

HISTORIC
SCOTLAND



ALBA
AOSMHOR

EXPLORE
HOLYROOD
PARK

YOUR MAP AND GUIDE



WELCOME TO HOLYROOD PARK

Edinburgh's landscape was forged in fire and carved by ice. The hard rock from which Holyrood Park and Arthur's Seat were formed once flowed inside an ancient volcano that erupted 350 million years ago. It was shaped by great movements in the earth's crust and sculpted by the power of Ice-Age glaciers and erosion.

The remarkable landscape that was left behind has provided a home for many people over the last 10,000 years. Hunter-gatherers scattered flint arrow heads across the park, Iron-Age tribes raised great hill-forts on its peaks, medieval farmers cut terraces and furrows into its flanks and the stone for many of the city's buildings was hewn from its quarries.

The park is now surrounded by the city, providing Edinburgh's citizens with a much-loved escape from urban life.



MAP OF HOLYROOD PARK

Holyrood Park is a rare example of unimproved grassland. Effectively unchanged since its enclosure as a Royal Park in the 16th century, it is rich in plant species and also provides a home to a variety of important invertebrate, amphibian, mammal and bird species. To find such a wildlife haven in the heart of a capital city is remarkable.



MAP KEY

- Information
- Summit
- Parking
- Summit path
- Toilets
- Path
- Accessible toilet
- Road
- Wildlife reserve / Bird sanctuary

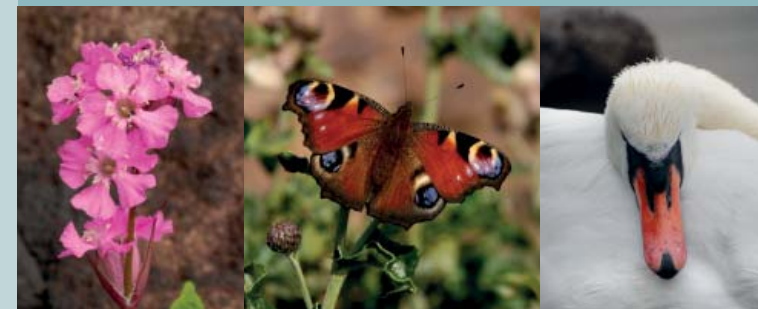
HELP US KEEP THE PARK SPECIAL

Historic Scotland and the Rangers need your help to take care of this dramatic landscape in the heart of the city.



- Well-behaved dogs are always welcome.
- Dog owners must dispose of any waste responsibly.
- Fishing is allowed in Duddingston Loch but you need a free permit from the Ranger Service.
- You can only climb in the South Quarry and will need a free permit from the Ranger Service.
- Please keep your bike on the paths and roadways as cycling off-road damages plant life and archaeology.
- We recommend you wear sturdy footwear with good grips for walking in the park.
- Litter can be harmful to wildlife. Please leave your rubbish in the bins provided in the car parks and at park entrances.
- Camping, fires and barbecues are not permitted anywhere in the park.
- Golf is not permitted in the park.
- Please beware of sheer drops.
- Please beware of uneven and slippery surfaces.

Sticky Catchfly & Peacock butterfly images © Graham Checkley



THE RANGER SERVICE



Historic Scotland's Ranger Service delivers a varied programme of events throughout the year.

There are guided walks, conservation work and historically-themed activities aimed at all ages and levels of interest.



CONTACT US

For more information on the park, guided walks and other activities run by the Rangers, please contact us:

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