



Mackie's 19.2



Aberdeen Art Gallery



NUART



Aberdeen Maritime Museum



Footdee



Old Aberdeen

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## Aberdeen Art Gallery

Be one of the first through the doors of the [Aberdeen Art Gallery](#) following its £34.6million restoration, adding another floor and an additional eight galleries.

Aberdeen Art Gallery is home to one of the finest collections in the UK, including works by influential Scottish artists, designers and makers such as Henry Raeburn, Joan Eardley, Samuel Peploe, Rachel McLean, Bill Gibb and James Cromar Watt, as well as nationally and internationally-acclaimed artists including Barbara Hepworth, Francis Bacon, Tracey Emin and Claude Monet.

The redevelopment has dramatically increased the amount of display space for the Nationally-Recognised Collection, with the number of galleries increasing from 11 to 19, with a further three spaces presenting a programme of regularly-changing special exhibitions. The number of items from the permanent collection on display has increased from 370 in 2015 to 1,080 in 2019.

The fresh new approach to displaying the collection has created a rich variety of experiences for visitors as they move from gallery to gallery. The displays explore artists' ideas and inspiration, their creative processes and the materials they use. A wide range of artforms and media, the use of colour, hands-on interactives, music, innovative display methods and engaging interpretive information combine to create a range of experiences, moods and stories for visitors.



## The Tolbooth Museum

If a bit of dark history is more to your taste, the [Tolbooth Museum](#) is a perfect fit. Expect a hair-raising experience as you tour the 17th century jail to discover centuries of eerie Aberdeen history including the development of crime and punishment through the years. There's even a replica guillotine blade which would have been used in executions.



## Lunch and ice cream at Mackie's 19.2

Just around the corner from The Tolbooth is Marischal Square which homes [Mackie's 19.2](#), the first ice cream parlour of Mackie's of Scotland. On the side of your lunch, make sure to grab an ice cream that comes straight from the family farm (19.2 miles away from the parlour) where they started making the ice cream 30 years ago.

Make sure to look up when you're outside this stop as perched high above you is the glistening '[Poised](#)' leopard (created by designer of the Kelpies, Andy Scott).





## Nuart and Painted Doors

Thanks to the introduction of [Nuart](#) Aberdeen in April 2017, there is plenty of exciting street art to discover in the heart of the city centre. The festival returned for its third year in April 2019, adding more vibrant art to the city which can be explored via the map [here](#).

Whilst you explore Nuart, you'll wander passed key venues like [His Majesty's Theatre](#) and the [Music Hall](#) which have played host to west end shows, comedy gigs and live music events for decades.



## Marischal College

[Marischal College](#) dates back to 1593 and was once Aberdeen's second university. Since 2011, it has acted as the headquarters of Aberdeen City Council. Marischal College is the second largest granite building in the world (the largest being the Escorial in Spain).



## Provost Skene's House

Dating from 1545, Provost Skene's House homes an attractive series of period rooms, furnished to show how people lived in the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries. Provost Skene's house is under redevelopment and is scheduled to re-open in 2020.



## Suggested stay: The Sandman Signature Hotel

Located in one of Aberdeen's historic buildings at the heart of the city, [Sandman Signature Aberdeen Hotel](#) provides bold, luxurious accommodation steps away from key attractions in the Silver City. On-site restaurant, Chop Grill & Bar, uses fresh ingredients, hand-crafted cocktails and lively atmosphere make for great experience, day and night.





### Aberdeen Maritime Museum

[Aberdeen Maritime Museum](#) tells the story of the city's long relationship with the sea. This award-winning museum is located on the historic Shiprow and incorporates Provost Ross's House, which was built in 1593. The Maritime Museum houses a unique collection covering shipbuilding, fast sailing ships, fishing and port history.



### Gordon Highlanders Museum

Explore the history of the [Gordon Highlanders](#) Regiment where the stories of the brave fishermen, farmers, ghillies and aristocrats who filled its ranks are brought to life. Experience what it would have been like as a soldier fighting in WWI in a replica trench that's been recently added to the museum.

### Lunch at No. 10 Bar & Restaurant

Situated in the heart of Aberdeen's West End, [No.10 Bar & Restaurant](#) has gained multiple awards for its passion for quality hospitality and stylish food all delivered with a contemporary twist.



### Explore Footdee

Aberdeen isn't just a city by the sea, it's a city of the sea. You will see ships docked right up against the city centre streets and see urban dolphins leap at the harbour mouth.

[Footdee](#) (known locally as Fittie) is a quirky fishing quarter at the end of Aberdeen's stretching beach, with squares of tiny cottages, flower-filled gardens and brightly painted outhouses with eccentric decorations drawing on the city's seafaring soul.

This is still a residential area, please respect the privacy of residents during your visit.



### Old Aberdeen

Monks and scholars, traders and travellers settled round [Old Aberdeen](#) in the 14th century where [St Machar's Cathedral](#) still stands and where King's College, the forerunner to The University of Aberdeen, was founded by Bishop Elphinstone in 1495.

Old Aberdeen, where cobbled roads still run through the heart of the area, is a popular spot for tourists. Step back in time as you visit the historic sites, like the [Brig O'Balgownie](#) and adventure through neighbouring [Seaton Park](#).

St Machar's Cathedral stands dramatically on a high bank above the river Don within Old Aberdeen. The fifteenth century cathedral with its massive twin spires, world-famous heraldic ceiling and glorious stained glass is one of Scotland's 'must see' treasures. This is the oldest building in active use in Aberdeen.

