

Food and Drink Guide – Aberdeen

2026 Annual Conference of The Folklore Society

Aberdeen has a wide selection of restaurants, cafés, bars, and takeaways serving snacks and meals. Please note, however, that there are not many dining options in the vicinity of the University. You will probably want to go into the town centre for evening meals. There are regular buses from King Street (see below).

- **Special diets:** many restaurants will be able to accommodate special diets with advance notice and most will have vegetarian/vegan and gluten free options on the standard menu.
- **Transport:** The First Bus app gives live updates on public transport around the city (including services run by other providers). Taxis can be ordered by phoning 01224 878787; 01224 200200; or 01224 353535. Taxis can also be ordered via the Aberdeen Taxi app, the ComCab-Aberdeen app, uBook by Rainbow City taxis app or the Uber app.
- **Beach Food Vans:** There are a good number of food vans (south end), some with outdoor seating.

Restaurants

Atholl Hotel, 54 Kings Gate, AB15 4YN, 01224 323505

Offers traditional Scottish favourites.

Atrium, 50 Chapel Street, AB10 1SN, 01224 501529

Scottish cuisine. Fixed price menu available.

Bistro Verde, 2 The Green, AB11 6NY, 01224 586180

Specialises in seafood, with local specialities like Cullen Skink.

Café 52, 52 The Green, AB11 6PE 07300 875536

Scottish food in a cute restaurant.

Da Vinci, 1 Alford Lane, AB10 1NT, 01224 591810

Italian cuisine, good for larger groups.

Ferryhill House Hotel, 169 Bon-Accord St, AB11 6UA, 01224 590867

Lovely old house that includes a restaurant, pub, and hotel.

Food Story, 11-15 Thistle Street, AB10 1XS

Vegetarian/vegan café, sometimes with music/song sessions.

Golden Palace, 2 Ellon Rd, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB23 8EA, 01224708871

Szechuan Chinese restaurant just north of the University.

Gidi Grill, 263 Union Street, 01224 002187

Nigerian/Caribbean grill, open late.

Goulash, 17 Adelphi, AB11 5BL, 01224 210530

Hungarian/Central European cuisine, an Elphinstone Institute favourite for Christmas parties.

Kulfi Walla, 8 Elmbank Terrace, AB24 3PE, 01224 506536

Gujarati street food w/ panipuri, kulfi, etc. In residential neighbourhood near University.

Lahore Karahi, 145 King St, AB24 5AE, 01224 647295

Pakistani restaurant specialising in Punjabi cuisine.

La Fiamma Pizza, 188 King St, AB24 5BH, 01224 443322

Good, inexpensive Polish-style pizza.

La Tiendita del Sabor, 8 Belmont St, AB10 1JE, 07512 523465

Delicious Venezuelan food, family run.

Ma Cameron's, Little Belmont Street, AB10 1JG, 01224 644487

Aberdeen's oldest pub, student institution, traditional bar food.

Madame Mew's, 7 Summer St, AB10 1SB, 01224 460211

Excellent Thai food run by a local family.

Madurai Chettinadu, 24 King St, AB24 5AX, 01224 379600

Large restaurant often open late. Specialises in South Indian cuisine from Tamil Nadu.

Mai's Vietnamese Kitchen, 12B Back Wynd, Aberdeen AB10 1JN

Hanoi specialties just opposite the 'Mither Kirk' of Aberdeen.

Manchurian, 136 Causewayend, Aberdeen AB25 3TN, 01224 645222

Chinese dim-sum restaurant, not too far from the University.

Mara, 40 Thistle Street, AB10 1XD, 01224 454826

Mediterranean food. Small plates, excellent wines.

Muzo's Turkish Kitchen, 9 Sea Beach Blvd Esplanade, AB24 5NS 01224 595333

Inexpensive and large platters of Turkish/Mediterranean cuisine in a busy atmosphere.

Oki-Doki, 27 Windmill Brae, Oki Doki, GB AB11 6HU, 07760 871680

Home-made Georgian khinkali dumplings and kachapuri.

Poldino's, 7 Little Belmont Street, AB10 1JG, 01224 647777

Italian cuisine. An Aberdeen institution.

Rehmat's, 249 George St, Aberdeen AB25 1ED, 01224 658388

Inexpensive and delicious Punjabi cuisine, hidden behind a dessert parlour.

Rishi's Indian Restaurant, 210-212 George Street, Aberdeen AB25 1BS 01224 633610

South Indian cuisine. Delicious dosas.

Rustico, 62 Union Row, Aberdeen AB10 1SA, 01224 658444

A warm, family run Italian restaurant.

Sofra, 77-79 Skene Street, AB10 1QD, 01224 636093

Turkish, has good-value set menu and early evening 'pre-theatre' options.

The Terrace @ HMT, His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, AB25 1GL

Good value early evening 'pre theatre' menu.

