ABC, family craft activities relating to the collections with self guided activity sheets and trails.

Facilities:     

Aberdeen Saints Croquet Club at Westburn Park

The lawn @ Westburn Park

SAT 11am - 3pm

SUN 11am - 2pm

An introduction to croquet. Get your trainers on and get the opportunity to play this traditional game! Equipment will be provided.

Facilities: 

Outerspaces

Holburn House 475-485 Union Street, AB11 6DB

SAT - 10am - 3pm

SUN - 11am - 3pm

An alternative infrastructure for the arts providing artists with the opportunity to utilise empty shops, offices, and industrial space, to produce and exhibit their work, and rehearse, perform, and deliver workshops and events. Visitors will have the chance to see a multimedia installation called "Gargoyle's Lament" by visual artist Emily Weaver. Booking required:

www.bit.ly/3YC1jbm

Facilities:   

Camphill School Aberdeen

Murtle House, Bieldside, AB15 9EP

SAT 11am - 4pm

The public will be able to walk around the walled garden at their leisure which is cared for by the children, young people and staff. Visit the heritage craft displays dotted throughout the garden and have the chance to have a go with some of the traditional heritage crafts kept alive at Camphill School Aberdeen

Facilities:    

Institute of Medical Science (IMS)

Ashgrove Road West, AB25 2ZD

SAT 10am - 4pm

The institute accommodates over 400 scientists and research staff studying neuroscience, microbiology, immunology, cell development biology, pharmacology, bone and muscle. There will be hands on science demonstrations, games and activities for all ages. Guided tours of certain labs will be available at 10.30am, 1pm and 2.30pm. Booking required, email p.j.mccaffery@abdn.ac.uk. 14 years+

Facilities:    

The Sir Duncan Rice Library

Museums and Special Collections

University of Aberdeen The Sir Duncan

Rice Library Aberdeen AB24 3AA

SAT 10am - 4pm

Visitors will have an opportunity explore from top to bottom taking in the stunning atrium view before heading to the Old Aberdeen Library. Enjoy the best panoramic view of Aberdeen and have a go at some skyline activities. The Special Collection team will be showing visitors a selection of its rare atlases and maps.

Facilities:     

See last page for special talk details.

St Marys Chapel (Kirk of St Nicholas)

Correction Wynd, AB10 1JL

SAT 10am - 3.30pm

Dating from around 1450, the church has a stone vaulted ceiling, carved wood panels, stained glass and a witches ring. Wardens will be on hand to answer any questions. There will be a small exhibition of paintings.

Facilities:   

St Andrews Cathedral

28 King Street, AB24 5AX

SAT 8am - 4pm

SUN 8am - 7.30pm

Visitors can enjoy a Cathedral concert and a Igbo Doric Ubuntu Ceilidh. On the Sunday - Holy communion, sung Eucharist, world food festival and choral evensong!

Facilities:   



Peacock & the Worm

21 Castle Street, AB11 5BQ

SAT 9.30am - 5.30pm

A traditional artist print making studio utilising traditional printing techniques to create bespoke art prints and artist projects. Tours will be available at 11am, 1pm and 3pm. There will be a new Aberdeen Bestiary exhibition and letter press printing demonstration. Check social media for update on booking requirements.

Facilities:  

Aberdeen Crematorium

Skene Road, Hazlehead, AB15 8PT

SAT 10am - 4pm

Guided tours of all areas of the Crematorium

Facilities:      

Hearing loop (only in chapel)



Aberdeen Citadel

28 Castle Street, AB11 5BG

SAT 10am - 4pm

Visit this beautiful historic granite church and Community Centre. See their unique stained glass windows and have a guided tour around the building.

Facilities:     

Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives

Old Aberdeen House, Dunbar Street, Old Aberdeen, AB24 3UJ

SAT 10am - 4pm

Old Aberdeen House is one of the homes of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives, housing many fascinating collections of historical documents relating to the region. Visitors can enjoy a “behind the scenes” guided tour of two of the archive storage areas as well as a display of historic documents. Tours are every hour, last one 3pm.

Booking required: www.bit.ly/3QAkjVM

Facilities:   

St James Episcopal Church

1-3 Holburn Street, AB10 6B

SAT 10.30am - 3.30pm

Dating from 1887, the church has beautiful stained glass windows. Organist Kamil Mika will play from 11am until 1130am.

