



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

Doors Open Day

**Saturday 23 & Sunday 24
September 2023**



Welcome

The University of Edinburgh is integral to the intellectual, cultural, social and economic fabric of the city and the wider region. Our buildings play an important part in defining the character of our University and of Edinburgh.

With more than 430 years of history and an estate which includes a mix of old, converted, listed and contemporary buildings, it is always an enjoyable challenge to present an interesting selection for our Doors Open Day visitors.

We hope you will find a great deal to interest and enlighten you during Doors Open Day. Please remember that much of what you see is open throughout the year, whether through normal museum and gallery opening hours, organised tours, or through our extensive programme of part-time courses and public lectures. Further details of all these can be found at www.ed.ac.uk/local

Sign up to the Edinburgh Local mailing list at w2.irm.ed.ac.uk/edlocal-newsletter/external



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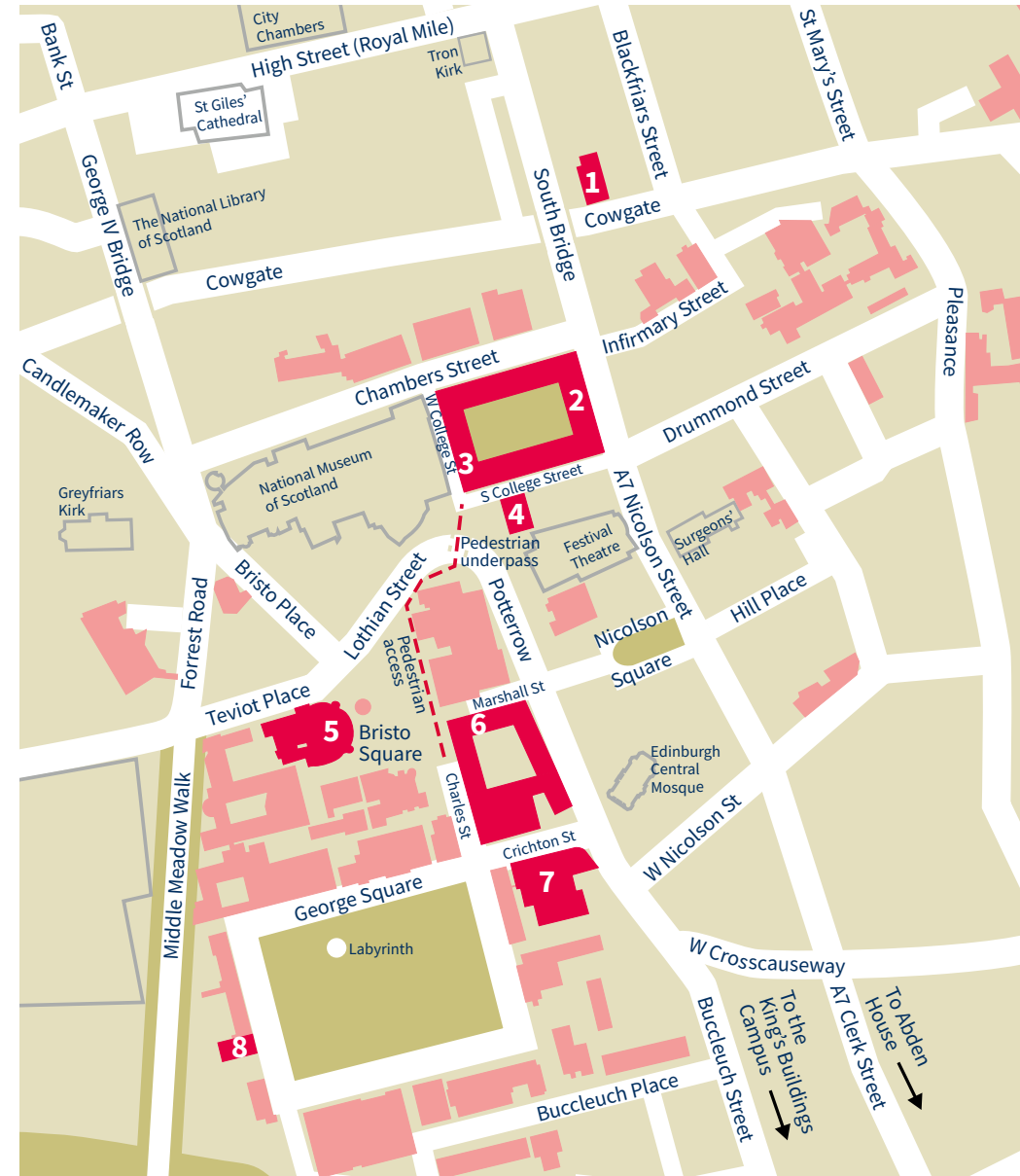
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Facilities and activities key

