



Walks

Walk A (see details on reverse) Walk B (see details on reverse)

Additional walks There are many walks around Aberdeen representing the heritage and nature of this region. Here are just a few popular locations.

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Aberdeen is a fascinating city of huge contrasts. The Oil Capital of Europe is also one of the best wildlife watching sites in Europe. A long-term tourist hot spot that once had as many universities as the whole of England, the Granite City is ultra-modern but where a business sign says 'Established 1472'

It has always been one of Scotland's key cities, occupying the land around a natural harbour facing northern Europe, leading to strong trade links. Combined with an abundance of natural resources, this has resulted in a wealthy and vibrant city.

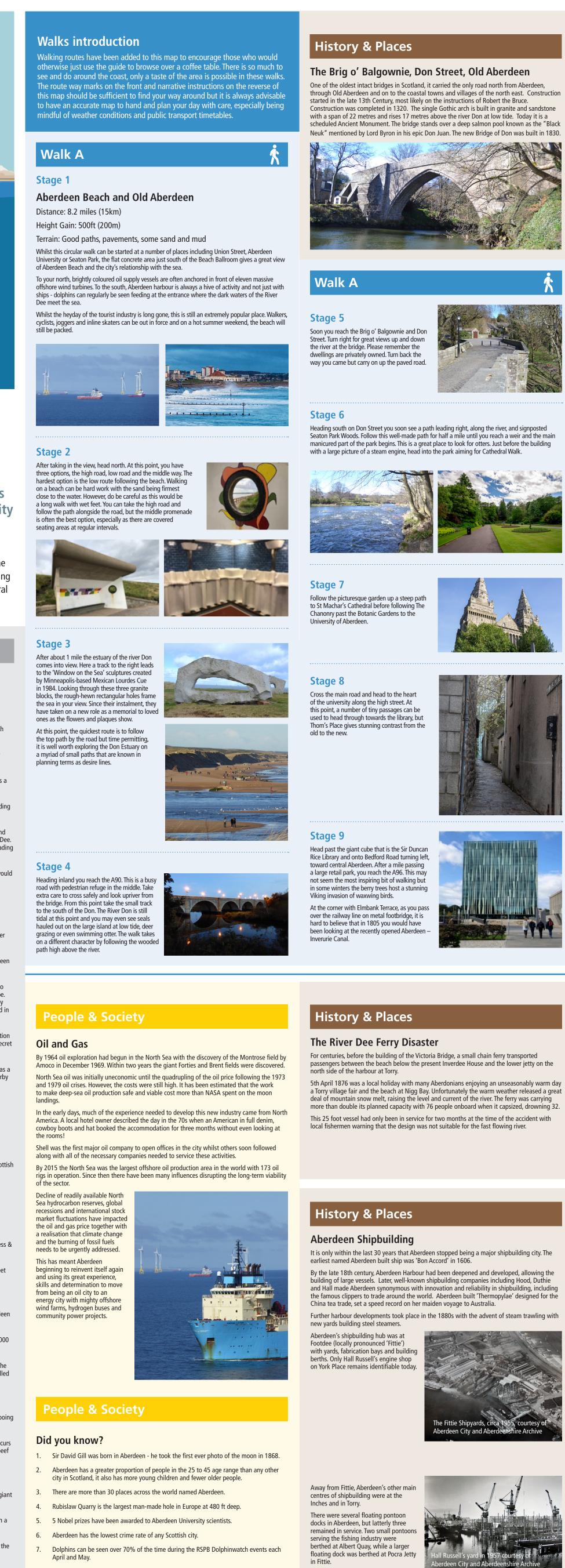
Aberdeen

c:	
	Hunter gatherers colonise Aberdeenshire.
	Three stone Cairns are built at what is now Cults. Two remain with one removed in the 18th century for repairs on the River Dee.
Circa 100AD	Roman forces are present in Aberdeenshire with a possible major battle south of the city.
Circa 200AD	Tillydrone Motte has evidence of bronze age burials. Later built as a defensive structure. Can be found in Seaton Park.
6th Century	St Machar, an Irish saint forms the first church in Aberdeen according to legend.
1136 – 1179	Aberdeen started as two communities: Old Aberdeen based around the mouth of the River Don and New Aberdeen around the River Dee. In 1136, New Aberdeen became the first to be recognised as a trading burgh, this was followed by a Royal Charter in 1179.
1200	Aberdeen Harbour first formally recorded. The sheltered waters would have been in use much earlier.
1220	The city was based around four main streets and a market.
1257	Aberdeen Grammar School founded.
1286	Scotland's oldest bridge, the Brig of Balgownie; built over the River Don.
1296 – 1328	Scotland's first war of independence. For much of this time Aberdeen was under the control of English forces.
1297	Having taken Dunnottar castle, William Wallace's army marched to Aberdeen where they found English forces getting ready to escape. Stuck in mud at low tide they were easy targets and massacred by Wallace's forces and their ships burned. The English soon returned in force.
1308	Townsfolk overrun the English Garrison. This battle saw the adoption of the motto 'Bon Accord' which was used by Aberdonians as a secret password to mark the start of the final onslaught.
1319	The Great Charter was given to the City by Robert the Bruce. It was a major elevation in status including granting income from the nearby Forest of Stocket, and the basis of the Common Good Fund that benefits the City to this day.
1495	Kings College was founded.
1514 – 16	Aberdeen hit by the Plague.
1593	Marischal College formed.
1596	The 'William' left Aberdeen bound for America. It was the first Scottish ship to cross the Atlantic.
1644	The Battle of Aberdeen
1707	Union of Parliament with England.
1739	Aberdeen Royal Infirmary established.
1748	First edition of Aberdeen's Journal later became the Aberdeen Press & Journal.
1801	The City transformed by the building of Union Street, George Street and King Street.
1845	Construction of the Great North Railway.