Facilities:     

Freemasons Hall

85 Crown St, AB11 6EX

SAT & SUN 10am - 4pm

Historic building opened in 1910 with many interesting architectural features

Facilities:     

The Rowett Institute

Ashgrove Road West, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZD

SAT 10am- 4pm

The Institute is a research centre that studies human health and nutrition - covering aspects of nutrition including human intervention studies, dietary assessment, appetite regulation, electrophysiology, microbiology, food security, toxicology, life course nutrition, and systems medicine. Members of the public will be welcome to join guided tours of the building and Research groups will be showcasing their work.

Facilities:     

Maggies Centre

Elizabeth Montgomerie Building, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, AB25 2UJ

SAT 10am -2pm

Celebrating 10 years since they opened their doors, Maggies welcomes everyone to visit their stunning centre on the grounds of ARI. Experience a warm welcome and find out more about their unique programme of cancer support.

Facilities:     

Kings College Chapel

College Bounds, AB24 3FX

Sat 10am - 12pm

The University was founded in 1495 and the chapel is its oldest surviving building and the oldest building in Aberdeen City. Inside includes the finest surviving pre-reformation choir stalls in Scotland and a host of other treasures. Dr Louise Page will conduct a tour at 10.30am

Facilities:     

St Machar Cathedral

The Chanonry, AB24 1RQ

SAT 10am - 4pm

Visit this beautiful 15th Century Cathedral with medieval twin towers and a world famous heraldic ceiling dating from 1520. This is Aberdeen's oldest public building. Visitors can view original 14th century documents, enjoy live music and even try ringing the bells!

Facilities:       

Masjid Alhikmah and Community Centre

42 Nelson Street, AB24 5ER

SAT 11am - 4pm

A place of worship and a welcoming hub for the whole community. There will be a guided mosque tour and live prayer viewing.

Facilities:   

Albyn School

17-23 Queens Road, AB15 4PB

SUN 10am - 4pm

Founded in 1867, the buildings are a blend of traditional 19th century granite villas and contemporary architecture. Visitors will have the chance to learn how the school was founded and the interesting history. Guided tours will be offered at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm.

Facilities:    

St John the Evangelist Scottish Episcopal Church

16 Crown Terrace, AB11 6HD

SAT 10am - 4pm

Opening in 1851, the church is a beautiful building including a medieval font, Comper reredos and Arch mural. A restoration of the "cloister" link between church and hall has recently been completed with a stunning adjoining garden.

Facilities:   

Cruickshank Botanic Gardens

The Herbarium, Cruickshank Building,

St. Machar Drive AB24 3UU

SAT & SUN

Visit this beautiful garden that will be open at any time for public enjoyment



Ferryhill Railway Heritage Trust

Polmuir Avenue, AB11 7WH

SAT & SUN 10am - 4pm

Visit this interesting restored 1850s Engine Shed, Turntable and Museum. Visitors will have the opportunity to see work on a number of railway vehicles undergoing restoration.

Facilities:     

Donside Hydro (ACE)

Off Papermill Avenue, AB24 2PB

SAT 10am - 4pm

A community led run-of-river hydroelectricity generator, generating up to 100 kilowatts of electrical energy from the flow of the River Don. Visitors can view the hydro from the riverside path and will be shown around the site and inside the turbine house on request.

Facilities: 

Aberdeen Trades Union Council

22a Adelphi, AB11 5BL

SAT 10am - 4pm

Formed in 1868, the council forms an important role supporting workers in challenging times. A range of historical artefacts will be on display. There will be a special Aberdeen social centre Radical Café with books on sale and literature from local activist campaigns.

Facilities:    



Trinity Hall

164 Holburn Street, AB10 6DA

SAT 10am - 4pm

A city centre hidden gem and the hub of The Seven Incorporated Trades of Aberdeen. Founded in 1587 there are Artefacts on display dating from the 15th Century and outstanding stained glass windows.

Facilities:    

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

North Anderson Drive, AB15 6DD

SAT 10am - 4pm

The church was designed in Salt Lake City and must of looked very American when it was first built! There will be guided tours available along with family history research.

Facilities:      

Aberdeen Quaker Meeting House

98 Crown Street, AB11 6HJ

SAT 9am - 4pm

A meeting place built in 1903. Visitors are free to walk around and friends will be in attendance to answer any questions.

Facilities:     

St Margaret's School

17 Albyn Place , AB10 1RU

SAT 10am - 12.30pm

Founded in 1846, the school is Scotland's oldest all through girls school. Visitors can have a guided tour of the school buildings by senior pupils and can be taken to the library where they will be able to browse items from their 177-year history and speak to staff members.

