

DID YOU KNOW?

- ? There are over 30 places named Aberdeen throughout the world.
- ? Union Street is named to commemorate the Union of Britain and Ireland.
- ? Scientists at the University of Aberdeen are credited with the co-discovery of insulin.
- ? The Rowett Research Institute in Aberdeen has produced 3 Nobel Laureates.
- ? The Robert Gordon University launched the UK's first degree course in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics.
- ? Aberdeen operates the largest and most sophisticated centrally controlled telemedicine network in Europe.
- ? Robert Henderson designed the first iron lung, in Aberdeen, in 1933.
- ? Established in 1136, Aberdeen Harbour Board is Britain's oldest business.
- ? Still trading today, The Shore Porters Society, founded in 1498 in the world's oldest documented transport company.
- ? The Aberdeen Journal, one of the Press and Journal's ancestors, is one of the oldest newspapers in Britain, first printed in 1748.
- ? Water polo began around 1863 on the River Dee in Aberdeen.
- ? The Kirk of St Nicholas houses the largest carillon in Britain consisting of 48 bells.
- ? Aberdeen has the busiest civilian heliport in the world.
- ? More than half the oil in the North Sea has still to be developed.
- ? The Shearwater Platform for Shell was the heaviest industrial structure to have been lifted in the UK. It is now located 180 miles out in the North Sea.
- ? The energy industry in Aberdeen provides over 40,000 jobs.
- ? Scotland's oldest medieval bridge is Aberdeen's Brig o Balgownie dating from 1286.
- ? The first stern trawler "Fairtry" was built in Aberdeen in 1954.



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- ? The fastest sailing boat ever, the “Thermopylae”, was built in Aberdeen in 1868.
- ? More medieval coin hoards have been found in Aberdeen than anywhere else in Britain.
- ? The Scottish hosiery trade began in Aberdeen in the 17th Century.
- ? Joseph Rank, the founder of the Rank Milling empire, learned the milling trade in Aberdeen.
- ? Aberdeen’s burgh records are the oldest in Scotland, dating back to 1398.
- ? A pit uncovered in Ship Row, under the modern extension to the Maritime Museum, has been dated to the first century AD.
- ? Sir David Gill, who took the first photograph of the moon in 1868, was born in Aberdeen.
- ? Marischal College is the second largest granite building in the world after El Escorial in Madrid.
- ? Waterloo Bridge and the Terraces of the Houses of Parliament are built of Aberdeen granite.
- ? 640,000 cubic feet of Aberdeen granite went into the construction of the Forth Rail Bridge.
- ? Aberdeen’s adopted warship, HMS Scylla, granted the Freedom of the City in 1992, is now Europe’s first artificial reef.
- ? Sir Winston Churchill, the Greatest Britain of all time was granted the Freedom of the City of Aberdeen in 1946.
- ? Denis Law, Scotland’s joint top goal scorer, is an Aberdonian.
- ? Pittodrie Stadium was the first all seated stadium in Scotland.
- ? The Music Hall was Aberdeen’s first cinema showing 3 short films in September 1896.
- ? The self seal envelope was developed in Aberdeen.
- ? In the late 19th century Aberdeen was the British centre for envelope production.
- ? Union Bridge is the largest single span granite bridge in the world.
- ? Aberdeen is home to Scotland’s largest permanent funfair.
- ? The World’s first holographic 3D camera was developed by Aberdeen University.

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- ? Thomas Blake Glover came from the North East of Scotland and attended school in Aberdeen.
- ? The University of Aberdeen developed the MRI scanner.
- ? The first Chair of Medicine in the English speaking world was founded at the University of Aberdeen in 1497.
- ? Aberdeen has over 330 restaurants.
- ? Aberdeen has three cathedrals, St Andrew's, St Mary's and St Machar's – the latter two being two of only three granite cathedrals in the world. St Machar's Cathedral, (early 15th century) is the world's oldest granite cathedral.
- ? Robert Louis Stevenson's grandfather Robert Stevenson designed Girdleness Lighthouse in Aberdeen in 1832.
- ? Strathisla at Keith, the oldest operating distillery in the Scottish Highlands, is the home of Chivas Regal.
- ? Rectors of Aberdeen University include Winston Churchill and Sandy Gall.
- ? Dunnottar Castle was used as a location by producer Franco Zeffirelli when filming Hamlet. The film starred Mel Gibson and Glenn Close.
- ? Slains Castle at Cruden Bay is said to have inspired Bram Stoker in writing Dracula.
- ? Seven distilleries and a cooperage along the River Spey form the world's only malt whisky trail.