1903	The Aberdeen, Victoria United and Orion clubs merged into Aberdeen Football Club.
1914 – 18	World War 1. Of the 50,000 Gordon Highlanders who served, 29,000 were injured and 9,000 killed.
1939 – 45	World War 2. Aberdeen was attacked 32 times by the Luftwaffe. The last raid was the deadliest with 98 civilians and 27 servicemen killed on the 21st of April 1943.
1959	Discovery of gas off the coast of Holland.
1963	The Beatles play Aberdeen getting a mixed reaction with some booing from the crowd.
1964	City in Lockdown as the last major Typhoid outbreak in Britain occurs in the city. This was traced to a single tin of Argentinean corned beef sold in a William Low supermarket on Union Street.
1964	Oil exploration began in the North Sea.
1969 – 71	Discovery of the Montrose Field by Amoco. Within two years the giant Forties and Brent fields were discovered.
1980	The world's first full body MRI scanner is used for the first time on a patient at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.
1983	Aberdeen Football Club win the European Cup Winners' Cup and the European Super Cup.
1988	6th July Piper Alpha oil rig disaster.
1989	The last of over 3000 ships is built in Aberdeen. The St Helena has provided a lifeline to the islands she was named after for over 25 years.
2005	The East Grampian Coastal Partnership is formed.

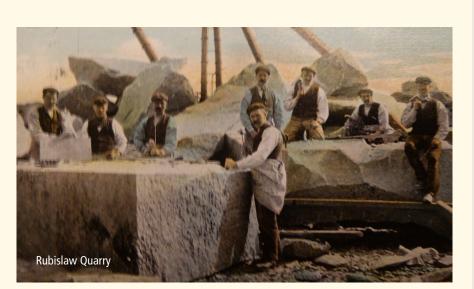
2006 Harbour Marine Operations Centre opened. 2019 Construction starts on a second Aberdeen harbour



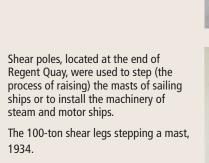




- 8. Equivalent of 70% of Aberdeen's domestic power is supplied by the Aberdeen Bay Wind-
- 9. 99.5% of the 3500 salmon caught are returned to the river Dee by anglers.
- 10. Aberdeen has the highest gross weekly earnings of any city in Scotland and the highest proportion of multi-millionaires of any UK city, just ahead of London.
- 11. Established in 1136, Aberdeen Harbour Board is the oldest business in Great Britain.
- 12. 123 is the number of recorded shipwrecks between the Bridge of Don and Cove Harbour. 13. Hazlehead park is home to Scotland's oldest maze - planted in 1935.
- 14. Sir Winston Churchill was granted freedom of the city in 1946.
- The self-seal envelope was developed in Aberdeen.
- More medieval coin hoards have been found in Aberdeen than anywhere else in the UK. The Press and Journal newspaper is the oldest in Scotland, established in 1747.
- Over 240 bird species have been recorded at Girdle Ness.
- Aberdeen is the home of the world's first whole body MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scanner developed by Professor John Mallard. A prototype can be seen at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary



Pontoon dock No. 3 - Built in 1911 by Vickers Armstrong at Barrow-in-Furness, with a lifting capacity of 5,350 tons:



The last vessel built in Aberdeen was 'RMS St Helena' in 1989. This cargo liner served her

amesake British overseas territory until 2018. Whilst ship building is now consigned to history, Aberdeen Harbour is still thriving in support of the oil and gas industry. Some of the original quayside buildings and streets remain but with glass fronted offices demonstrating the changing times. Aberdeen still retains an important role n repairing and maintaining ships including specialist dry dock services.





