

Scotland Checkers Festival 2026, Sep 9-18 **General Information**

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|--|-----------|
| • British Open 2026, 3-moves (World Cup event); | Sep 9-12 |
| • WCDF World Qualifier Tournament 2026, 3-moves; | Sep 14-17 |
| • WCDF Woman World Championship 2026, 3-moves; | Sep 14-17 |
| • WCDF Youth World Championship 2026, GAYP | Sep 14-17 |
| • WCDF World Blitz Championship 2026, 3-moves | Sep 18 |

1. **Place of residence** (recommended, not required)

See separate list of hotels, map and travel information in Stonehaven near the venue.

2. **Venue / Place to play**

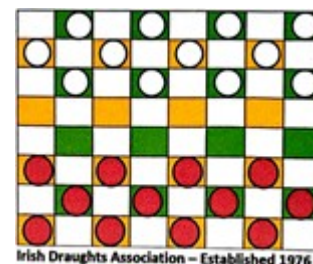
The Town Hall	36 Allardice Street, Stonehaven, AB39 2BU Stonehaven, Scotland
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3. **Contact Information**

3.1. Organizers.

Executive Director of Scotland Checkers Festival 2026	Donald Oliphant
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doliphant16@googlemail.com



Main Referee:
Referee Assistant

Graham Young bendings@hotmail.com
Stefano Iacona, Genoa, Italy

3.2 WCDF officials.

WCDF President: Dr. Richard Beckwith beckwith24@msn.com
WCDF Secretary: Alexander Moiseyev rusms59@gmail.com

4. Time control for all tournaments to each player.

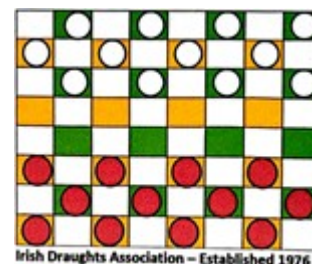
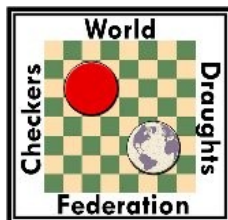
- British Open 2026, 3-moves 45 min + 20 sec (for one game);
- WCDF World Blitz Championship 2026, 3-moves 3 min + 3 sec (for one game);
- WCDF events, 2026 45 min + 20 sec (for one game);

5. Limitations and deadlines.

- Age limitation for Youths – birthday not earlier than January 1, 2007;
- Deadline to register (w/o names) in WCDF events – May 15;
- Deadline to provide players names in each category – August 1;

6. Tournament(s) fees

- British Open 2026, 3-moves £40 Sterling, Youths - free
Both events participation w/o limit;
- WCDF World Blitz Championship 3-moves 2026 €20, Youths – free
(Participation w/o limit);



- WCDF tournaments - each Draughts federation and affiliated organization from each country, having paid the WCDF annual fee of \$100, can place 2 participants in other tournaments without additional payment (2 men, 2 woman, 2 youths).

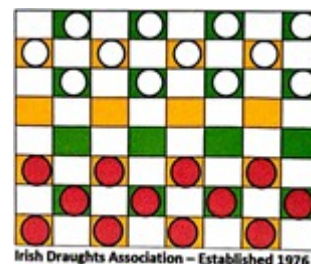
Scotland, Ireland and England as co-host countries and organizers of combine bid, have the right to field 3 competitors in each category. Each country can have up to 2 (two) Draughts federations / organizations where each has to pay \$100.

7. Transportation

Trains are available across the country, and there are train stations in all major airports, specifically Edinburgh and Aberdeen airports.

8. Food:

- **Breakfast:** Breakfast is usually supplied by hotels and B & B's
- **Lunch & Dinner:** There is no provision for lunch and/or dinner. Arrangements for these are down to individual.
- **Drinks and snacks** in tournament room during the game.



