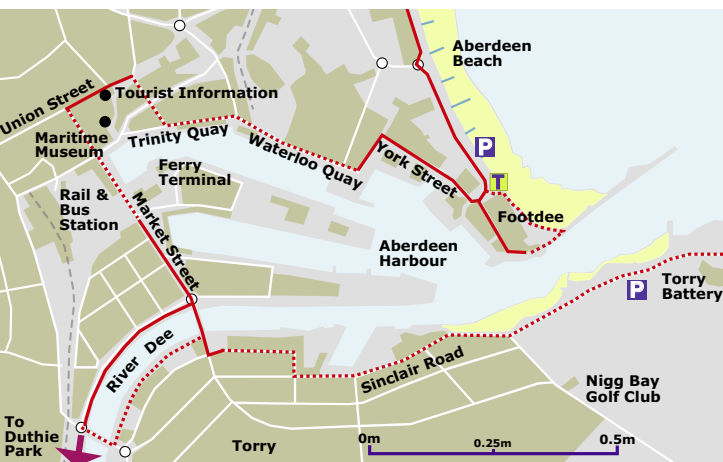


As a regional resource and global gateway, Aberdeen Harbour serves a wide range of sectors in Aberdeen City and Shire and an extensive area beyond, handling over 5 million tonnes of cargo annually, worth more than £1.5 billion. It is:

- The centre of activity for marine support for the offshore oil and gas industry in North-west Europe and a hub port for exports to West Africa and elsewhere
- The principal commercial port for North-east Scotland
- An international port, with connections with around 35 countries
- A roll-on/roll-off ferry port, with sailings to Norway and to the Northern Isles of Orkney and Shetland, for which it is the principal mainland terminal for “lifeline” services
- A passenger port, with almost 140,000 passengers annually using the Northern Isles service
- A gateway for the agricultural industry
- A major centre for the import of forest products and the export of finished paper products and logs
- A fishing port in a city which is a key processing centre
- A port-of-call for cruise ships



The port can be viewed from a section of the North Sea Trail
(Source: Aberdeen City Council/The North Sea Trail. www.northseatrail.org)

Restrictions on public access to the port are necessary in the interest of safety and security, but there are lots of places to look and learn more about the harbour, including:

Viewpoints – Torry Battery and Footdee

Aberdeen Harbour Board – www.aberdeen-harbour.co.uk
(including ships in port)

Maritime Museum, Shiprow – award-winning, free entry attraction, including a Harbour Board-sponsored gallery with views over the port. Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 12noon-3pm.
Tel: +44 (0) 1224 337700. www.aagm.co.uk

Aberdeen Central Library (Information Services),
Rosemount Viaduct - Tel: +44 (0) 1224 652512

Aberdeen Harbour Collection - historical photographs
1880-1930. www.abdn.ac.uk/diss/historic/harbour