History & Places Marischal College Founded in 1593, Marischal College was Britain's 7th university. The present building was constructed in 1835 and is the 2nd largest granite structure in the world. It is now home to Aberdeen City Council having been leased from the University of Aberdeen for 100 years. If you look above the entrance, you can see the coat of arms of the main supporters of the original two universities.

Walk A

passing through the Bon Accord Centre.

Passing the Town House, you reach Union Street.

Stage 10

Stage 11

and the Town House



Cross the pedestrian railway bridge and turn left following the A96 until you bear right down

George Street. Keep going as the road becomes one of Aberdeen's top shopping thoroughfares

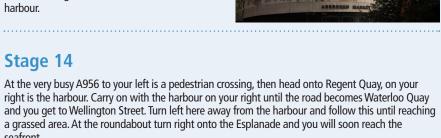
Turn left onto Upper Kirkgate before reaching Broad Street which is home to Marischal College

Whilst in this area listen for the cries of the peregrine falcons that breed on the towers locally.

Stage 12 There are several options at this point and if you have time, a visit to the Tolbooth Museum is well

for slavery.

worth the slight detour before heading west along Union Street and down the Back Wynd steps to The Green'. This is a fascinating, almost subterranean area with many shops and bars. A common sound in this area in the 1600s would have been that of a piper. However, the reason for playing was not for entertainment - it was to cover the cries of children being held captive before being shipped Stage 13 Follow 'The Green' north, passing Aberdeen Market and on to Market Street, turning right down the hill before using the pedestrian crossing and heading left down Ship Row. If you have time. have a look in the Aberdeen Maritime Museum before heading down Shore Brae to face the





Stage 15 Make your way north along the seafront to the start of the walk, passing amusement arcades and





under any circumstances.

Piper Alpha Few nights have cast a longer, darker shadow on the psyche of Aberdeen than on the 6th of July 1988. Piper Alpha was a large oil rig supplying about 10% of North Sea oil having started production in 1976. On this day shift, regular maintenance work was undertaken on a secondary pump but was not completed and a notice placed on the supervisor's desk stating the pump should not be used

9:45 pm Two pumps stopped working and could not be restarted. This was a common issue and should have resulted in a total shut down but would have been costly. 9:55 pm The unfinished secondary pump was started and began leaking gas which exploded five minutes later. The explosion damaged the sprinkler system that was supposed to help in the event of a fire and also killed many of the key workers in the control room who may have been able to deal with some of the later problems in a better way

10:04 pm The control room was abandoned with crew gathering in the accommodation block to await rescue by helicopter. 10:20 pm A second massive explosion kills two workers on the standby vessel forcing it to retreat 10:50 pm Third major explosion. 11:20 pm The Piper Alpha accommodation block falls into the sea. 165 of the 226 men on

Given that this was, and still is, the world's worst offshore oil disaster it was important that many lessons were learnt. A 180-day enquiry led by Judge William Cullen was conducted which lead to several major safety improvements across the industry including having better blast protection and separation of the accommodation module from production facilities. It also resulted in the responsibility for regulating safety being moved to the Health and Safety Executive as previously, this had been handled by the Department of Energy who were also responsible for increasing

board are killed

A memorial to the 167 men who died can be found in the rose garden at Hazlehead

oil production.





Stormwatch Girdle Ness is always popular with walkers, golfers and leisurely families as well as dolphin watchers all enjoying the views, beaches and

wildlife. For some of the biggest crowds however you need the worst weather, as this is a spectacular place to watch big storms crashing against the harbour's south breakwate The building of this pier began in the summer of 1869, blasting the

rock to form a level foundation and then building the breakwater using concrete poured into shutters. For the underwater foundations, 20 ton concrete blocks were cast in a yard, now the carpark above the reakwater, and moved down to the site on a railway. A crane picked them up and took them out to be ositioned by men working from

The wall stoutly protected the harbour from strong easterly and southerly winds until in January 193 a sustained storm breached the wall causing a large amount of damage which took almost a year to repair.





