



ANNUAL MEETING 2022

18-21 December

EICC Edinburgh, Scotland

#BES2022

BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING 2022

18 – 21 December 2022, Edinburgh, UK

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS FOR IN-PERSON DELEGATES



#BES2022 | www.britishecologicalsociety.org/events/bes-annual-meeting-2022

Welcome to the British Ecological Society (BES) Annual Meeting 2022. This guide will help you get the most out of the conference and give you an understanding of what to expect. You can find the full programme, including abstracts, on the Whova app for which you will have already received instructions.

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ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Conference App

The conference app is now live, and you are able to access it with a link sent to you by Whova on 6 December. **The email address you used to register must be used to log in.** If you have not received the link, please check your junk mail. For the desktop version of the conference platform, you do not need to download or install any software, you only need to have access to the internet. We strongly recommend using the **Chrome** web browser as other browsers may not display the platform correctly.

For the mobile phone app, search for Whova in your app store and download it. Open the app and enter the email address you used to register for the conference. If the event does not show up automatically, you can search for 'British Ecological Society Annual Meeting 2022' in the search bar, and then click 'Join'.

We recommend logging in ahead of the first live session to spend some time familiarising yourself with the platform, looking at the online presentations, and getting to know other delegates.

If you are experiencing any issues logging in, or want further information about using the platform, you can find more detailed instructions [here](#).

Please note: the conference app will allow you to search for talks, read abstracts, and discover where each session is held. This information is only available on the app so you will need the app at BES2022.

Please ensure your devices are fully charged and consider bringing a portable charger as charging points at the venue will be limited

Wi-Fi

Complimentary Wi-Fi is provided throughout the venue.

In your Wi-Fi settings, select the network 'delegate' and enter the password 'haymarket'

Mobile Phones

As a courtesy to speakers and other delegates, we ask that all mobile phones and electronic devices be changed to silent mode before entering any session.

Social Media

All attendees are encouraged to join the discussion via social media, please use the hashtag #BES2022.

We understand that some people will not want their research broadcast. You can download a 'do not share' from [our website](#) and add it to your talk or poster presentation.

We hope that fellow attendees respect this and refrain from sharing the talks or posters which display the image.

Photography

There will be a photographer present for part of the event and the photographs taken may be used for promotional purposes; if you have any concerns or queries regarding this, please come and see us at the Information Desk.

Name Badges

For security purposes, please wear your name badge at all times when inside the EICC. If your badge is lost, a new badge may be issued for a cost of £5. We recommend that you continue to wear your badge at the social events as well.

Cloakroom

The cloakroom can be found on the left as you enter Strathblane Hall from Morrison Street. The cloakroom is complimentary and will be open for the duration of the meeting and will close at the same time as the last event of the day. If you can, please leave your suitcase with your hotel. Please be aware that queues for the cloakroom can be long after the closing plenary on the final day.

Toilets

Accessible toilets are available on each floor of the venue. An all-gender toilet is available on Level 1 next to Platform 5 café.

First Aid

Should you require first aid assistance during the meeting, please contact a BES staff member who will be able to guide you to an appointed first aider.

Contemplation Room

Carrick Suite 1 on Level 1 is a dedicated contemplation room, which can be used for prayer. The contemplation room can also be used if you need a moment to pause and reflect. Please do not use this room for working and ensure that all electrical items are switched off or on silent when using this space.

Families

Carrick Suite 2/3 on Level 1 is a family room. The room contains a microwave and fridge. There will be an area for breastfeeding, but you are of course welcome to breastfeed anywhere in the venue. Please feel free to bring toys to use in this area.

It is your responsibility to ensure children are accompanied by an adult at all times. Children will not be able to attend events within the EICC where alcohol is present (this includes Poster Sessions and some socials).

Food and Refreshments

Drinking water will be available throughout the conference centre. Please bring a refillable bottle with you.

Your registration includes a drink at the Welcome Mixer on Sunday evening, tea/coffee and lunch on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and a free drink at each Poster Session.