WC	
Accessible WC	
Full wheelchair access	
Wheelchair access with assistance	
Displays, information sheets	
Tours	
Talks	
Audio visual displays	
Children's activities	
Refreshments	
Hearing loop	
The cover shows the new Nucleus Building at the King's Buildings Campus.	

The Central Area

The University's history as the Tounis College, established by the Town Council in 1583, and its central location in the city's Old Town serve to underline the symbiotic relationship between Edinburgh and the University which endures to the present day.



St Cecilia's Hall

50 Niddry Street (off the Royal Mile), EH1 1LG
(Central Area map ref 1)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 10am–5pm
(last entry 4.30pm)

St Cecilia's Hall is Scotland's oldest purpose-built concert hall and home to the University of Edinburgh's world class collection of musical instruments. Built by the Edinburgh Musical Society and designed by Robert Mylne, this Georgian jewel hosted its first concert in 1763. Surrounding the Concert Room are four galleries that display more than 500 musical instruments spanning five centuries of musical heritage and history.

Short tours or musical demonstrations on the hour between 10am and 4pm. Expert staff will be on hand in the galleries to answer questions.

www.stcecilias.ed.ac.uk



Old College

South Bridge, EH8 9YL (Central Area map ref 2)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 11am–5pm
Sunday 24 September, 12 noon–5pm

Old College sits at the heart of the University of Edinburgh. Work on Robert Adam's original design began in 1789 and was completed by William Henry Playfair who created the magnificent Playfair Library. The dome, added in 1887, bears a 6-foot-high gilded bronze statue of a youth bearing 'the torch of knowledge' and is affectionately nicknamed the 'Golden Boy'.

Old College will be open for a self-guided tour that will include the Raeburn Room and the magnificent Playfair Library. The Playfair Library will host a variety of University staff and students who are keen to engage with visitors.

edin.ac/doors-open-day



NB: wheelchair access is via the entrance on West College Street. Please telephone 0131 650 8003 in advance for assistance.

Talbot Rice Gallery

Old College, South Bridge, EH8 9YL
(Central Area map ref 3)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 10am–4.30pm
Sunday 24 September, 10am–4.30pm

Situated in the University of Edinburgh's historic Old College, Talbot Rice Gallery is one of Scotland's leading contemporary art galleries. The Gallery is dedicated to exploring how the University can contribute to contemporary art production today and into the future. It combines two distinct exhibition spaces: a 19th century former natural history museum and a contemporary 'white cube' space. Visitors can currently enjoy the current exhibitions – Jesse Jones, *The Tower*; Lawrence Abu Hamdan, *45th Parallel*; Hephzibah Israel, *the nature of difference*.

www.trg.ed.ac.uk/whats-on



NB: wheelchair access is via the entrance on West College Street.

