

Script for Library Tour – Introduction

Welcome to The Sir Duncan Rice Library at the University of Aberdeen

Library staff have produced a series of short presentations as a virtual tour of the building. These provide useful information on how to use our library. A range of more in-depth library guides, support, and contact information can be found here:

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/support/index.php> .

The Sir Duncan Rice Library is named after the Principal of the University from 1996-2010. The building was officially opened on 24th September 2012 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It houses the largest of the University's modern collections on Floors 1-7 - including Arts, Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences.

Also part of the Library Service are the Taylor Law Library and the Medical Library on the Foresterhill Campus. [You can find out more about their collections on our website.](#)

The building, designed by Danish architects [schmidt hammer lassen](#), was conceived to mark the ice and light of the north. The design concept was to provide "a meeting place and a cultural centre for the University and the wider Aberdeen community".

The Sir Duncan Rice Library ordinarily has 1,200 study spaces: from individual study desks, to traditional silent study rooms and interactive areas for collaborative projects.

The public are welcome to come and visit our Library.

Current term time opening hours

Monday-Thursday 08.00-00.00, Friday 08.00-22.00, Saturday 09.00-22.00 & Sunday 11.00-00.00. [Our opening hours are subject to change, please see our website for up-to-date information.](#)

General layout of GF

The Hardback Café is on the left as you enter the building. They serve a variety of hot & cold food & drinks and have a seating area. If you buy hot food, then please consume it in the café area. You can also bring your own food & drink to eat here, you don't have to buy anything to use the seating area. [Café opening hours can be found here](#)

Our Gallery space is located straight ahead as you enter the building. Our Museums and Special Collections staff curate exhibitions based on our collections throughout the year. More information on these events can be found on the [Special Collections](#) website.

At the North-West side of the building is Old Aberdeen Library, provided in partnership with Aberdeen City Council, restoring a public lending library to the area for the first time since the 1990s. This provides a space to enhance the visitor experience and encourage reading

and relaxation. The collection here is provided by Aberdeen City Libraries. This service is separate from the University and requires registration – more info can be found here: <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives> . There are also exhibitions on display here from the University's collections. There is a range of comfortable furniture to use, some of which has built-in charging points.