Tea/coffee and lunches will be served in the main Exhibition Area (Lennox Suite) during the designated refreshment breaks. Please refer to the meeting overview for exact times.

All food provided will be vegetarian or vegan and clearly labelled as such. If you have any specific dietary requirements and have notified us of these, please visit the allergen information stand on the left-hand side of the Lennox Suite during the lunch breaks. Staff will be able to provide you with a list of common allergens present in the lunch and offer you a replacement should it not be suitable for you. At the conference dinner, waiters will check with each table to confirm any dietary requirements including allergies.

There will be a bar available during the conference dinner. Please note, the EICC is a cashless venue and so all bars will require card or contactless payment.

Lost Property

Please hand in lost property to the Information Desk, where it will be made available for collection.

Smoking Policy

Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere in the venue.

Security

In the event of an emergency the EICC staff will guide you to safety. There will not be any fire alarm tests during the meeting, therefore any fire alarm is the real thing.

EICC Staff will assist any person who requires additional assistance; these persons will be conveyed to the “Temporary Waiting Areas” within the protected staircases and their attendance at that location recorded within Security Control and passed to Fire & Rescue Service on their arrival.

If at any point in the meeting you have any questions or require assistance, please contact a member of the BES staff either at the BES stand or the registration area, or any of our Helpers – who can be identified by their ‘**Help Is Here**’ t-shirts.

Currency

Edinburgh uses Pound Stirling (GBP).

Electricity Voltage

220 - 240 Volts, Type G electrical plug with three rectangular prongs.

Time Zone

Edinburgh is currently within GMT (Greenwich Mean Time). All times listed in this document are GMT.

Insurance and Liability

It is recommended that participants arrange their own personal health, accident and travel insurance. The meeting organisers will not accept liability for personal injury or loss/damage to property/belongings of participants or accompanying persons, before, during or following the meeting, on tours or during your stay in Edinburgh.

Disclaimer

All the best endeavours will be made to present the programme advertised. However, the BES reserve the right to alter or cancel, without prior notice, arrangements, timetables, plans or other items relating directly or indirectly to the BES Annual Meeting, for any cause beyond its reasonable control. The BES are not liable for any loss or inconvenience caused as a result of such cancellation. Delegates are advised to take out their own travel insurance and extend their policy to cover personal possessions as the BES do not cover individuals against cancellation of bookings or theft or damage to belongings.

REGISTRATION TIMES

Arrival Advice

You should arrive at registration through the Strathblane Entrance on Morrison Street to collect your name badge in Strathblane Hall on Level 0. Name badges will be ordered alphabetically by first name.

We expect registration to be particularly busy between 18:00 and 19:00 on Sunday 18 December, and between 08:00 and 09:00 on Monday 19 December. Please arrive in good time ahead of the sessions you wish to attend or aim to arrive outside of busy times to reduce your waiting time.

Registration will be open during the following hours:

Sunday 18 December

- 13:00 – 14:00 (for pre-conference workshops only)
- 14:00 – 20:00 (for general registration)

Monday 19 December

- 08:00 – 19:00

Tuesday 20 December

- 08:00 – 19:00

Wednesday 21 December

- 08:30 – 14:00

SPEAKER PRESENTATION UPLOAD

The Speakers' Upload Area is located in the Lomond Foyer near Registration on Level 0 and is fully equipped for speakers to hand in and review their presentations. To ensure that the presentations are well-prepared, please bring your presentation to the Upload Area at least **2 hours before your session starts**. Technical staff will be on hand to help with any issues.

The Speakers' Upload Area will be open during the following hours:

Sunday 18 December

- 14:00 – 17:00

Monday 19 December

- 07:30 – 17:00

Tuesday 20 December

- 08:00 – 17:00

Wednesday 15 December

- 08:30 – 11:00

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND PRESENTER GUIDELINES

Presenter Guidelines

For those of you presenting either a talk or a poster, please read the [guidelines](#) on the conference website carefully before preparing your presentation.