9. Prizes, award, and titles

9.1. Total prize fund amount consists of:

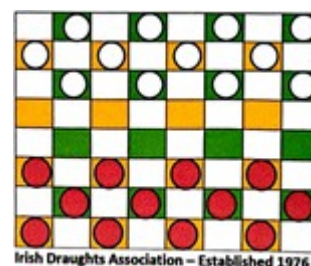
- WCDF Annual Interest;
- Scotland, Irish and England Associations contributions;
- Private donations;
- Re-distribution from other WCDF funds

9.2. Monetary prizes:

- British Open 2026, 3-moves TBD
- Top 8-10 players in WCDF 3-moves World Qualify Championship;
- Top 4-6 players in WCDF 3-moves World Blitz;
- Top 4-6 players in Woman and Youth World Championships;
- Best score girl, Woman and Youth in Blitz event if 3 or more attendees in each category will play in Blitz event.

9.3. Trophies:

- 3 top winners of each WCDF event (World Blitz, WQT, Woman and Youth World Championships)
- Best score Woman, best score Youth and best score girl in Blitz event if 3 or more attendees in each category play in Blitz event.

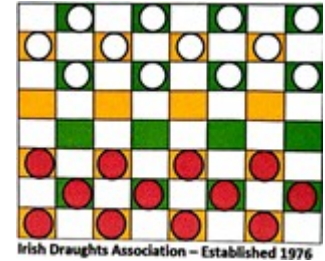


9.4. Titles.

- Winner of Open 3-moves World Qualifier Tournament will earn "Challenger" title and rights to challenge 3-moves World Champion in 3-moves World Title Match until end of 2027.
- Winners of Woman and Youth World Championships will get, respectively, a title of WCDF 3-moves Woman and World Youth GAYP Champion 2026.
- Best scored girl in Youth event will get title of WCDF Girl World Champion 2026 if at least 3 or more girls play in WCDF World Youth Championship;
- Winner of WCDF 3-moves Blitz World Championship 2026 will get a title of WCDF Blitz World Champion 2026;
- Best scored Woman & Youth in Blitz event will get a title of WCDF Blitz Woman / Youth World Champion 2026 if 3 or more attendees in each category play in WCDF Blitz 2026 event.

10. Signatures.

WCDF President	Dr. Richard Beckwith (USA)	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date 6-FEB-2021
WCDF Secretary	Alexander Moiseyev (USA)	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date 2/17/2026
Stoneheaven Checkers	Festival 2026 Executive Director		
Main Referee	Donald Oliphant (Scotland)	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date 10/02/2026
Referee Assistant	Graham Young (Scotland)	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date 11/02/2026
	Stefano Iacona, Genoa, Italy	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date 15/2/2026

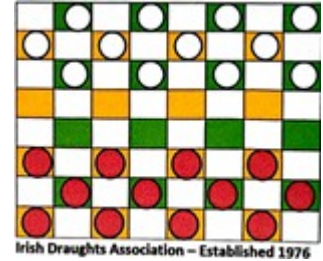


WCDF 2026 events, September 14-18, Stonehaven, Scotland

Rules and Regulations

1. WCDF World Blitz Championship 2026, 3-moves

- 1.1. Entry fee - €20, Youths - free (Participation w/o limit).
- 1.2. Time Control is 3 minutes with 3 seconds increment gained with each press of a clock.
- 1.3. Clocks are reset to the same initial time control for the second game.
- 1.4. Number of rounds in WCDF World Blitz Championship 2026 3-movers will depend on total number of players:
 - 9 rounds will be played if number of players does not exceed 24 players;
 - 11 rounds will be played if total number of players ranges from 25-36 players;
 - 13 rounds will be played if total number of players is greater than 36 players.
- 1.5. Each 1st game of round starts at the same time on all boards after Main Referee official announcement. 2nd game starts after clocks are reset. Opening is picked by Referee at the table before 1st game and is written down for future use in 2nd game.
- 1.6. Main Referee of WCDF World Blitz Championship 2026, 3-moves have rights to adjust slightly the conditions and format of event for better and more professional environment and process improvement or by written special decision of Referee team in case of force majeure situation.



2. WCDF 2026 3-moves WQT & Woman (3-moves) and Youth (GAYP) World Championships 2026.

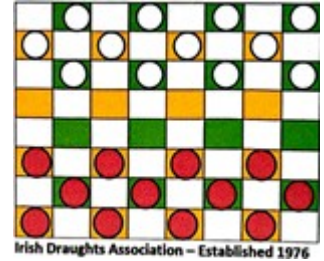
- 2.1. WCDF tournaments - each Draughts federation and / or affiliated organization from each country (no more than two affiliations from each country) has to pay the WCDF fee of 100 dollars and can place 2 participants in each tournament without additional payment (2 players in Open event, 2 women, 2 youths).