Tarragon 137 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen AB25 2YH 01224 977466

Scottish produce, booking recommended, can cater for dietary requirements.

Tarragon on the Terrace, 27-29 Union Terrace, Aberdeen AB10 1NN 01224 413163

Scottish produce, booking recommended, can cater for dietary requirements.

Tasty T, 19 Correction Wynd, AB10 1HP, 01224 639586

Nigerian/West African restaurant on historic street.

Travancore, 11 Holburn St, AB10 6BS, 01224 588909

Delicious South Indian food specialising in cuisine from Kerala.

Tucán, 231 Rosemount Pl, AB25 2XX, 07557042282

Cosy small restaurant with South American cuisine (mostly Brazilian and Venezuelan).

Yorokobi by CJ, 51 Huntly Street, AB10 1TH

Japanese/Korean sushi, always busy.

Fine Dining

Café Bohème, 23 Windmill Brae, AB10 1HP, 01224 644166

French cuisine, very lovely

Marcliffe Hotel, North Deeside Road, AB15 9YA, 01224 861000

A bit outside the town centre, but consistently good

Moon Fish Café, 9 Correction Wynd, AB10 1HP, 01224 644166

Bistro dining, well reviewed in *The Guardian*

No. 10, 10 Queen's Terrace, AB10 1XL, 01224 631928

Steaks and seafood, booking recommended

Silver Darling, North Pier Pocra Quay, AB11 5DQ, 01224 210677

Fish restaurant with great views overlook the Deemouth

Cafés

Books and Beans, 22 Belmont St, Aberdeen AB10 1JH, 01224646438

Café/restaurant/second-hand bookshop

Fearless Café, 213 Rosemount Place, AB25 2XS

Owned by two friends from Ukraine. Ukrainian baked goods and good coffee.

Grounded, 100-102 Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen AB25 1NX

Coffee/matcha, etc., popular with social media crowds.

Inversnecky Café, 7-8 Esplanade, AB24 5NS, 01224 596531

Old-style café at the beach with traditional Scottish breakfasts and the like.

Kilau, 57-59 High St, AB24 3EH, 01224 485510

Cosy café next to University with seating upstairs. Lunch available.

Mount, 6 Upperkirkgate, AB10 1BA

Delicious coffee of the best quality.

Promenade Café, 3-4 Esplanade, AB24 5NS, 01224 590798

Nice and inexpensive traditional café/restaurant at the beach.

Shelter Café, 112 High St, AB24 3HE, 07715 651662

Next to University. Good for takeaway coffee/sandwich near Cruickshank Botanic Garden.

Third Circle Coffee, 110 Rosemount Pl, Aberdeen AB25 2YW

Delicious coffee of different kinds with wide selection of records being played

Turquoise Café, 28 Holburn St, AB10 6BT

Turkish café with good Turkish coffee and cakes

Pubs

Archibald Simpson, 5 Castle St, AB11 5BQ, 01224 621365

Part of the Wetherspoon chain, but very inexpensive food/ale in a historic building.

The Bobbin, 500 King St, AB24 5ST, 01224 495318

Just opposite the University. A favourite of students.

Cheerz, 2 Exchange St, AB11 6PH, 01224 582648

LGBT+ friendly pub in historic part of town

Fierce, 4–6 Exchequer Row, AB11 5BW, 01224 035034

Great craft brewers

Globe Inn, 13–15 North Silver Street, AB10 1RJ, 01224 641171

Welcoming bar with beer garden and cosy atmosphere. Above Under the Hammer.

The Grill, 213 Union St, AB11 6BA, 01224 583563

Ian Russell's favourite. Aberdeen institution and its most famous whisky bar, with real ales.

Ivy Lodge / The Old Workshop Bar, 62-64 Shiprow, AB11 5BY

Adjoined on Shiprow, one big and airy, the other intimate and cosy. Cocktails, street food.

Krakatoa, 2 Trinity Quay, AB11 5AA, 01224 587602

Live music. Great bar for metal heads and rock fans.

Old Blackfriars, 52 Castlegate, AB11 5BB, 01224 581922

A popular pub in a historic setting with pub food and real ales

Prince of Wales, 7 Saint Nicholas Lane, AB10 HF

Traditional pub serving good-value meals, real ales.

St Machar Bar, 97 High St, AB24 3EN, 01224 483079

Staff members' favourite real ale pub, with inexpensive Scottish food.

Sugarbird on the Terrace, 245 Union Grove, AB10 6SX, 01224 322602

Wine bar overlooking Union Terrace Gardens. Platters of charcuterie/bar snacks

Tippling House, 4 Belmont St, AB10 1JE

Top-quality cocktails and a cosy setting. Good food, as well. Open late.

Under the Hammer, 11 North Silver Street, AB10 1RJ, 01224 640253

Quiet, cosy pub for good beers and cocktails (under The Globe Inn).