Nature & Environment

Image courtesy of Crawford Paris

Now the breakwaters provide great places for birds to rest and dolphins to hunt. In 2012 a Humpback whale, locally named Tarquin, spent over an hour feeding in this channel.

eople & Society

William Elphinstone - Bishop of Aberdeen 1431 to 1514 Born the illegitimate son of a canon near Glasgow; William Elphinstone rose quickly though the ranks of the Church becoming Bishop of Aberdeen in 1483. He was an influential figure taking part in diplomatic missions to England and France before becoming Lord High Chancellor. In 1495 he prompted King of Scotland James IV to petition the Pope for permission to create a university in Aberdeen. This Papal Bull is still in the university

archive today. Other successes included funding the building of the Bridge of Dee and the

People & Society

introduction of the printing press in Scotland.

Aberdeen Airport - Dyce Aberdeen Airport opened in 1934. The busiest year was 2013 with over 3.5 million passengers heading o regional UK and European lestinations. Becoming RAF Dyce during WWII the airfield deployed the Avro Anson long

along with iconic Spitfire fighters. One of the most famous planes ever to land at RAF Dyce was a German unkers JU 88 night fighter. Carrying top secret radar equipment the plane anded in May 1943 flown by a crew eager to defect. It is now in the Hendon RAF Museum.



hey are travelling to or from an offshore oil or gas installation located somewhere in the North ea, with the heliport operational since the 1960s. Whilst you might expect the aircrew to be incredibly well trained, the passengers too are skilled in the professions needed to operate every facet of an oil and gas operation, as well as the services needed to look after everyone iving on those facilities for weeks at a time. Every passenger must undergo survival training

and wear a thermal suit, life jacket and locator beacon. There are 40-50 helicopter flights per day, each with up to 19 passengers and 2 crew, currently operated by four main carriers and their distinctive liveries.

History & Places

Aberdeen Harbour

Aberdeen Harbour really is a place of surprises. It is one of Scotland's economic power houses and home to one of Europe's best wildlife spectacles (see he Hunt). The natural geography has been altered beyond all recognition with concrete walls and industry, yet it is also he point where one of Scotland's iconic almon rivers meets the sea. Going back 5000 years, Aberdeen Harbour would have been a wild river estuary, similar to the mouth of the Spey or Ythan, with shifting sand banks and bears hunting for salmon. It is likely that

travelled, lived and fished along the The navigational use of the harbour was first formalised in 1136 when King David granted charter allowing the Burgesses berdeen to charge a tax on vesse ising the estuary. The presence of a sand bar across the entrance was however a major obstacle to the movement of boats.

For the next 500 years, improvements

early humans at this time would have

to the harbour were gradual with small quays aiding the loading and unloading of vessels. In 1582 the first crane was nstalled to make this process easier and n 1610 a great bolder was removed from the harbour channel by engineering genius David Anderson, who attached empty barrels at low tide and simply floated the mighty rock away at high tide. The port as we know it took shape between 1867 and 1901 with the extension of the North Breakwater and

the development of the Albert Basin. The ultra-modern Marine Operations Centre opened in 2006 and work on a second harbour is currently under way.



Walk B

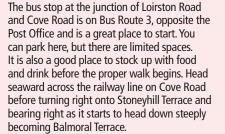
Cove to Aberdeen Distance: 8 miles (12km)

Height Gain: 600ft (250m)

Terrain: Rough, overgrown path, good paths and pavements. This varied walk goes between Cove and the centre of Aberdeen. It passes through a range of nabitats and can be rough in places so proper walking boots are highly recommended, especially for

Stage 1

the first mile.



Stage 2

The road heads steeply downhill before turning right at a small car park. The walk now turns left but a detour to explore Cove Harbour is well worth the effort. The coastal path heads cross-country at the northeast corner of the carpark. The path is small and overgrown, following the edge of the fields close to the cliff edge. This walk soon feels guite remote, but signs of industry are all around with oil supply vessels anchored just offshore. Soon you have to cross a small stream with some rather awkward stepping-stones requiring care. This section of path can be guite small and overgrown, at least in late summer.



Continuing along the path you have to zig-zag inland many times as impressive inlets cut into the land. At one point the path cuts almost to the railway line. Here you can follow the signpost to Doonies Rare Breeds Farm.