Meeting Overview

A full overview can be found in the [Meeting Agenda](#) or on the Whova app.

TRAVELLING TO EDINBURGH

Venue Address and Location

The Edinburgh ICC is located in the heart of the city, close to both the medieval old town and the Georgian new town, making it a great base for exploring Edinburgh. The address is:

Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC)
The Exchange
150 Morrison Street
Edinburgh, Scotland
EH3 8EE

By Rail

Rail strikes on trains in the UK have been announced by the RMT, one of the main trade unions for transport.

The dates announced include **Friday 16 December** and **Saturday 17 December**. There will be an overtime ban from 18 December to 2 January.

This means will be significant disruption for anyone planning to travel by train to the 2022 BES Annual Meeting that weekend if the strikes go ahead as planned. Advice on previous strike days has been to find alternatives where possible, as almost all train services have been cancelled. Disruption to timetables is likely to continue on Sunday 18 December.

We will continue to monitor the situation. We will send you helpful updates when there is new information and advice or you can check the [National Rail](#) for more information.

If you are planning on travelling by train Edinburgh has 2 main railway stations:

- **Waverley Station** is the city's main station with direct routes to cities across the UK, including over 25 daily services from London. Caledonian Sleeper overnight trains operate between Edinburgh Waverley and London, departing from London Euston each night from Sunday to Friday.
- **Haymarket Station** is just 0.4 miles from the EICC venue and connects to many UK stations.

Smaller stations at Edinburgh Gateway and Edinburgh Park Station connect to various destinations in Scotland.

Please see [National Rail Enquiries](#), or [Trainline](#) to plan your journey and book tickets.

By Coach

Edinburgh Bus station is located on Elder Street in central Edinburgh, near St Andrew's Square. [National Express](#) and [MegaBus](#) offer services to Edinburgh from Birmingham, London, and Manchester. The fastest service from London takes approximately 10 hours and costs less than £20; from Birmingham takes 9 hours and costs approximately £20; and from Manchester takes less than 7 hours and starts at £16.60.

By Air

Edinburgh airport is one of the UK's fastest growing airports, and the busiest in Scotland. The airport serves 122 domestic, European, and international destinations. You can travel from the airport into the city by taxi, tram, or bus.

The taxi service from the airport into the city centre will take approximately 20 minutes – depending on the time of day – and costs around £15. Taxis can be found at the taxi rank directly outside the terminal building.

[Edinburgh Trams](#) run between the Airport and York Place – in the centre – every 8-10 minutes Monday-Saturday, and every 12-15 minutes on a Sunday. The first tram departs the airport at 06:15, and the last at 22:45.

The [Airlink 100](#) operates a frequent bus service (every 10 minutes at peak times) between Edinburgh Airport and the city centre, with designated stops en route. The service starts at 04:30 and runs until 00:22 at night, with the journey taking 20 minutes. Tickets cost £4.50 single and £7.50 return. Delegates are advised to disembark at Haymarket Railway Station and to follow signs for EICC on foot (5-minute walk).

The N22 bus also departs from outside the Airport entrance and runs every half an hour through the night until the Airlink service starts again.

By Car

The two main driving routes to Scotland from the south are via the east of England on the A1, or via the west using the M6, A74 (M) and M74.

The A1, which passes by Peterborough, Doncaster, Newcastle, and Berwick-upon-Tweed, gives you the option of branching off onto the A68, which takes the hilly but scenic route over the border at Carter Bar and adds an hour or so to the journey time.

The M6 route, which goes around Birmingham, between Manchester and Liverpool and on to Carlisle, offers at least dual carriageway driving the whole way.

If travelling by electric car, you can find charging stations on your route by using websites such as [Zap Map](#) and [Electric Highway](#).

SOCIAL EVENTS

As well as a packed programme of presentations and workshops, there are also many social and networking events, providing great opportunities to meet old colleagues and create new connections.