South College Street

13-15 South College Street, EH8 9AA
(Central Area map ref 4)

Open: Sunday 24 September, 12 noon–4pm

Visitors will have a chance to find out about the building's history and how the successive changes in the churches based in South College Street have been very much linked with the major changes and disagreements which affected the 18th and 19th Century church in Scotland. Information about the University's projects that are currently based in the building and the Edinburgh & South East Scotland City Region Deal will also be available. Visitors will also be able to find out more about the Edinburgh Futures Institute's plans for the former Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh site on Lauriston Place.

<https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/southcollegestreet/>



McEwan Hall

Bristo Square, EH8 9AL

(Central Area map ref 5)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 10am–5pm
Sunday 24 September, 11am–5pm

McEwan Hall was presented to the University in 1897 by William McEwan as a ceremonial hall for graduations and as a gift to the people of Edinburgh.

This iconic Grade A listed building was designed by Sir Rowand Anderson, with lavish interiors by William Palin. Construction was completed in 1894, but it took another three years to complete the interior designs, the centrepiece being the 15 beautifully painted mural panels that make up the vast dome.

A painstaking multi-million pound refurbishment has restored much of the intricacy to its original beauty and created a modern, superbly equipped space, with state-of-the-art audio visual equipment and accessible facilities.

www.uoecollection.com/conferences-events/venue-hubs/old-town-campus/mcewan-hall



Bayes Centre

47 Potterrow, EH8 9BT

(Central Area map ref 6)

Open: Sunday 24 September, 10am–2pm

The Bayes Centre is the University of Edinburgh's Innovation Hub for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence and one of six Data Driven Innovation Hubs.

The Bayes Centre offers a new kind of collaborative, multidisciplinary proving ground where we develop innovative technological solutions for the benefit of society. We have a community of over 400 scientists, PhD students, industry experts and support professionals, working together across disciplines to advance data technology and apply it to real-world problems.

Building tours and an interactive touchscreen displaying information on the robotics lab based within the building.

www.ed.ac.uk/bayes



Appleton Tower*

10 Crichton Street, EH8 9LE

(Central Area map ref 7)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 11am–2pm

A controversial building since its inception, Appleton Tower recently underwent a thorough refurbishment with a new entrance and enhanced facilities and services. Home to the University's School of Informatics, it's currently used for teaching while research has moved to the Informatics Forum across the road. The state-of-the-art study suite on Level 9 offers an amazing view of the city.

Visitors are invited to join a walking tour that will take them through the landmarks in the history of computer science and AI on Central Campus. The tour starts in front of the Informatics Forum and includes access to Level 9 of the Appleton Tower, offering an amazing view of the city. The tour takes roughly 45 minutes, departing at 11am, 12 noon, 1pm and 2pm.

www.ed.ac.uk/informatics



* You must book in advance at:
<https://edin.ac/3qAY5Zc>

Chapel of St Albert the Great

George Square Lane, EH8 9LD*

(Central Area map ref 8)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 1pm–5.30pm
Sunday 24 September, 1pm–5.30pm

This award-winning Chapel is located in the two back gardens of Edinburgh's oldest Georgian Square. Commissioned in 2011 by the Dominican Order who serve as chaplains to Edinburgh's universities, the Chapel serves as the spiritual home of Catholic university students and staff and a great many others besides.

The garden features the newly installed bronze statue, 'St Dominic', by Kenny Hunter, September 2023.

www.scotland.op.org

* Access is only from George Square Lane which runs behind 24 George Square, close to Middle Meadow Walk.





McEwan Hall

Old College

Bayes Centre

Appleton Tower

Ashworth Laboratories

School of Biological Sciences

Charlotte Auerbach Road, EH9 3FL (The King's Buildings)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 10am–4pm

This 1920s building originally housed the Zoology Department (note the lovely animal plaques by sculptor Phyllis Bone on the exterior) and now hosts part of the ever-expanding School of Biological Sciences.

