

Arthur's Seat

Holyrood Park is home to Arthur's Seat – a 251 m tall extinct volcano – and surrounding hills including an outcropping of cliffs known as the Salisbury Crags. Arthur's Seat is a common running and hiking spot for tourists and locals, boasting unparalleled 360° views of Edinburgh from the sea to the airport.

Casual walkers in the park can take wildflower-covered trails through the valley between Arthur's Seat and the Crags to a flat park or walk the 5km loop around the hills, passing the Duddingston and St. Margaret's Lochs. Hikers wanting pictures of the castle and Old Town skyline may want to take the trail along the crest of the Crags, and those aiming to reach the top of Arthur's Seat can take one of many paths to the top. You may even encounter a friendly dog along the way!

Depending on the crowd and weather conditions, Arthur's Seat takes 45 minutes to an hour to ascend. From Pollock Halls, turn right onto Holyrood Park Road, then take a left at the first roundabout to enter Holyrood Park. At the second rounda-



bout, either turn left to follow Queen's Drive around to go to the park behind the Palace of Holyroodhouse, or right to take one of the many trails.

A note on safety: the final 50m of the Arthur's Seat hike requires a bit of a climb to ascend. The stones here are quite smooth from years of hikers, and even more slippery in rainy conditions, so shoes with good grip are highly recommended. Furthermore, Edinburgh is quite windy, and certain trails go along cliff faces, so be cautious of such areas.