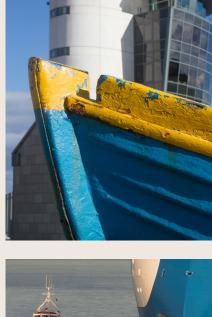




History & Places

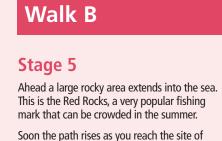
Aberdeen Marine Lab The Fishery Board for Scotland was set up in 1882 and in 1899 built a science laboratory and fish hatchery at Nigg Bay. This was a small facility, not much bigger than a modest house. Also purchased was the first of many research vessels, the 30 tonne Garland. Its first director was Dr. Thomas Wemyss Fulton whose pioneering work included being the first scientist to try and estimate fish populations by catching plaice, marking them, then recording the numbers recaptured. He also studied ocean currents using drifting bottles.

The laboratory moved to its Wood Street location in 1923 and currently employs over 300 staff.

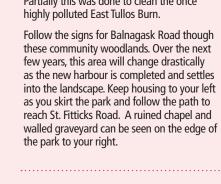








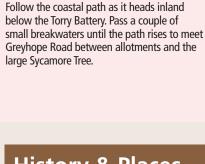




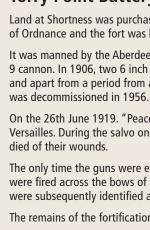


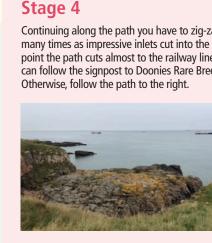
Stage 7

Turn left, up St. Fitticks Road and head up as









muddy sections it is obvious that this is

popular with mountain bikers.

History & Places

tle	of Aberdeen	

Battle of Aberdeen
Also known as the Craibstone Rout, the battle of Aberdeen took place at the start of one of the most turbulent and bloody times in British history. This was a fight between the Scottish Government Covenanters and the Royalist supporters of King Charles.
Covenantors had gathered a force of about 2000 men in Aberdeen from all over the east of Scotland under Lord Balfour of Burleigh. They faced a large force led by Lord Montrose.
On the morning of the 13th of September, Montrose sent a party including a young drummer to meet the leaders of the Covenanters to demand surrender, or failing that, to grant safe passage to women, children and the elderly. The meeting was cordial, but the surrender was rejected. On the way back to the Royalist camp a trooper from the Fife regiment fired and killed the drummer boy.
In response, Montrose ordered an immediate attack and despite having a smaller force, within two hours Royalists had won the battle. Unfortunately for the city, it did not end there and Royalist forces took bloody revenge on the city and over 100 civilians were killed after the battle.
This was only a small part of the English Civil War and the wars in Ireland that killed a higher proportion of the British population than any other in British history.

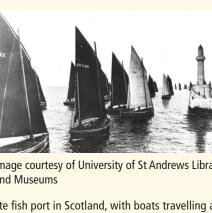
People & Society

Aberdeen Fishing Catching fish was important to Aberdeen since the area was first inhabited with the presence of two major salmon rivers attracting hunter gatherers to settle. This would have developed into coastal fishing in small boats long before it became a commercial activity

During the nineteenth century herring boom Aberdeen and the other fishing communities along the east coast saw a massive expansion in offshore fishing although at this time the industry was centred on the distinct villages of Torry and Footdee. Whilst the men were at sea, women played a critical role by mending nets, gutting and selling the catch, along with looking after their

Granite City.

or Aberdeenshire.







The transition from fishing to oil & gas showed some agility. The Don Fishing company was formed in 1902 as part of JW Holdings. In 1912 it developed a business repairing ships and servicing the fishing fleet under the name of Wood and Davidson. This business split up in 1981, with the John Wood Group formed to service the oil industry. The Wood Group now employs over 45,000 people around the world.

History & Places Bridge of Dee Originally crossed here by a ferryboat, construction only started in the 16th Century; funded by the bishops of St Machar Cathedral. It was the site of

a Bishops War skirmish in 1639 when

defeated the Royalists under Viscount

Abovne. Today the bridge connects the

Stonehaven Road and South Anderson

the Earl of Montrose Covenanters

Drive A92 route.