Host countries Scotland, Ireland and England as combine host organizers of the festival, have a right to place 3 participants in each category.

WCDF World Champions (Open and Woman) are nominated automatically by WCDF without charging country limit as + 2025 World Cup winners and 2024 WQT winner.

- 2.2. Time Control is 45 minutes with 20 seconds gained by each player press of a clock.
- 2.3. Clocks are reset to the same initial time control for the second game.
- 2.4. Both players are obligated to record moves to the rest of game with no exceptions.
- 2.5. With Swiss-system of pairing, the first round will be paired randomly without respect to country of origin. Pairing two players from same country in final round is discouraged if a fresh pairing with equal points is possible. In the event of a round-robin, pairings will emphasize people from same country being paired sooner than later.
- 2.6. A "bye" is awarded 3 points.
- 2.7. The WCDF 2026 events (WQT and Woman and Youth World Championship) format is traditionally 8 rounds of Swiss with no repairing.

However, alternate formats may be more suitable for sections with fewer participants. Players in those sections will decide on format in consultation with tournament officials. Leaving board to go to bathroom within player's first 8 moves of game is discouraged, where possible. A short break prior to starting the second game is preferred.

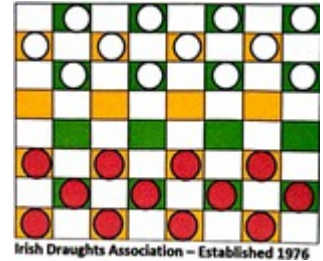


2.8. Tie-break will play on Thursday after end of event and reasonable small rest. WCDF tie-breaker rules apply where players are tied in points.

Order of tie-break criteria:

- 1) Head-to-head result, or mini-league if more than 2 tied;
- 2) Sonneborn-Berger Honor Points;
- 3) Playoff at rapid rates. Rules for additional playoffs :

- Two games (one opening) will play at time control 30m +15s to each player.
- If still tied due to a drawn round, then two more games (one opening) will play at 15 minutes total time on the clock + 5 secs increment to each player (with additional 5 seconds gained for each press of the clock).
- After the first game, players exchange colors, but clocks are not reset. An official or other designee will record games for players, if players wish.
- If the 2-game set is drawn, then two more games are played at 10 minutes to each player for both games + 3 secs increment, followed, as needed, by two more games at 5 minutes to each player for both games (no increments), and finally Armageddon: 5 minutes until someone wins 2-games set or runs out of time.



Scotland Draughts Festival 2026, Sep 9-18 Events Schedule.

• British Open 2026 3 Moves

Wednesday September 9th

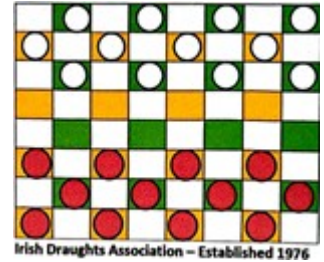
09:00-09:30	Registration for British Open Entry Fee £40:00
09:30-10:00	Opening Presentation, Ballot;
10:00-14:00	British Open Session 1
14:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-19:00	British Open Session 2

Thursday September 10th

09:00-13:00	British Open Session 3
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	British Open Session 4

Friday September 11

09:00-13:00	British Open Session 5
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	British Open Session 6



Saturday September 12

09:00-13:00	British Open Session 7
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	British Open Session 8

Sunday September 13

All Day Players departure and/or day of rest to do as they please

- **WCDF 2026 events (3-moves WQT, Woman 3-moves and Youth GAYP World Championships)**

Sunday September 13

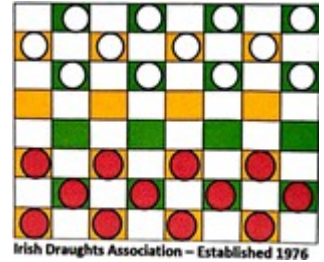
18:00-20:00 Players Registration for WCDF Events