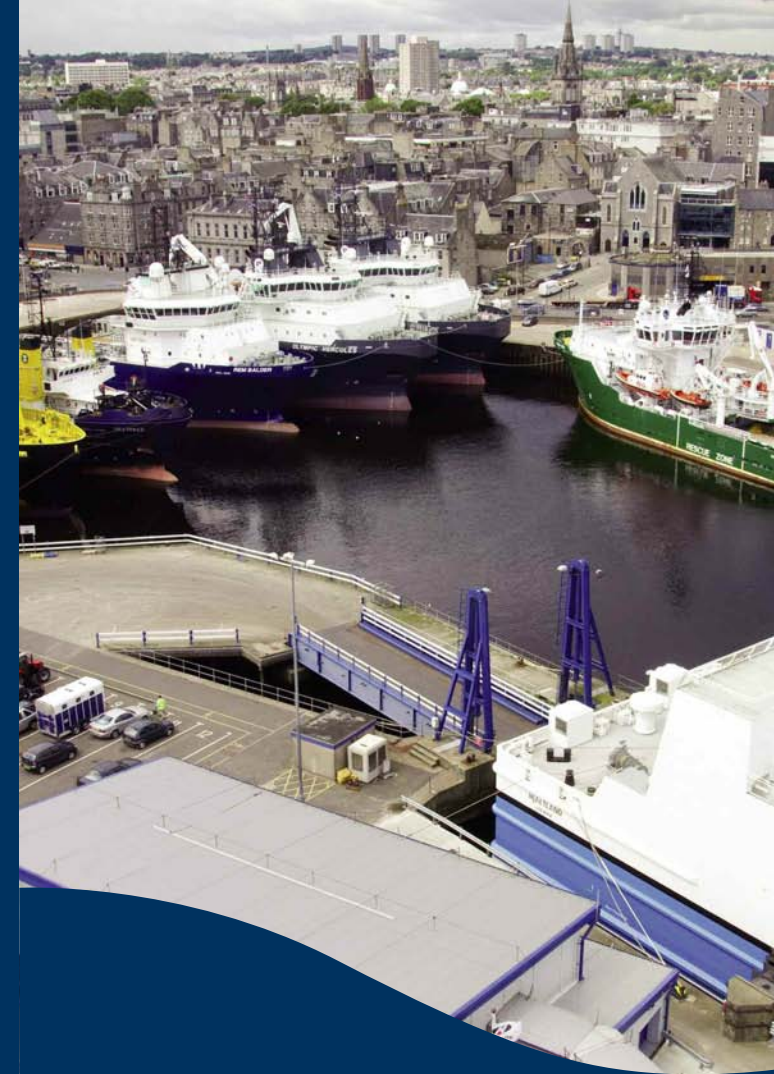
For information on the city and area:
Aberdeen City Council - www.aberdeencity.gov.uk
VisitScotland – Aberdeen and Grampian
– Tel: +44 (0) 1224 288828 www.visitaberdeen.com



Aberdeen Harbour Board
16 Regent Quay, Aberdeen AB11 5SS
Tel: +44 (0) 1224 597000
Email: info@aberdeen-harbour.co.uk



Aberdeen Harbour



Regional Resource : Global Gateway

While man's early use of the estuary of the River Dee is lost in the mists of time, the first recorded reference to a port at Aberdeen dates from a Royal Charter of 1136 – making it the oldest business in Britain, according to the Guinness Book of Business Records. Today's harbour was shaped by famous engineers, John Smeaton and Thomas Telford, and others in the late 18th / early 19th century, the era of clipper shipbuilding.



©University of Aberdeen/Aberdeen Harbour Board

The advent of steam trawling in the 1880s meant further developments and activity by an industry which was to be a major part of operations for almost a century.



The modern era really began with the formation of Aberdeen Harbour Board in 1960 and the arrival in mid-decade of the offshore oil and gas industry which continues to be a major feature. Since the 1970s, the Board have invested over £200 million, initially in virtually rebuilding the harbour and then in the evolution of facilities and services at the world class port. Redevelopment continues to create room for more activity.



Quayfacts

- Aberdeen Harbour covers 378 acres (land –205; water – 173)
- 6 kilometres of quays
- 19 deep-water berths
- 8,000+ vessel arrivals and 25,000+ vessel movements annually
- Record tonnages of shipping – around 24 million gross tonnes annually
- Largest vessel – *Finnfighter* (18,268 gross tonnes)
- Longest vessel – *St Marcel* (166.1 metres)
- The Harbour Board employ around 125 people, with the port supporting thousands of jobs
- Around £420 million+ annually into local economy

Caring for the environment is a priority, and the harbour was the first in Scotland and only the fourth in Europe to receive a certificate under the ECOPORTS Port Environmental Review System, designed to improve performance.



A landmark £4.5 million state-of-the-art Marine Operations Centre, completed in 2006, enhances the key role previously undertaken by the nearby Navigation Control Centre - "The Roundhouse", a familiar sight at the harbour entrance since 1803. The Operations Centre includes the latest vessel traffic management equipment and a ship's bridge training simulator, and brings improved efficiency through the integration of marine operations at one location.