People & Societ

reopie a sc				
amous 'Aberdonians'				
ord George Gordon Byron	(1788-1 born in			
'illiam Dyce	(1806-1 mediev			
ertie Charles Forbes	(1880-1 Forbes			
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ary Garden	(1874 - name i			
ame Evelyn Glennie	(b.1965 2012 O			
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aul Lawrie	(b.1969 Europe Open C			

1824, A politician and poet of the Romantic movement, was London but spent his early childhood in Aberdeen. 1864) was an artist who specialised mainly in religious and al subiects. 1954) was a financial journalist and author who founded – 1843), Presbyterian minister from Belhelvie who was ted at Kings College Aberdeen. He was also an inventor ing percussion ignition for firearms. – 1967) An operatic soprano and actress, was a household in America and France. 5) is a solo percussionist. She performed at the London Olympics Opening Ceremony. -1911) a Scottish merchant, was raised in Bridge of Don s actually born in the Broch. He became one of the esterners to establish a business in Japan and he later pated in establishing businesses that would become pillars ubishi's early growth and diversification. 1731) was a highly successful merchant trader who spent of his life in Poland. On returning to Aberdeen, his fortune sed to establish a 'hospital' for boys' accommodation and ion, which became Robert Gordon's College. 10) is a former footballer. He played for Scotland a total of es and jointly holds the Scottish international record goal ith 30 goals. 9) a professional golfer who has competed in more than 600

ean Tour events, with eight victories including winning the hampionship in 1999. He twice represented Europe in the Rvder Cur (b.1954) a singer-songwriter and activist who achieved international success in the 1980s as a member of the pop duo, Eurythmics (b. 1950) is a businessman and former chairman of Aberdeen Football Club. Stewart Milne Construction Group, the housebuilding contractor was established in 1975.

(1893-1981) was a writer and lecturer, who appears on the current Royal Bank of Scotland £5 note. While working as a lecturer of English, she wrote three novels, a collection of poems and a book (1790-1847) an architect, credited (along with his rival, John Smith) with creating the character of Aberdeen as the Granite City. (1848-1915) was a Scottish Presbyterian missionary and was honoured on a Clydesdale Bank £10 note. (b.1942) is a businessman and philanthropist, best known for his

Nature & Environment

The Hunt

Annie Lennox

Stewart Milne

Nan Shepherd

Archibald Simpson

Mary Mitchell Sless

lan Wood

On a still, clear summer day with a flat, calm sea, everything looks peaceful...and then they First to be seen is a massive male, 4 metres in length. He is just about the perfect hunter. Speed and power combine with senses that can only be imagined. Soon the rest of the pod come charging into view. Females, youngsters and even the near white new-born babies race towards the hunt. The water is alive with 20 dolphins. A large male leaps 3 metres into the air as a second slaps the surface and then everything goes quiet. The stillness is back, until a mighty tail sweeps through the water in a dramatic display, followed by a second eruption as a large salmon is thrown far into the air. The rest of the pod is also on the hunt with other salmon being caught unseen After the frenzy is over there is a display of grace, with dolphin after dolphin leaping high into the air. The new-borns seem to be having the most fun leaping repeatedly, whilst being constantly shadowed by a watchful mum. This drama can happen only 2 miles from Aberdeen city centre at the entrance to harbour and can claim to be the best city in Europe for watching whales and dolphins. With a bit of luck, time and a calm sea, Risso's Dolphin, White Beaked Dolphin, Minkie Whale and Harbour

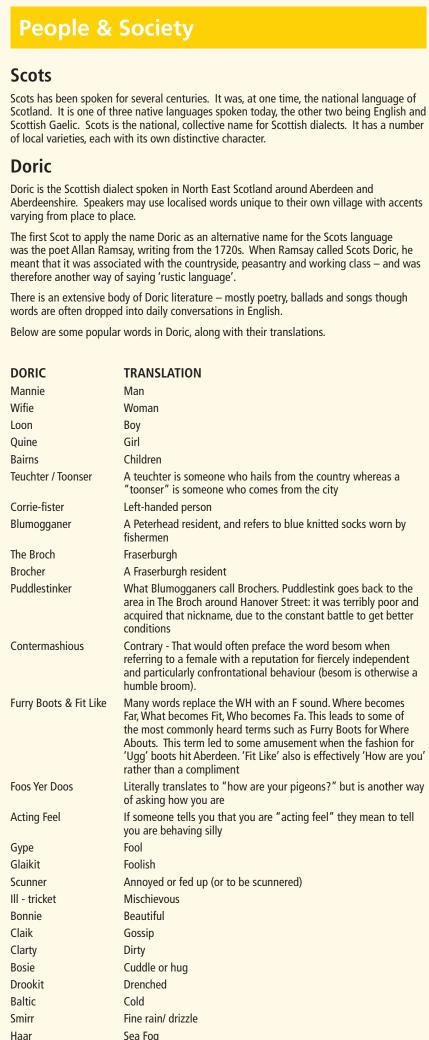
work in the oil industry with Wood Group.