Monday September 14

09:00-13:00	3 Move WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 1
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	3 Move WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 2
19:00-	Dinner

Tuesday September 15

09:00-13:00	3 Move WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 3
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	3 Move WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 4
19:00-	Dinner



Wednesday September 16

09:00-13:00	3 Moves WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 5
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	3 Moves WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 6
18:00-19:00	Dinner
19:30-	WCDF Annual General Assembly (GA) 2026 & elections

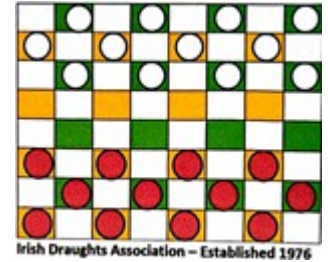
Thursday September 17

09:00-13:00	3 Moves WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 7
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-18:00	3 Moves WQT, Woman & Youth Championship Session 8
18:00-19:00	Dinner
19:00-	Tiebreaks if applicable

• WCDF World Blitz Championship 2026, 3-moves

Friday September 18

09:00	WCDF World Blitz 2026, 3-moves, Sessions 1-9/11/13
14:00 (?)	WCDF & Blitz Award and Closing Ceremony.



Stonehaven Accommodation

No 44 Hotel and Bar 44 Allardice Street

Stonehaven, AB39 2BU enquiries@number44.net

Located in the town center, this traditional sandstone hotel lies a 2-minute walk from the seafront. Simple, elegant rooms, Amenities include free cooked breakfast, and a cozy bar/restaurant serving classic pub fare.

Rooms at 31 31 Ann St.

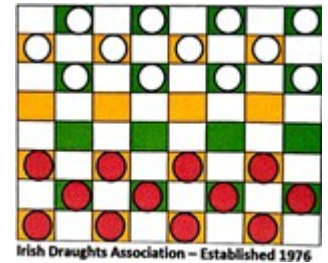
Stonehaven AB39 2DA Rooms@31.co.uk

A continental breakfast at anytime. Centrally located, 2 mins walk from shops where newspapers etc can be bought (7am – 10pm).

The Ship Inn 5 Shorehead.

Stonehaven AB39 2JY <https://www.shipinnstonehaven.com>

With views of Stonehaven's historic harbor, Some rooms have harbor views. Family rooms add additional living spaces. Full Scottish breakfast is included.



The Station Hotel Arduthie. Rd

Stonehaven AB39 2NE <https://www.stationhotelstonehaven.co.uk>

Situated at the top of the town next to the railway station

Shorehead Guest House 14 Shorehead

Stonehaven AB39 2JY info@shoreheadguesthouse.com

Situated at the harbor, 300 meters from the beach.

Crawfield Guest House.

Newbigging Stonehaven AB39 3QJ

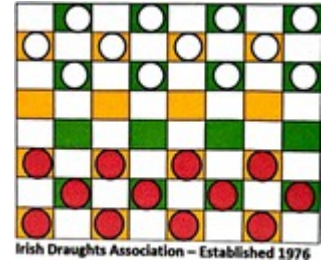
www.online-reservations.com

Self Catering accommodation, situated two miles north of Stonehaven accessible by taxi

Arduthie House B & B Ann St

Stonehaven AB39 2DA

A Victorian house, this quaint bed-and-breakfast is a 2-minute walk from central Stonehaven



Bayview Stonehaven 1 Bayview Apartments

Stonehaven AB39 2BD <https://www.bayviewbandb.co.uk>

On the beach at Stonehaven Bay, this charming, family-run B&B is a 3-minute walk from central Stonehaven

The 4 bright rooms come with coastal-themed decor, and offer flat-screen TVs, tea and coffeemaking equipment, Wi-Fi and en-suite bathrooms. Some have sofas, cathedral ceilings, full kitchens, balconies, heated floors and/or sea views.

