

## Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursion Programme 2021

**Excursion title:** Arthur’s Seat and Salisbury Crags  
**Date & time:** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021, 7pm **Finish time:** 9pm  
**Leader(s):** Angus Miller, Lothian and Borders GeoConservation



<b>Excursion aims and description:</b>	The eroded volcanic cone of Arthur’s Seat dominates the city centre of Edinburgh. Right next door is the impressive, fairly uniform cliff line of Salisbury Crags. These two rocky edifices complement each other, and perfectly illustrate the contrast between two types of basaltic igneous rock – extrusive and intrusive. This excursion will explore the rocks of the Arthur’s Seat vent, including volcanic breccia and the intrusive dolerite of Salisbury Crags, and as a final bonus visit one of the youngest rocks in Edinburgh, a dyke that cuts through the Crags near the Cat’s Nick.		
<b>Meeting point:</b>	Entrance gates to Holyrood Park next to Pollock Halls, on Holyrood Park Road, EH16 5BQ. Grid reference NT269726.		
<b>First locality:</b>	Top of Samson’s Ribs, NT273725.		
<b>Excursion route:</b>	From the roundabout at the end of Holyrood Park Road, take the path eastwards and join the Queen’s Drive, walking east along the road to a viewpoint above Duddingston Loch. Retrace our steps to the south end of Salisbury Crags and take a rough footpath along the top of Salisbury Crags to the Cat’s Nick.		
<b>Terrain, walking distance, height gain:</b>	3.5km on rough paths and pavements, with 100m of ascent. <a href="https://www.plotaroute.com/route/1543592">https://www.plotaroute.com/route/1543592</a>		
<b>Specific or Medium- / High-Risk Hazards:</b>	None		
<b>Control measures required to mitigate against any Hazards referred to above:</b>	None		
<b>Hard hats or Hi-viz clothing needed?</b>	No		
<b>May dogs be brought on the excursion?</b>	Yes		
<b>Toilet information:</b>	None		
<b>Geological map sheet:</b>	Edinburgh 32E	<b>OS map sheet:</b>	Explorer 350
<b>References:</b>	EGS leaflet, Discovering Edinburgh's Volcano		