Bottlenose dolphins are by far the easiest to see by simply heading to Torry Battery which was once a defensive fort, look between the North and South breakwaters. The dolphins may also be as far upriver as the harbour's gleaming control tower. This is also one of the best views of the city with the magnificent bay sweeping north and the colour and industry of the harbour giving way to the city and the distant mountains.

Porpoise can be seen. During 2011 Aberdeen Bay also hosted a couple of giant Humpback

This is wildlife watchin for all. No equipment is needed. During spring and summer, the RSPB may well be on hand with their excellent Dolphin Watch events.





Sea Fog Dreich Dull Clickin Catching crabs Dredge Crab net (made from old bike wheel) Barkie Canvas jacket worn by fishermen Ganzie A jersey especially worn by a fisherman Yoal Creall boat Cowpit you Overturn or capsize a boat Dookers Swimming costume Herber Harbour Braes Cliff Sone Beach

Beach below a cliff

People & Society

Howie

The shocking tale of Indian Peter Between 1741 and 1744, large numbers of children were kidnapped and forcibly shipped to the New World. One such victim was Peter Williamson who, having been sent to Aberdeen to improve his education, was snatched close to Aberdeen Harbour and suffered this fate. After being taken to the American colonies, he served as a slave until he was freed at the death of his master. He then joined the army and fought for the British but was captured by native Americans, then the French, both of whom kept him as a slave. Eventually aged 26 he managed to return to Britain where he became a storyteller and author, selling over 1000 copies of his book. He used the money to finally return to Aberdeen but as soon as he made it back, he was arrested and charged with slander. The people who profited from his enslavement were now powerful magistrates, unhappy with their involvement being made public. Peter was held in Aberdeen Tolbooth then banished from the city. Thankfully this story does have a happy ending as he successfully managed to sue the magistrates and was able to settle in Edinburgh as an Inn Keeper under the name Indian Peter. This is one of many stories that you will find in the Tolbooth Museum.

Walk B

Stage 9 Follow Greyhope Road on to Sinclair Road

passing Inverdee House into the industrial area. This distinct community is one of the oldest parts of Aberdeen originating at least 900 years ago. Internationally, Torry is best known as a centre for scientific research with a long history of innovation with many items we take for granted being developed here at the Marine Laboratory and Torry Research Station.

Stage 10

Reaching the junction with Crombie Place, either carry straight on, or turn left then right onto Crombie Road where a fish processing factory has a small shop selling seafood that mostly comes from Peterhead. Hake, Rock Turbot and Skate Checks are all good value, hard to find elsewhere, local and very tasty.

Stage 11 Soon you will reach Victoria Road. Head north and over the Victoria Bridge taking the opportunity to admire the River Dee below. Use the pedestrian crossings along this busy road. At this point follow Market Street straight ahead.



Stage 12

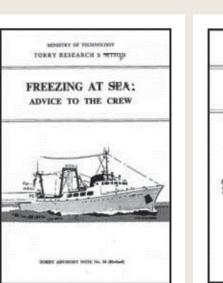
The bus stop opposite the end of Polmont Street, can be used to take you back to the start of the walk or you can carry on up the hill to Union Street or explore even further by connecting to our alternative walking route, though this will make for a very long day. At the point you reach the short sharp hill that connects the Harbour with Union Street, you will have walked 8 miles.

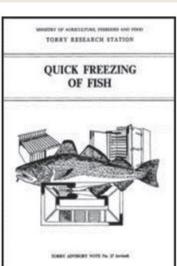


History & Places

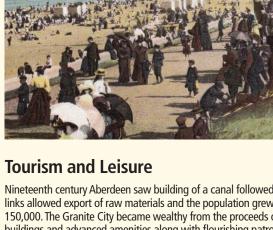
The Torry Research Station

Whilst the Marine Lab was concerned with fish biology and fish stocks the Torry Research Station's aim was to preserve fish as food. It was started in 1929 with the aim of reducing the thousands of tonnes of fish wasted through decay. By 1939 the Station had improved the commercial handling of chilled fish, established the principles of quick freezing and temperature requirements for long term fish freezing and improved mechanical kilns for efficiently smoking fish. After the war, need to 'feed the peace' resulted in a major expansion at the site with new buildings and new research vessels which were used to test storage and freezing of fish at sea. In 1953 the station introduced the 'Torry Freshness Scale' to measure decay and is still widely used today. Sadly the station closed in 1995 with the loss of 100 jobs.