Marine Inn The Marine Hotel, 9-10 Shorehead

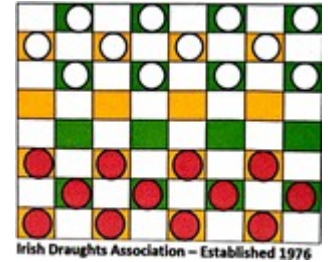
Stonehaven, AB39 2JY <https://www.marine.beer/hotel>

Overlooking Stonehaven Harbor, this upscale, Victorian hotel is a mile from the train station, a 5-minute walk from Stonehaven Beach

Belvedere Guest House 41 Evan St

Stonehaven AB39 2ET <https://www.belvederestonehaven.co.uk>

Set in a Victorian-era building that retains its original stained-glass windows, this simple hotel is a 2-minute walk from the town center



About Stonehaven and getting there

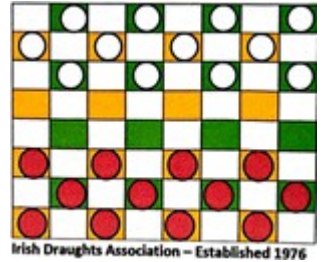
Stonehaven is a small, pretty harbor town on the northeast coast of Scotland, 15 miles south of Aberdeen.

Stonehaven is famous for its Hogmanay fireballs ceremony. It had a population of 11,177 at the 2022 Census. Stonehaven was formerly the county town of Kincardineshire, succeeding the now abandoned town of Kincardine. It is currently administered as part of Aberdeenshire.

Attractive Stonehaven has a sheltered working harbor busy with sailing yachts. Stonehaven Tolbooth Museum is a notable building on the quayside, and has a fascinating history as a former courthouse and jail.

Perched on high cliffs jutting out into the waves two miles to the south is the dramatic ruined Dunnottar Castle, one of the finest in Scotland. Learn about its bloody history or just take in the view.

Stonehaven has an outdoor heated swimming pool, although one can swim in the sea it could be very cold.



Just south of Stonehaven you'll find RSPB Fowlsheugh reserve, where the spectacular cliffs are packed with 130,000 breeding seabirds in the spring and summer.

The town parties on New Year's Eve in the ancient fireballs ceremony, when people swing blazing balls above their heads to ward off evil spirits, and drink lots.

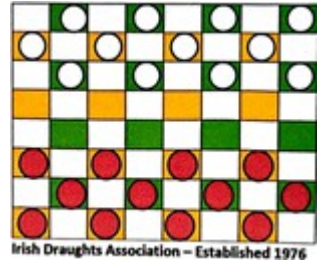
An interesting fact: Stonehaven was originally called Stonehive, Stonehyve and Duniness according to old maps. However, locals often refer to the town as 'Stoney'.

Aberdeen Airport is seven miles north-west of the Aberdeen city center, on the A96 near Dyce making it 22 miles from Stonehaven.

Travel options to get Stonehaven.

The closest airport to Stonehaven is **Aberdeen airport** situated to the west of Aberdeen. Aberdeen airport is not very well served from outside the UK and Ireland.

You can book from anywhere you are in the world and land at Aberdeen International Airport but will mean connections. From there, you can either take a bus, train or cab to go to Stonehaven.



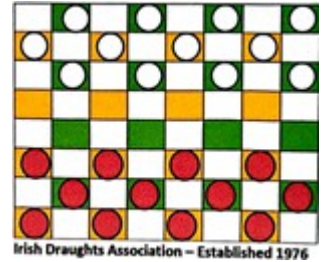
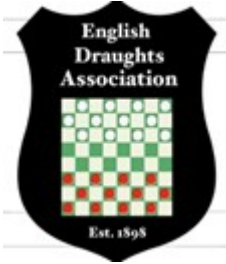
The nearest rail station, Dyce, is a short taxi ride from the airport. Trains from Dyce reach Aberdeen in about ten minutes and a standard Anytime single ticket costs £2.70.

If you prefer to ride a taxi upon arrival, the minimum fare is £38.

An excellent alternative is to fly to **Edinburgh Airport** and then take a bus to Haymarket Train station and then a train onwards to Stonehaven. There are trains running hourly that can help you get to Stonehaven quickly. You can depart from major cities in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen.