Smaller Welcome Mixer

Join the Neurodiverse Network in the Moffat Room on Level -2 from 17:00 – 18:30 on Sunday 18 December to network in a friendly and welcoming environment. This event is directed at those who would prefer meeting a smaller number of people before attending the larger Welcome Mixer and let us know what you'd like from the growing network

Fresher's Function

This social event is for anyone new to our annual meeting, or new to scientific conferences. It's a great way to get to know your peers in an informal setting before the main Welcome Mixer. Meet us in Platform 5 on Level 1 from 17:00 – 18:30 on Sunday 18 December.

Welcome Mixer

The Welcome Mixer takes place from 18:30 – 20:30 on Sunday 18 December in the Exhibition Area (Lennox Suite) on Level -2 at the EICC.

Speed Review

Have a paper idea reviewed fast – by an editor! The BES journals are running a speed review session where you can get an editor's opinion on your manuscript. All you need to do is sign up at the BES stand and bring along a figure or a key finding from your research to have a discussion and get some feedback. Speed Review will take place in Strathblane Hall on Level 0 from 17:45 – 19:15 on Monday 19 December.

Poster Session 1

Poster Session 1 will take place in the Exhibition Area (Lennox Suite) on Level -2 from 17:45 – 19:15 on Monday 19 December. Group A posters will be presented (see the conference app for details). There will be a free drink available.

SEED Network launch and social

Join the Socioeconomic Equality and Diversity (SEED) Network for their launch event from 18:00 – 19:00 on Monday 19 December in the Moffat Room on Level -2. Come along to find out what the SEED Network is, what they'll be doing to highlight and break down socioeconomic barriers in ecology, and how you can get involved!

SIG Socials

From 19:15 onwards on Monday 19 December, our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will be holding their social events. You can meet the organisers in Strathblane Hall on Level 0 at 19:00 to head to the venues together. Please check the conference app for the times and locations of each of the events, as most of them will not be held in the EICC.

Fun Run

Get your running shoes on and join us on a 5k fun run around Edinburgh! Meet your running guide, Juliet, outside the Strathblane Hall entrance on Morrison Street at 07:15 on Tuesday 20 December for a 45-minute run, giving enough time to get back and ready for the day's first sessions.

EDGE Network Breakfast

Join the Equity and Diversity for Genders in Ecology Network breakfast session where we will be launching our new EDGE Network. We will be discussing what the network's manifesto should be, how we can best serve the community, and what specific considerations there are for ecological researchers, practitioners, and policy makers. This session will take place in the Moffat Room on Level -2 from 08:00 – 08:45 on Tuesday 20 December.

Transforming Conservation: A Practical Guide to Evidence and Decision Making

Join past BES President Bill Sutherland from 10:45 – 11:15 on Tuesday 20 Dec at the BES stand to talk about “Transforming Conservation: A Practical Guide to Evidence and Decision Making”, an open access book with chapters from leading ecologists. Bill will be joined by Rob Freckleton, Marc Cadotte, Harriet Downey and Des Thompson. You can also claim a 20% discount on physical copies of the book.

Poster Session 2

Poster Session 2 will take place in the Exhibition Area (Lennox Suite) on Level -2 from 17:00 – 18:30 on Tuesday 20 December. Group B posters will be presented (see the conference app for details). There will be a free drink available.

Meet the Committee

A number of BES Committees are looking for new members. Come along to the BES Stand 1 between 17:30 – 18:30 on Tuesday 20 December to meet committee members, and to learn how you can help shape the future of our activities and strategies.

LGBTQIA+ Social

From 18:30 – 20:00 on Tuesday 20 December the ALDER (Advancing LGBTQIA+ Diversity, Equality & Representation) Network will be running an LGBTQIA+ Mixer, taking place in the Lowther Room on Level -1. It is a relaxed and informal opportunity to mix and chat with ecologists who identify as LGBTQIA + over refreshments (alcoholic and non-alcoholic options available!) and find out more about joining the Network.