eople & Society



Nineteenth century Aberdeen saw building of a canal followed by the railway. Effective transport links allowed export of raw materials and the population grew from less than 30,000 to over 150,000. The Granite City became wealthy from the proceeds of growth with grand new buildings and advanced amenities along with flourishing patronage of the arts. The Industrial Revolution had led to co-ordinated holidays with a 'Trades Fortnight' where each city took 2 weeks off each summer. Working classes looked forward to day trips by bus or railway excursions. The seaside and cultural attractions of Aberdeen made it a popular destination and at the start of the twentieth century modern attractions such as theatres, the cinema and even indoor swimming baths had been built. A decline in manufacturing along with cheap foreign holidays meant tourism dwindled greatly in Aberdeen from the late 1970s. Since 2010 however, a major hotel building boom commenced, especially near the airport, supporting the needs of commercial travellers but combined with a major push to bring visitors back to the city. This will increase further with the development of a new harbour at Nigg Bay, allowing Aberdeen to become a major stop for cruise ships. Today, there are hundreds of attractions in Aberdeen including iconic granite architecture, famous coastal golf courses, award-winning parks, gardens and captivating museums. The attractions are supported a multitude of planned events at the giant new exhibition centre together with a rich programme of festivals and sports held throughout the year. Relaxing at the coast remains popular, with the Esplanade regularly packed with strolling families and wildlife watching vantage points around the harbour proving invaluable during the restrictions of Covid-19.

People & Society

A Doric language poem by Ronald Simpson, Aberdeenshire gamekeeper (1936-2017)

Fin We Wir Loons There wis nae television fin I wis a loon So we made wir ain fun the hale eer aroon

- In winter we sledged bi the licht o the meen Or made great lang slides far we ca'd wir beets deen Til wir mithers wid threatin ti 'spread it wi saat Gin ye dinna this meenit come in oot a at For its lang by yer bedtime an weel div ye ken Ye'll get beltit if late for the skweel yet again
- Spring wis the time we coontit birds eggs An we huntit the parks, the wids, an the seggs Bit we nivver took ane fae a nest Nae fae magpie or hoodie or ither sic pest
- An we wir richt prood o wir pooers o detection Gin we coontit the maist kines fae oor ain inspection Bit aye makin sure fin hine up in a tree There wis nae ony wye at wir mithers cwid see
- In simmer a great ploy wis guddling for troot Tho in truth they wir nae near as bigs we made oot An fyles we wir lucky fin chasin some flappers Bit aften as nae they wir aff like the clappers An we wid gyang hame soakin weet ti the skin Wi nae ither hope bit face up ti the din That we kent there wis nae muckle chance o avidin Bit jist hopin we didna en up wi a hidin
- Autumn cam neist an as ilka loon kens It's the time ti add conkers ti the lave o yer games Wi a kine o tricks tried ti make em richt hard Bit rip yer breeks speelin an fae gyan back yer barred An eence in a fyle there wid be a bit soun Gin bi some mishanter there wis ane o's fell doon Bit loons will be loons tho it dis seem ti me They get far less fun noo sittin watching TV.
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Land at Shortness was purchased from Aberdeen Council in 1858 for 1 shilling by the Board

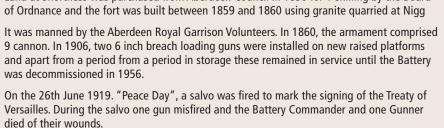
On the 26th June 1919. "Peace Day", a salvo was fired to mark the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. During the salvo one gun misfired and the Battery Commander and one Gunner





Torry Point Battery





The only time the guns were ever fired "in anger", was on the 3rd June 1941 when shots were fired across the bows of two unidentified vessels approaching the port, though these were subsequently identified as friendly. The remains of the fortification and cannon embrasures can still be seen.

area in The Broch around Hanover Street; it was terribly poor and acquired that nickname, due to the constant battle to get better and particularly confrontational behaviour (besom is otherwise a the most commonly heard terms such as Furry Boots for Where Abouts. This term led to some amusement when the fashion for 'Ugg' boots hit Aberdeen. 'Fit Like' also is effectively 'How are you' Literally translates to "how are your pigeons?" but is another way If someone tells you that you are "acting feel" they mean to tell