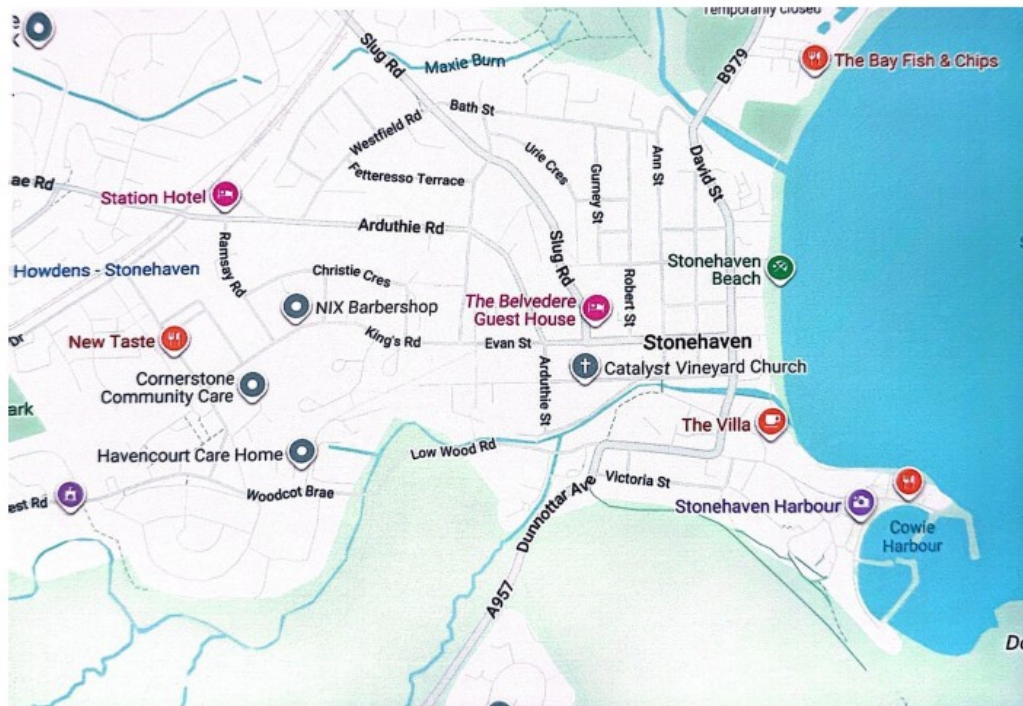
First Aberdeen and Stagecoach Bluebird both run buses between the airport and city center. The timetabled journey is about 30 minutes in normal traffic. Fewer buses run at weekends and at night, so please check the timetables beforehand.

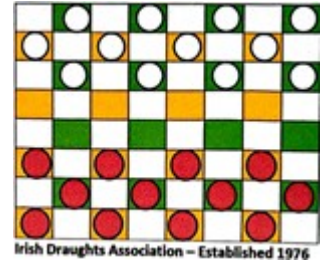
There are many departure points headed towards Stonehaven Union Square. From the airport, you must hop aboard bus line X7 or Bus 747. The main bus stop you want to get off at is at Barclay Street, Stonehaven. Travel time depends on where you're coming from. If you're from Aberdeen, the estimated time travel is about 30 minutes and the fare ranges from £3 – £6.



Flying into major airports located in England will either mean a connecting flight or travel by train or by coach.

Stonehaven Map.

