

YOUNG PERSONS GUIDE TO DOORS OPEN DAYS FESTIVAL IN

ABERDEEN
EDINBURGH
GLASGOW
INVERNES
PITLOCHRY
STIRLING

INTRODUCTION

Stirling is a city in the heart of Scotland, filled with a variety of beautiful historic buildings throughout the Old Town, many of which have been renovated and repurposed over the years.

Stirling is easily accessible by public transport and by car, with the train and bus stations located in the heart of the city, and a selection of paid public parking on street. The majority of the city is easy to access on foot, with bus links also available around the sites of the city.

Most cafes in Stirling provide free WiFi, and Stirling Library on Corn Exchange Road can provide WiFi for a longer period if required, which can be useful on a long day out.

DAY ITINERARY

Arrive in Stirling and head down to The Engine Shed to grab a hot drink and explore the interactive exhibits, which is only a 10-minute walk from the train station. If you're looking for breakfast, both Toast and Gabe's are close to The Engine Shed, and have delicious home-made food on offer.

Make Stirling Sheriff Court your next stop, and explore the court rooms. Pop into HBW for a coffee and enjoy the charm of a converted opticians recently turned into a quirky coffee shop.

Take a walk up the hill, and make sure you walk through the Stirling Arcade; a Victorian Arcade built in 1881 and restored in the 1900s. On your way out of the Arcade, take a look in Made in Stirling; a shop which allows local designers and artists to sell their work. It is full of original artwork and beautiful pieces you won't be able to buy anywhere else.

Find yourself on the way up the hill to Stirling Castle, and visit The Tollbooth, home of Stirling's live music. Enjoy a relaxing lunch in the city centre, take your pick from a selection of cafes (some suggestions on the back page).

Walk around Stirling Castle and graveyard, and enjoy the views across the city. From here, you can take a look into the former prison at the Stirling Old Town Jail.

Have a look in the Church of the Holy Rude and enjoy the beautiful stained-glass windows throughout the Church.

Later in the evening, spend time gazing at the stars from the Stirling Old High School Observatory.

THEME PICKS

As a smaller city, Stirling has a huge advantage of being easily accessible on foot, by wheelchair, on bike, or by any kind of public transport you choose. All of these listings can be easily explored within a day of arriving in Stirling, and are all within a 10-15 minute walk of each other, ensuring you get the most out of your visit.

For addresses, opening times, accessibility information, and architect details for listings in this programme, please see the main programme, or visit www.doorsopendays.org.uk.

1. The Engine Shed, Forthside Way

Originally a goods transfer building built around the 1900s, The Engine Shed has been renovated and re-opened in 2017. The Engine Shed is a space to explore Stirling's built heritage from the past, and learn more about how to protect it for the future. The space is filled with interactive exhibits and activities that can be enjoyed by all ages.

2. Stirling Sheriff Court, Viewfield Place

Built in 1875, the courthouse is now home to the Sheriff Court and the Justice of the Peace Court. This is an interesting insight into the Stirling courts, in a beautiful building located in the city centre.

3. Stirling Tolbooth, Jail Wynd

Previously a court and jail, the Tolbooth re-opened in 2002 after a restoration led by Richard Murphy. A chance to visit Stirling's venue for music and performance, which still retains elements of the building's original architecture, including the dome ceiling in the main auditorium.

4. Stirling Old High School Old Observatory, Spittal Street

The Old High School building was converted into a hotel in 1990, and still has a 129 year old telescope inside.

An amazing opportunity to see space through the Newtonian reflecting telescope in the observatory, provided by the Stirling Astronomical Society.

5. Church of the Holy Rude, St John Street

The medieval church was founded in 1129, with a graveyard dating back to the 16th century. The current building was built in 1500, to replace the original building which was burned down. A church containing a multitude of beautiful stained glass windows from the 19th century, the building itself was restored in 1940 and showcases an exposed oak beam roof.

6. Mugdock Castle, Milngavie

Set in a beautiful country park a little outside of Stirling, the ruins of Mugdock Castle date back further than the 1300's and overlook the lake. Although you'll need to use a car or public transport to access the country park, the peace and beautiful surroundings make it a worthwhile trip, and is also a perfect place to take dogs. Whilst you're there, make sure to visit one of the many cafes available in the park for a cake and a cup of tea, and then dip your toes in the loch for a fantastic afternoon out for the whole family.

WHERE TO EAT IN STIRLING

Take time to enjoy a delicious lunch in the city centre, all available to sit in, or grab a takeaway and find a quiet spot to take in the atmosphere.

Some lunch suggestions

The Ugly Mug, 3 Friars Street - a new café in the centre of the city, with a wide selection of vegetarian and vegan options on the menu

The Darnley Coffee House, 18 Bow Street - a dog-friendly café committed to sustainability and serving fantastic soup

Loving Food, 51 King Street Kiosk - delicious food, good coffee and enthusiastic service in a bright, spacious setting

Some dinner suggestions

Mama Mia, 52 Spittal Street - a cozy family-run restaurant, serving authentic Italian food in the heart of Stirling

Brea, 5 Baker Street - an award winning Scottish restaurant, delivering dishes full of fresh, locally sourced ingredients

YOUNG ADVISORY PANEL

In 2018, Doors Open Days assembled the Young Advisory Panel, through funding from the Year of Young People National Lottery Fund - we're Jordan, Laura, Magda, Sophie, Rachel & Rory. This year we've been tasked with creating, writing and designing guides, both in print and in video, to Stirling, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Pitlochry & Inverness - giving local insight and a fresh perspective on what each location has to offer.

The Stirling YAP guide was created by Rachel, who is 24. Rachel likes sunflowers, being besides the sea, and baking bread.

**DOORS
OPEN
DAYS** 2019

30
YEARS



SUPPORTING
year of young people
bliadhna na h-òigridh
2018



www.doorsopendays.org.uk