REED Network Mixer

A chance for ecologists from under-represented or marginalised ethnicities to discover more about the REED network and socialise. The social will take place in the Menteith Room on Level -1 from 18:30 – 20:00 on Tuesday 20 December.

Conference Dinner

The Conference Dinner will take place in the Cromdale Hall on Level -2 of the EICC from 20:00 – 00:00 on Tuesday 20 December. Please arrive from 19:45 in order to be seated for a welcome at 20:00 from the BES President. This is a ticketed event, and all tickets need to have been purchased in advance of the conference. Your Conference Dinner ticket will be a perforated section of your general delegate ticket. No tickets will be on sale at the conference.

Christian Breakfast

On the final morning of the conference there will be a Christian Breakfast hosted in the Moffatt Room on Level -2 from 8:00 – 8:30. All are welcome to attend, and food, tea and coffee will be provided.

Christmas Day

On the last day of the meeting, Wednesday 21 December, we invite you to start celebrating the holidays with Christmas Day! We encourage you to come to the meeting in festive attire (jumpers, ties, tinsel, and reindeer antlers – whatever takes your fancy) and tweet a photo of yourself to #BES2022. There will be a prize allocated to the best Christmas outfit!

CODE OF CONDUCT

BES2022 is an opportunity for delegates to be inspired, hear new ideas and different perspectives, connect with each other and learn from each other. We believe that all participants – organisers, exhibitors, speakers, chairs and delegates – have a responsibility to ensure a safe, welcoming, inclusive and enjoyable environment for everybody.

Please take the time to read our [Code of Conduct](#) prior to attending.

ABOUT EDINBURGH

Edinburgh is a city full of cultural institutions, gorgeous architecture, and a fascinating history. In fact, Time Out magazine rated Edinburgh as the best city in the world in 2022!

The skyline is dominated by Arthur's Seat, an extinct volcano and a popular climb for those who want a birds-eye view of the city. From its summit you also have a perfect view of Edinburgh Castle which sits on top of one of the city's many other hills. Scotland's most visited tourist attraction, the castle was built in the 12th century and housed Kings and Queens until the 1600s. Here you can explore Scottish history and see Britain's oldest crown jewels.

The city is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the UK with a huge amount to see and do. The medieval Old Town is a UNESCO world heritage site and the perfect place to get lost exploring cobbled streets and beautiful architecture. Visit Greyfriar's Kirk to search for the graves that inspired your favourite Harry Potter character or stop by the National Museum of Scotland to meet Dolly the sheep. The contrasting Georgian New Town contains a host of shopping streets perfect for any last-minute holiday presents. Princes Street Gardens separates the two neighbourhoods and in December will host the Edinburgh Christmas Markets, featuring ice-skating, fairground rides and hundreds of festive stalls.

Edinburgh also has lots to offer ecologists. The Royal Botanic Gardens is a scientific centre for the study of plants, their diversity, and conservation set in 72 stunning acres in the city centre. Visit to learn about the work they are doing to protect Scottish native plants and threatened biomes globally. On the other side of the city, Edinburgh Zoo houses over 2,500 animals including the UK's only giant pandas and a family of rare Scottish wildcats. They support a range of targeted research projects which are designed to enhance our understanding of animals' behavioural and physiological needs, with the aim to improve conservation in the wild.

However you spend your time in the city, we hope you enjoy Edinburgh!

GETTING AROUND EDINBURGH

Walking

The venue's location makes it easy to discover Edinburgh on foot. Many key attractions, such as the Christmas Markets, The National Museum of Scotland, and Edinburgh Castle are located less than a 20 minute walk from the conference centre.

Some of the main streets, including the Royal Mile and Victoria Street, are also fully pedestrianised, making them safe and comfortable to walk down.

Bus

Within the city, [Lothian Buses](#) run 50 regular services and night buses from midnight to the early hours. We recommend you use either Google/Apple maps or download Citymapper to help you plan bus journeys around the city.