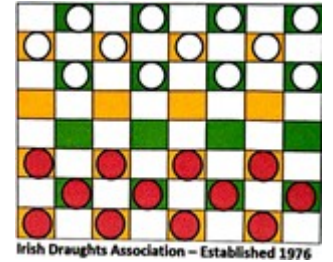




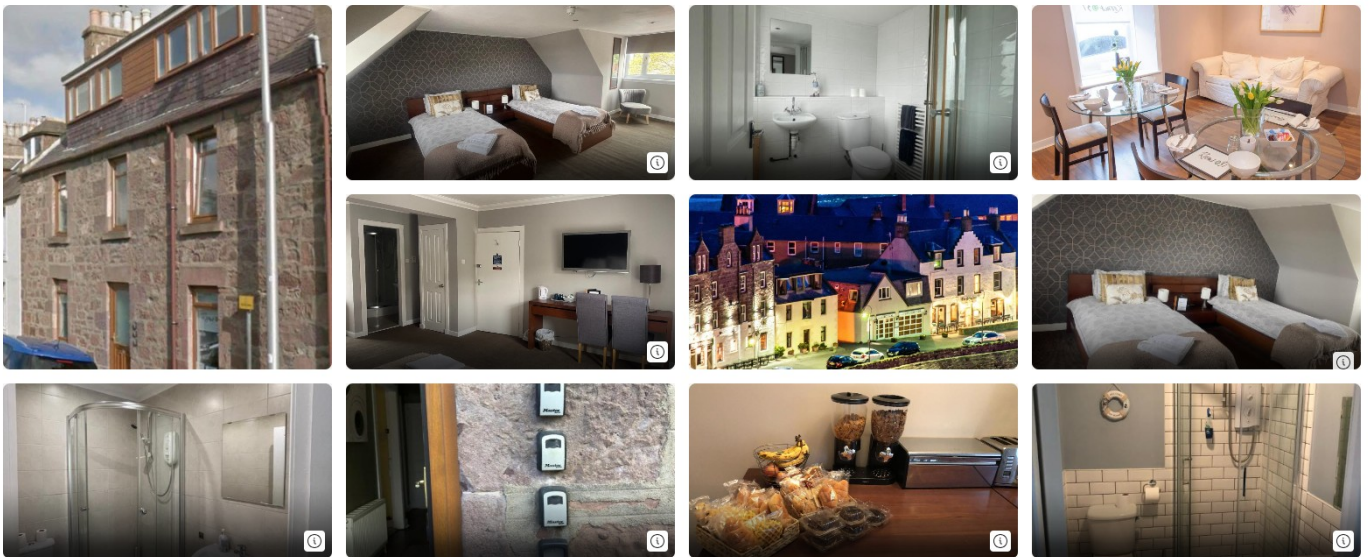
Stonehaven Hotel prices September 8-18

Hotels with free cancellation, free WiFi, private bathroom, breakfast included, rating 8+. September 8-18, 2 guests

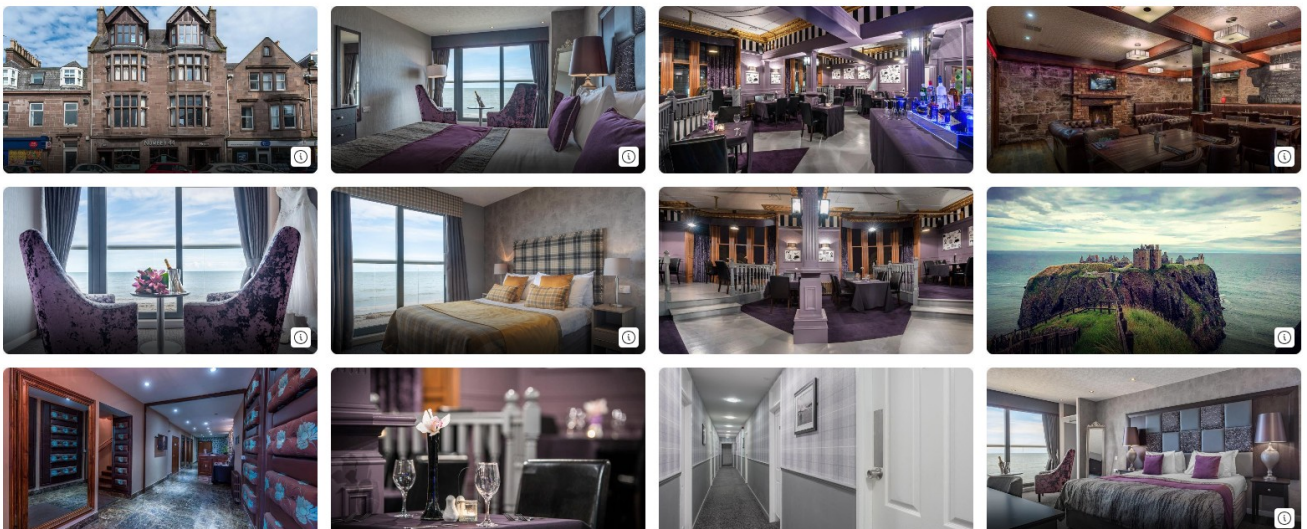
##	Hotel	Best daily Rate	Booking Company	Comments
01.	Rooms at 31	\$128	booking.com	1 full bed
02.	Number 44 Hotel and Bar	\$101	booking.com	1 full bed
03.	The Belvedere Guest House	\$111	booking.com	N/A on Sep 8 1 Twin bed
04.	Station Hotel Stonehaven	\$107	booking.com	2 Twin beds
05.	Arduthie House	\$145	booking.com	2 Twins beds
06.	The Ship Inn	\$137	booking.com	2 Twins beds



