

Things to do in Dundee

Dundee rests snugly on the banks of the Tay River on Scotland's East Coast. The dramatic landscape is a diverse mix of mountains, rolling hills, and shoreline. This former whaling port has become a center for journalism, high-tech manufacturing, commercial research, and information technology. With its strategic location on the North Sea, Dundee is a convenient base from which to make forays to Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Glasgow. There are many things to do in this exciting and historical city. Below are some of the sights that are worth a day out when you visit Dundee.

Verdant Works - West Henderson's Wynd, Dundee, UK - Scotland DD1 5BT 01382 225282 This visitor center demonstrates how the jute industry was crucial to Dundee's economy a century ago. Verdant Works provides a behind-the-scenes look at how the material was milled, how workers lived, and the importance of the merchandise produced. Guests also can view the mill's machinery in full operation. **Verdant Works Opening Times 2007** Verdant Works is an all-weather attraction, open every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and 1-2 January, and Mondays and Tuesdays during the winter season (Nov - March) From April to October, Verdant Works is open from 10.00 am to 6.00 pm on Mondays to Saturdays and from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm on Sundays. From Monday 6 November 2006, Verdant Works is open from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm on Wednesdays to Saturdays and from 11.00 am to 4.30 pm on Sundays. It is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. This year we re-open 7 days from Monday 3 April 2007. **Dundee Law Hill** The only way to really see Dundee is from the top of the Law. Known as the highest point in the city, Law Hill can be a tiring walk, but it is worth every step. The scenic views offer a panoramic glimpse of the river, harbor, rolling hills, and meadows that surround the city. Once the site of a 17th-century defensive hillfort, it now sports a stylishly constructed observation point offering spectacular views over the city to Fife, Perthshire and the Sidlaw Hills to the north. On a clear day, visibility can be as much as 45 miles. The climb up the Law is steep and often windy. It takes 30 minutes to walk to the foot of the Law from the city centre, or you can take a bus from Albert Square.

The Law is largely unspoilt and is home to a wide selection of trees, plants, mosses, fungi, insects, birds and mammals. **Discovery Point and RRS Discovery** Discovery Point is home to Captain Scott's famous ship R.R.S. Discovery. Discovery was one of the last wooden three-masted ships to be built in Britain and the first to be constructed specifically for scientific research. Launched in 1901 it was the beginning of an adventure that would take her deep into the unknown waters of Antarctica and secure her place in the heroic age of polar exploration **Open:** April to October, Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm, Sundays 11am-6pm, last admission 5pm. November to March, Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sundays 11am-5pm, last admission 4pm. Closed 25th and 26th December and 1st and 2nd January. **H.M. Frigate Unicorn** Reputed to be the best preserved wooden warship still afloat, the Frigate Unicorn, which was launched in 1824 but never saw active service, has been berthed in Dundee since 1873. Visit the Unicorn and see firsthand how your naval ancestors might have gone to war. **McManus Galleries** Visit the Victorian Gothic splendour of the McManus and "discover your past". There are fascinating displays chronicling life and work in Dundee from the heyday of jute. View life in the tenement kitchen, the grocer's shop or even the Public House! Find out about events in Dundee history - perhaps your ancestor was on board the fated 5.20 train from Burntisland, which plunged from the Tay Rail Bridge in the midst of a storm in the winter of 1879. Add to this an impressive collection of art and archaeology and wildlife displays and the McManus Galleries have something for everyone. **Broughty Castle Museum** The people of Dundee have long been associated with the whaling industry and those who have ancestors in whaling will appreciate the chance to visit Broughty Castle Museum on Castle Green in Broughty Ferry. Broughty Castle, dating from 1496, occupies a prominent position at the mouth of the River Tay, and houses a number of fascinating displays of local and military history, the seashore and whaling itself. Whale oil was originally used for lighting and later for softening the course jute fibres in preparation for spinning.