The Labs will have exhibits, interactive displays and public talks about the range of cutting-edge research currently carried out across the School, as well as tours of the University's Natural History collections.

www.nhc.ed.ac.uk



The Nucleus Building

Thomas Bayes Road, EH9 3FG (The King's Buildings)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 10am–4pm

The Nucleus building is a brand-new shared learning, teaching and social hub at the heart of the King's Buildings campus. The building design incorporates several sustainability initiatives and achieves the highest environmental certification rating of the Energy Performance Certificate.

Meet researchers from Physics, Chemistry and Engineering for talks, exhibitions and activities. Use VR headsets; build a giant LEGO biofilm; learn about chemistry research, from edible chemical reactions to cutting-edge use of computers; see the future of high-speed transportation; rocket design; high-performance racing cars; and robot exoskeletons. Explore a range of hands-on exhibits and illusions for all the family, and eat at the Nucleus cafeteria. There will also be the FUSION Art-Science exhibition; Edinburgh Alumnae: a celebration; and Campus tours.



Murchison House: the Student Permaculture Garden

10 Max Born Crescent, EH9 3B (The King's Buildings)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 12 noon–4pm

An award-winning architectural creation, Murchison House includes teaching and self-learning areas. College offices, Information Services and the University's commercialisation arm, Edinburgh Innovations. The structural design and plan references naturally occurring geological formations, particularly those of basalt rock and crystalline forms. The horizontal bands of bellying windows, with units jutting out at seemingly irregular angles are suggestive of layers of strata, or rock.

From 12 noon to 4pm, meet the student team behind the design of a campus garden where the organisation of the social aspects are all inspired by the Permaculture principles, design methods that create sustainable environments.

Please note that Murchison House itself is not open.



FloWave Ocean Energy Research Facility School of Engineering

Max Born Crescent, EH9 3BF (The King's Buildings)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 11am–2pm

Completed in 2014, FloWave is the world's most sophisticated onshore laboratory for replicating ocean conditions and testing ocean technologies. The facility contains a 25m diameter test tank which uniquely recreates scale versions of complex ocean conditions, including multi-directional wind-blown waves, long-period ocean swells and fast tidal currents. Consequently, the tank is much in demand by industry and researchers from across the globe and, in combination with Orkney's European Marine Energy Centre, helps maintain Scotland's position at the forefront of clean ocean energy research, development and innovation.

See the unique research test tank in action, showing the ways in which it can recreate versions of complex ocean conditions, and discover how work here is at the forefront of clean energy research.

www.flowave.eng.ed.ac.uk



Demonstrations of the FloWave test tank will take place every 15 minutes.

James Clerk Maxwell Building
School of Physics and Astronomy and
School of Mathematics

Peter Guthrie Tait Road, EH9 3FD (The King's Buildings)

Open: Saturday 23 September, 10am–4pm

Construction of this building began in 1966 as part of a major expansion of the King's Buildings campus. It is named after James Clerk Maxwell, a Scot who was one of the world's greatest physicists and whose most significant work, *The Theory of Electromagnetism*, was published in 1873.

For Doors Open Day, two groups currently working in this building will showcase their work:

School of Mathematics (Level 3)

Investigate some mind-blowing optical illusions, and experience the extraordinary 3D zoetrope: watch solid shapes change and animate before your eyes.

School of Physics and Astronomy (Level 2, ground floor)

Visitors will experience the dramatic difference between these two acoustical environments, and hear about how they have been used recently to study a variety of topics including the sound radiated by brass instruments and the absorption of sound by moss-covered paving.

www.maths.ed.ac.uk/outreach



Institute of Genetics and Cancer

Crewe Road South, EH4 2XU

(Western General Hospital campus)