You can pay for tickets on the bus using a contactless card or in cash if you have the exact fare (Adult:£1.80, Child (5-15):£0.90). Alternatively, you can buy tickets in advance through the m-tickets app.

Taxi

Taxi ranks are available at locations around Edinburgh, including outside the EICC on Morrison Street. A list of taxi stands can be accessed by visiting the [Edinburgh Council Website](#).

A number of taxi companies operate in Edinburgh, including:

- Central Taxis – 0131 229 2468
- City Cabs – 0131 228 1211
- Leith Cabs – 0131 629 2129

Car Parking

On-site parking spaces are not available at the EICC. However, there are many car parks within close walking distance to the centre.

These include:

- [National Car Parks \(NCP\)](#)
- [The Sheraton Hotel](#)
- [Semple Street Car Park](#)

THINGS TO DO

[The National Museum of Scotland](#)

This museum, just a 15-minute walk from the conference centre, truly has something for everyone. The impressive collections include Dolly the sheep, items owned by Mary Queen of Scots, and even a perfect replica of the museum made out of lego. This December they are also running an immersive exhibit, 'Dr Who Worlds of Wonder', on the science of the hit TV show with tickets starting from £12.

Open daily 10:00-17:00 (all times are in GMT) | Free Entry to the museum, some exhibits are ticketed

[Edinburgh Christmas Markets](#)

Every year Edinburgh transforms into a winter wonderland, the crown jewel of which is the Christmas Market in Princes Street Gardens. Enjoy traditional handmade produce and festive food as well as some not so traditional mulled Irn Bru and vegan pigs in blankets.

Open daily 10:00-22:00 | Free Entry, rides and ice-skating are ticketed

[Calton Hill](#)

If the 250m climb to the summit of Edinburgh's tallest hill, Arthur's seat, doesn't appeal, Calton hill is a great alternative. It is much easier to access whilst still providing beautiful views, including of Arthur's seat itself! Walking to the top takes less than ten minutes, or alternatively you can get a taxi to the summit. Once there you can visit the Collective contemporary art gallery and the Nelson Monument. Paths around these sites are wheelchair and mobility scooter accessible and there is parking available for blue badge holders.

Open 24 hours a day | Free Entry

[The Royal Botanic Gardens](#)

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh contains a living collection of plants from around the world dating back to the 17th century. Set in over 70 acres just 1 mile north of the city centre it offers a peaceful setting for anyone who wants a break from the hustle and bustle of central Edinburgh. Entry during the day is free but tickets are available for 'Christmas at the Botanics', an illuminated trail of millions of lights with festive food and drink stalls.

The gardens are open 10:00-16:15 Daily | Free Entry

Christmas at the Botanics is open 16:15-20:00 | Ticketed, advance booking recommended

[The Real Mary King's Close](#)

The Real Mary King's Close is one of the alleyways situated under the Old Town buildings, on the Royal Mile. Although it was closed to the public for many years, it has recently reopened to visitors. Booking a tour you'll discover tales of the plague victims, murderers, and royalty who are thought to reside on Edinburgh's most haunted street.

Tours run from 9:30-17:00 daily | Ticketed, advance booking recommended

[Topping & Company Bookshop](#)

There are many beautiful independent bookstores in Edinburgh, but Topping & Company is one of the most impressive. Set over 4000 square meters the store contains over 70,000 books and hosts author events throughout the year. They also serve free tea and coffee making it the perfect place for any booklover to spend an hour.

Free tea and coffee whilst you browse

[Harry Potter Walking Tour](#)

Every café you visit in Edinburgh will claim to be where the Harry Potter series was written, however, you can be sure to find the best spots on a free walking tour. On 'The Potter Trail' your robed guide will show you all the best sites including the graves that gave Professor McGonagall and Tom Riddle their names and the real life Diagon Alley.

Tours run at 12pm every day from the statue of Greyfriars Bobby | Free with an optional tip at the end

[Camera Obscura and World of Illusions](#)

This attraction includes five floors of interactive hands-on optical illusions, tricks and fun things to do including a vortex tunnel, mirror maze and a shrinking room. You can also enjoy the rooftop terrace, which offers spectacular 360-degree views of Edinburgh and experience the Camera Obscura that Victorians used to study the stars.

