

Connect Here Guide to Museums in Edinburgh



Edinburgh **Health and
Social Care Partnership**



May 2023

CONTENTS

Museums

Camera Obscura	3
John Knox House Museum	3
Lauriston Castle	4
Museum of Childhood	4
Museum of Edinburgh	5
Museum of the Mound	5
National Museum of Flight	6
National Museum of Rural Life	6
National Museums Scotland	7
National War Museum	7
People's Story Museum	8
Surgeon's Hall Museum	8
Writers Museum	9

Disclaimer:

The inclusion of services or projects in this guide is in no way a commercial endorsement on the part of Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership or NHS Lothian. We are unable to guarantee the quality of service provided by the organisation listed. If you have concerns about a service listed here, please contact the service provider in the first instance and their professional body, if one exists. Please email an experience update to us and it will be taken into consideration whilst updating the next guide. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information in this guide, neither Edinburgh Health and Social Care or NHS Lothian will accept liability for errors or omissions and any resulting harm.

Email: ConnectHereUpdates@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

**Camera Obscura
and World of Illusions**

549 Castlehill, Royal Mile
Edinburgh EH1 2ND

T: 0131 226 3709

Opening Hours: Daily 9.00am-8.00pm

E: info@camera-obscura.co.uk

W: <https://www.camera-obscura.co.uk/>

Summary: A well-known Edinburgh attraction is the Camera Obscura and World of Illusions museum in the former observatory. This museum, which is located in a six-storey tower, teaches you everything about optical illusions. The top floor contains the Camera Obscura, from where you have a beautiful view of the city.

Tickets

Ticket adults £ 18.95 (online bookings)

Children 5 - 15 years £14.95

60+ and students £16.95

Museums

John Knox House Museum

High Street
Edinburgh EH1 1SR

T: 0131 556 9579

Opening Hours: Monday–Sunday, 10.00am-6.00pm

E: reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com

W: <https://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com/john-knox-house/>

Summary: John Knox House dates back to 1470, which makes it and Moubray House attached, the oldest, original medieval building surviving on the Royal Mile.

The house is associated with one of the most dramatic and turbulent times in Scottish History – The Scottish Reformation – which resulted in the outbreak of civil war and the abdication of Mary, Queen of Scots.

General Admission:

£7 (£5.50 Conc)

Children over 7: £1.50

Children under 7: Free

Lauriston Castle

2 Cramond Road South
Edinburgh EH4 6AD

T: 0131 336 2060

E: auristoncastle@edinburgh.gov.uk - tour enquiries

E2: margaret.findlay@edinburgh.gov.uk. (For events enquiries, learning opportunities and volunteering)

Opening Hours: Free entry to the grounds Gates open 8.00am-5.30pm

W: <https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/lauriston-castle>

Summary: Please note visits to the house have to be pre-booked and are by guided tour only.

Museums

Museum of Childhood

42 High Street
Edinburgh EH1 1TG

T: 0131 529 4142

Opening Hours: Daily from 10.00am-5.00pm

E: museumsandgalleries@edinburgh.gov.uk

W: <https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/museum-childhood>

Summary: Opened in 1955, the Museum boasts an impressive collection of toys, games and artefacts relating to British childhoods. See fascinating and rare objects as well as toys you may recognise from your own childhood.

Museum of Edinburgh

142-146 Canongate
Edinburgh EH8 8DD

T: 0131 529 4143

Opening Hours: Daily from 10.00am-5.00pm

E: museumsandgalleries@edinburgh.gov.uk

W: <https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/museum-edinburgh>

Summary: Discover Edinburgh's fascinating history through the Museum of Edinburgh's wide and varied collections. In exploring the Museum's maze of 16th century buildings, you will see iconic items, beautiful objects and learn fascinating facts and gruesome tales.

This free museum is easy to locate on the historic Royal Mile and with a wide range of stories and objects, this museum has something for young and old, locals and visitors.