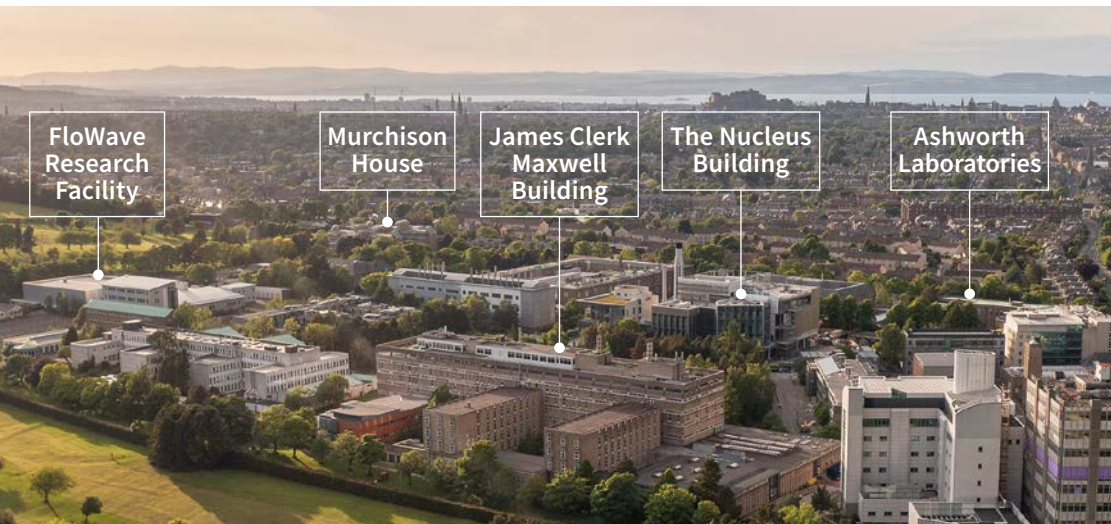
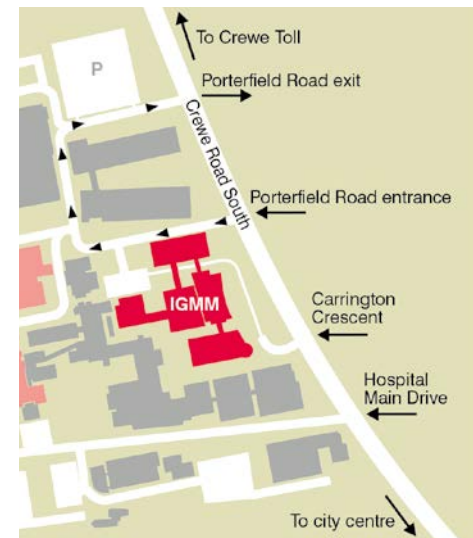
Open: Saturday 23 September, 11am–4pm

The Institute of Genetics and Cancer is the central hub of our three research centre buildings – the Cancer Research UK Edinburgh Centre, the MRC Human Genetics Unit (HGU) and the Centre for Genomic & Experimental Medicine (CGEM). Each research centre has its own unique history, but the powerful synergy emerging from their common research strengths led to the formation of the Institute in 2009. Our Institute's story of biomedical research stretches back to the post-war period and works towards delivering better understanding of genetic diseases, including cancers, with quicker diagnosis, improved and tailored treatments, ensuring better health outcomes. The Institute brings together 600 people, including 200 PhD students, in a single, scientific endeavour, enabling exciting multi-disciplinary collaborations in biomedical research.

In late 2023, we will be opening a new extension to our Institute – the 4D cellular medicine wing, which will provide the facilities to investigate the structure and function of cells in 3rd dimension (within living tissues and tumours) and over time (4-dimensional) that will generate complex data, analysed using advanced computing including artificial intelligence.

A full programme of building tours, talks, videos, lay posters and drop-in activities. Visitors may find themselves crawling inside a giant cell, targeting a lung with handmade gene therapies, diving into an immunology ball pool, and becoming 'Big Data Detectives'. Our staff and students will provide insights into the lives of researchers and technicians at various stages of their careers.

www.ed.ac.uk/institute-genetics-cancer





Edinburgh Local
mailing list



Appleton Tower
tour booking



The King's Buildings
events and activities

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