Open daily from 9:00-20:30 | Ticketed, advance booking recommended

[Edinburgh Zoo](#)

Edinburgh zoo is a gateway to the natural world where people can experience nature, learn about the challenges facing wildlife and discover the work the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland are doing to save animals from extinction. Don't miss the UK's only giant pandas, the daily penguin parade, and if you're visiting Edinburgh with children, you can even have breakfast with Santa and Mrs Claus.

Open daily from 10:00-16:00 | Ticketed

PLACES TO EAT

[Novapizza, Howe Street](#)

On the menu of the first Italian vegan restaurant in Edinburgh is an often changing selection of vegan pastas, pizzas and desserts. They also offer gluten free versions available for many of their dishes.

Open 17:00-21:30 Monday, Thursday, Friday, 12:30-21:30 Saturday, and 16:00-21:30 Sunday | Wheelchair accessible

[Marcos, Grove Street](#)

Marcos is a pool hall with a private karaoke room, retro gaming stations, and a menu serving cocktails, pizzas and draft beer. It also has large screens for all the major sporting action, the perfect place to catch the Fifa World Cup final!

Open 15:00-00:00 Monday -Thursday, 11:00-01:00 Friday and Saturday and 11:00-00:00 Sunday | Wheelchair accessible

[Hula Juice Bar & Café, Fountainbridge](#)

Hula is an independent café serving fresh seasonal produce. It's the perfect place to start your day right with a delicious breakfast before a busy schedule of talks, workshops and socials! Their menu changes frequently but always caters for everyone, including vegans, vegetarians and those with gluten-free diets.

Open 08:00-14:30 Monday-Friday and 08:30-15:30 Saturday and Sunday | Wheelchair accessible

[Caley Picture House](#), Lothian Road

This former auditorium turned cinema turned discothèque has seen the likes of Queen and AC/DC perform. However now it is a popular pub just around the corner from the EICC.

Open daily from 08:00-01:00 and children are welcome until 22:00 | Wheelchair accessible

[Maki and Ramen](#), Fountainbridge

This popular Edinburgh chain aims to preserve the authentic tastes of some of the most celebrated dishes in Japanese Cuisine and showcase them in a playful, sleek, contemporary context. The walls are decorated with hundreds of colourful post-it notes, get creative and add your own whilst enjoying a delicious meal.

Open 12:00-15:00 and 17:00-21:30 Monday-Thursday, and 12:00-21:30 Friday and Sunday | Wheelchair accessible

[Ting Thai Caravan](#), Lothian Road

Recently opening their second location, just around the corner from the conference centre, Ting Thai Caravan serves a selection of traditional dishes that are usually found in the street side canteens of Thailand. From vibrant green curry to flavoursome pad thai and fresh salads made using seasoned vegetables, every dish packs a punch and leaves a lasting chili kick on each diner.

Open 12:00-22:00 Sunday-Thursday and 12:00-22:30 Friday and Saturday | Wheelchair accessible

[Cold Town House](#), Grassmarket

This restaurant and bar is famous for their rooftop terrace with a stunning view of Edinburgh Castle (with plenty of heaters and blankets to combat the unpredictable weather). Cold Town House serves Neapolitan Pizza, burgers and fries plus beer made fresh in their microbrewery.

Open 12:00-00:00 Sunday-Thursday and 12:00-01:00 Friday and Saturday | Wheelchair accessible

[Black Rabbit](#), Brougham Street

Black Rabbit is Edinburgh's original vegan deli and coffee shop. It sells a wide selection of vegan cheese, deli slices, and sandwiches as well as cakes and pastries baked in house every day. They are passionate about the planet and the shop relies on 100% green electricity and compostable packaging.

Open 10:00-16:00 Tuesday-Sunday | Small step at the entrance