Museums

Museum of the Mound

The Mound
Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

T: 0131 243 5464

Opening Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am-5.00pm Saturday 1.00pm-5.00pm

E: info@museumonthemound.com

W: <https://museumonthemound.com/>

FB: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/MuseumontheMound/>

Tw: <https://twitter.com/museumonmound>

Summary: Located in the historic Bank of Scotland Head Office, this fascinating museum takes a fresh look at money – and much, much more. Art and design, technology, crime, trade and security – all feature in the story of money. Open throughout the year and admission is FREE.

National War Museum

Edinburgh Castle
Edinburgh EH1 2NG

T: 0300 123 6789

Opening Hours: Open daily 9.45am-4.45pm

W1: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/national-war-museum/>

W2: <https://www.edinburghcastle.scot/> (To book)

Summary: Explore the galleries and discover uniforms, insignia and equipment, medals, decorations, weapons, paintings, ceramics and silverware. All throw light on Scotland's military history, from world-changing events to the everyday life of Scottish servicemen. Try the First World War Trail too!

Pre-booking tickets is recommended for guaranteed entry, click on the above links for admission information.

Museums

National Museum of Flight

East Fortune Airfield,
Edinburgh EH39 5LF

Opening Hours: 10.00am-5.00pm

W: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-flight/>

Summary: The Museum has now re-opened, pre-booking a ticket to visit the National Museum is no longer necessary but is recommended.

Click on the above link for more information.

National Museum of Rural Life

Philipshill Road
East Kilbride G76 9HR

Opening Hours: 10.00am-5.00pm

W: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-rural-life/>

Summary: This Museum's mission is to preserve, interpret and make accessible for all the natural world through the past and present of Scotland, other nations and cultures.

Click on the links above for online booking of available tickets.

Museums

National Museums Scotland

Chambers Street
Edinburgh EH1 1JF

Opening Hours: 10.00am-4.30pm

W: <https://www.nms.ac.uk/>

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalMuseumsScotland>

Tw: <https://twitter.com/NtlMuseumsScot>

Inst: <https://www.instagram.com/nationalmuseumscotland/>

Summary: The online database contains a selection of 12 million objects and collection specimens, with new records being added regularly. Click on the links above to explore the Museum Online, to enjoy the site's games and learning resources section. You no longer have to pre-book your visit to the Museums in Chambers Street.

Peoples Story Museum

The Royal Mile
163 Canongate
Edinburgh EH8 8BN

T: 0131 529 4057
Opening Hours: Daily from 10.00am-5.00pm

E: museumsandgalleries@edinburgh.gov.uk
W: <https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/peoples-story-museum>

Summary: The People's Story gives an unique insight in to Edinburgh's working class people from the 18th century to the late 20th century. The displays include tableaux, original objects, images and personal stories revealing their fascinating history of the city.

Museum

Surgeon's Hall Museums

Nicolson Street
Edinburgh EH8 9DW

T: 0131 527 1711/160
Opening Hours: Daily from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

E: museum@rcsed.ac.uk
W: <https://museum.rcsed.ac.uk/>
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/surgeonshallmuseum>

Summary: The Surgeon's Hall Museum has received multiple awards and houses the largest and most historic collection of pathological objects.. The museum opened in 1832, making it one of the oldest museums in both Edinburgh and Scotland. You can learn more about the evolution of surgical instruments, experience the first public dissection and learn more about famous medical names such as Burke, Hare, Lister and Simpson.

Admission: Adults £ 8.50, children up to 16 and people over 60 £4.50

Writers' Museum

Lawnmarket,
Lady Stair's Cl,
Edinburgh EH1 2PA

T: 0131 529 4901

Opening Hours: Daily from 10.00 am-5.00 pm

E: museumsandgalleries@edinburgh.gov.uk

W: <https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/writers-museum>

Summary: The Writers' Museum is located on The Royal Mile in the Lady Stair's House on the Lawnmarket. The museum focuses on three Scottish writers: Robert Burns, Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson. The collection contains works, personal objects and portraits of these three well-known authors. One of the highlights of the Writers' Museum is the original Robert Burns writing desk and the plaster cast of the author's skull. The museum is maintained by the City of Edinburgh Council. Next to the museum is the Makar's Court, where several literary quotes are engraved, making the square seen as an "evolving literary monument."