Rooms at 31 Photos

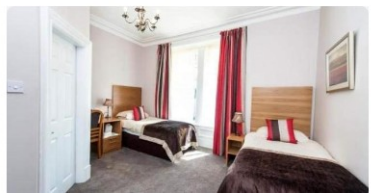
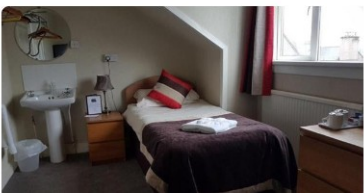
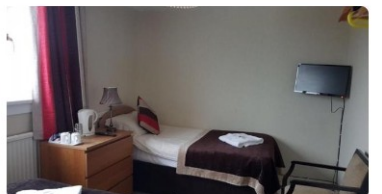
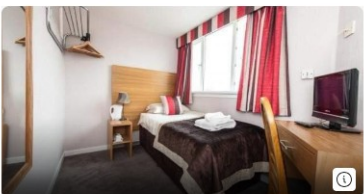


Number 44 Hotel and Bar



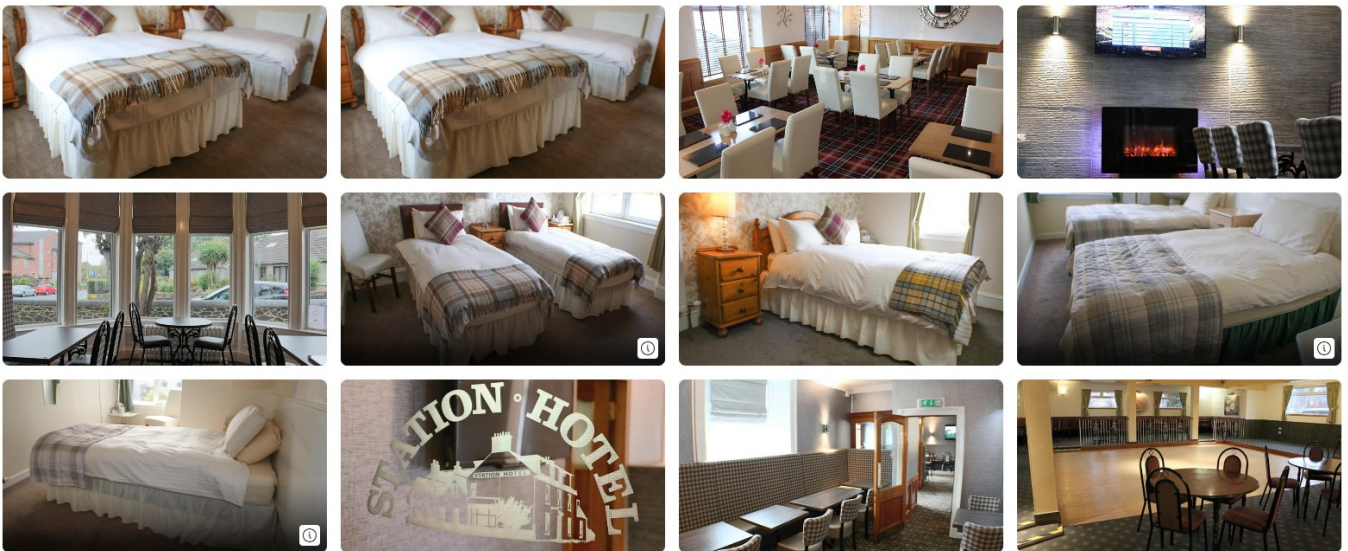


The Belvedere Guest House





Station Hotel Stoneheaven





The Ship Inn