Facilities:     

Devana Parish Church of Scotland

Fonthill Road, AB11 6UD

SAT 10am - 4pm

A late Victorian church in the classic style. Visit the Piper Alpha memorial window and learn more about the disaster. See memorials to WW1 And WW2 and the 51st Highland Signals regiment. Stunning stained glass windows including the famous "Nativity set". Browse at your leisure, have an audio guide, information paddle or ask a member for a tour.

Facilities:      

Aberdeen Bridge Club

14 Rubislaw Terrace, AB10 1XE
SAT 10am - 4pm

Home to the Bridge club, Aberdeen Scrabble club and Bon Accord Chess Club. You will have the opportunity to watch experienced Bridge players and to try it yourself, with experienced teachers on hand to teach you the basics. Guided tours will be available every half an hour between 10.30am and 3.30pm

Facilities:    

Gilcomston Church

Union Street, AB10 1TP
SAT 10am - 12pm

SUN 10am - 12.30pm & 6pm-8pm

Another chance to explore a building that's been a landmark on Union Street for over 150 years: from the massive 'wheel-window' and impressive pipe organ to the comfortable seating and the presentation screens. Visitors can view at their leisure.

Facilities:     

Central Community Fire Station

2 Mounthooly way, AB24 3ER
SAT 10am - 4pm

Meet your local crews from Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Ambulance and Police Scotland, along with many other organisations. Tours will be available throughout the day every half an hour.

Facilities:     

Robert Gordons College

Schoolhill, AB 10 1FE
SAT 10am - 4pm

An independent school for children aged 3 to 18 years. The school was built between 1732 and 1742 by Robert Gordon as a residential school for poor boys on land previously occupied by a monastery of Black Friars. Join them for a guided tour every hour between 10am and 3pm.

Facilities:  

WASPS Artists Studio

36-48 Langstane Place , AB11 6FB
SAT 10am - 4pm

A range of artist studios within the building will be open for people to walk around at their leisure - this is a chance to see artists' work in progress and completed work within the studio setting.

Facilities:   



Confucius Institute

17 High Street, AB24 3EE
SAT 10 am - 4pm

Join the institute for a taste of traditional Chinese culture, with live music, dance, Tai Chi, craft and more. Watch a demonstration or have a try yourself at the following times. No booking is required. Dance 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm Tai Chi 10.30am, 11.30am, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm

Facilities:     

Childline

Suite A, Ground Floor West, Meridian,
Union Row, AB10 1SA
SAT 10am - 3pm

Come for a guided tour of the office/ counselling centre. Staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and there will be a presentation ongoing for those who would like to learn more about volunteering as a Childline counsellor.

Facilities:     

Use the key below to understand what facilities are available at each venue and assess their accessibility:



Wheelchair Accessible Building



Wheelchair Accessible Toilet



Refreshments Available



Limited Access



Toilet Available



Events For Children



Not An Accessible Building



Hearing Loop



Parking Available

Please check with venues directly for further information and if booking is required.

Every September you can explore hundreds of fascinating buildings across Scotland for free. Some open up once a year, some just once a lifetime.

From hidden libraries, enchanting churches, green spaces and more! Explore Aberdeen City and rediscover its beauty.

Doors Open Days is celebrated each September as part of European Heritage Days in Scotland. The festival is coordinated nationally by the Scottish Civic Trust and is supported by Historic Environment Scotland.

To explore the full national programme and plan visits to venues all over Scotland, you can visit our website:

DOORSOPENDAYS.ORG.UK

Last minute alterations and additions to this programme may be unavoidable, keep up to date by visiting: www.facebook.com/aberdeendoorsopenday and www.doorsopendays.org.uk. Please take care when visiting buildings, which you do at your own risk. Neither the Local Area Coordinator nor the building owners take responsibility for any accidents or damage.



“Thank you to the University of Aberdeen, Sir Duncan Rice Library for hosting our special talk on Crime & Punishment in Aberdeen (1500s-1700s) by Dr Chris Croy”

Please email Seonaidh_martin@hotmail.com to book your ticket.

Designed by



Thank you to our partners and sponsors:



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA



European Heritage Days
Journées européennes du patrimoine



FOLLOW US

AberdeenDoorsOpenDay

Doorsopendayaberdeen

Doorsopendays