



WELCOME WEEK EVENTS GUIDE

5-13 SEPT 2026

The official Welcome
Week events for
Edinburgh Napier
University students.



Edinburgh Napier
UNIVERSITY



Welcome Week 2026

Edinburgh Napier Welcome Week 2026 is organised by ENSA (your students' union) and it is packed full of awesome activities for all new and returning students. It's not just for first years!

It is a great chance to explore the city, settle into uni life, make new friends and have a whole lot of fun! There's a wide range of events, with something for everyone, so read on to find out what we have in store over the 9-day schedule!



Booking Tickets

Booking in advance is required for most events (including free ones) due to limited availability. To do so, visit our ticket hub at napierstudents.com/welcome.

Tickets for the smaller events will only go on sale 72 hours before the event start time. You can register your interest to receive a notification email when they go live to ensure you don't miss out.

Visit the link above or scan the QR code below to book your tickets.



Scan
here for
tickets



Age Restricted Events

You will be required to show photographic ID (passport or driving licence) on entry at any events marked as being restricted to over 18s or over 21s.

No refunds will be issued if you are refused entry for being unable to show proof of age.

Follow Us On Social Media

Follow ENSA (Edinburgh Napier Students' Association) on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and TikTok to stay informed about Welcome Week and beyond:

[@napierstudents](https://www.instagram.com/napierstudents)

You'll also get regular updates throughout the year about events, sports, societies, campaigns, advice and other student news.

EVENT TYPE KEY



= low or non-alcohol event



= over 18s only, bring proof of age



= over 21s only, bring proof of age



= great for international students



= recommended/key event



= weather dependent event

SATURDAY 5 SEPT

Arthur's Seat Walk

Starts 12pm. Meet outside Scottish Parliament, EH8 8HG.

Get some fresh air and check out stunning views of the city with our hike up Edinburgh's iconic Arthur's Seat. Suitable for most fitness levels - we will take breaks during steeper inclines. Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes and bring water and a snack. Weather dependent.

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration around 2 hours.



Book & Coffee Crawl

Starts 2pm. Meet at Uplands Roast, North Meadow Walk, EH8 9LD.

Take a wander through the city's iconic sights with a hot drink in hand, stopping at some of the coolest bookshops Edinburgh has to offer. The walk is free but you will need to pay for any drinks or books you wish to buy.

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration around 2 hours.



Napier Pub Quiz

Starts 6pm at The Three Sisters (Live Room), 139 Cowgate, EH1 1JS.

Test your knowledge on things Napier and beyond, with fun questions and awesome prizes to be won! Come down as a team or just on your own (we'll help you join a team).

Tickets £3. Open to all.

Duration around 2 hours.



Arthur's Seat Walk



Napier Pub Quiz



SUNDAY 6 SEPT

International Picnic

Starts 12pm. Meet at the cannon on Calton Hill, EH7 5AA.

An afternoon of food and fun at one of Edinburgh's iconic landmarks. Bring along your favourite snack, dish or dessert from home to share. Meet new faces from around the world and swap your stories and recipes.

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration around 2 hours.



Residences Pizza & Games Night

Starts 6pm at Bainfield Common Room, 6 Bainfield Drive, EH11 1AR.

If you are staying at Edinburgh Napier accommodation (Bainfield, Slateford Road and Orwell Terrace), this is for you! Social event with boardgames and free pizza. Make friends with your new fellow residents and bring your own drinks if you like.

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration around 2 hours.



Residences Pizza & Games Night

Pre-Welcome Party Mixer

Starts 8:30pm at The Three Sisters (upstairs), 139 Cowgate, EH1 1JS.

Want to make new pals before the Welcome Party? This speed friending "icebreaker" social event is the perfect way to introduce yourself to lots of different people. Similar to "speed dating" only with the goal to find friends rather than someone to date.

Tickets are free. Over 18s only.

Duration around 90 minutes.

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Napier Welcome Party



Napier Welcome Party

10pm-3am at The Liquid Room, Victoria Street, EH1 2HE.

It's time to party like it's 2008! Kick off Welcome Week with our throwback club night, packed with all the bangers from your childhood through to modern-day hits. Let's make your first Uni night out unforgettable! Non-Napier guests welcome as long as they are with a Napier student (they'll need their own ticket).

Tickets £6/£9. Over 18s only.

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MONDAY 7 SEPT

Postgrads' Speed Friending

Starts 12pm at 1/10 Craiglockhart Campus, 219 Colinton Road, EH14 1DJ.

For postgraduate students studying at any campus. Speed friending is an "ice-breaker" social event where you introduce yourself to lots of different people as a timer goes down. Similar to "speed dating", only with the goal to find pals rather than someone to date.

Tickets are free. Over 21s only.

Duration 1 hour.



Speed Friending



Undergrads' Speed Friending

Starts 1pm at 1/10 Craiglockhart Campus, 219 Colinton Road, EH14 1DJ.

For undergraduate students studying at any campus. See description of speed friending above.

Tickets are free. Undergrads only.

Duration 1 hour.



Sighthill Speed Friending

Starts 12pm at ENSA Hangout, 0.D.09 Sighthill Campus, EH11 4BN.

For everyone studying at Sighthill Campus. See description of speed friending above.

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration 1 hour.



Sighthill Garden Party

1pm-3pm at Sighthill Campus, EH11 4BN.

A relaxing afternoon with lawn games, alpacas, snacks, painting, and a chill space to hang out and make new friends. Students from all campuses are welcome. Activities will be held inside if the weather forecast is poor.

Tickets are free. Open to all.



First Years' Speed Friending

Starts 5pm at The Three Sisters (upstairs), 139 Cowgate, EH1 1JS.

For all first year students studying at any campus. See description of speed friending top-left.

Tickets are free. First years only.

Duration 1 hour.

Boardgames & Pizza Night

6pm-8pm at The Three Sisters (upstairs), 139 Cowgate, EH1 1JS.

Come along for a fun evening of boardgames and free pizza at our partner bar!

Tickets are free. Open to all.

An Evening at The Edinburgh Bookshop

6:30pm-8pm at The Edinburgh Bookshop, 176 Bruntsfield Place, EH10 4DF.

A cosy, private shopping event for Napier students! The bookshop is yours to explore at your own pace. Free refreshments will be provided. Any books purchased are at your own expense.

Tickets are free. Open to all.



Welcome Fair

10am-3pm at Edinburgh Corn Exchange, 11 New Market Road, EH14 1RJ.

Don't miss Scotland's biggest Welcome Fair! With around 150 stalls, you'll discover exclusive student discounts and freebies, while getting a taste of all the amazing things student life at Napier has to offer. An unmissable event for all students - it's not just for first years!

You'll also get the chance to explore Napier's sports clubs and societies, chat to the students that run them, and find out how to get involved.

Quiet hour: 10am-11am. No music and less crowding for students who would benefit from a calmer environment. Specific ticket required for this time slot.

Tickets are free. Open to all.



Postgrads & Mature Students' Cocktail Night

6pm-8pm at Boston Bar Old Town, 13 Niddry Street, EH1 1LG.

Come along for a chill evening of cocktails and mocktails. Relax with your fellow postgrads and mature students over drinks.

Tickets are free. Over 21s only.

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First Years' Bowling

5:45pm at Tenpin Bowling, Fountain Park, Dundee Street, EH1 1AW.

What better way to make new pals than by thrashing them at bowling? Join us for a fun evening of strikes, spares, and gutterballs! Open to all first years.

Tickets £5. First years only. Student ID required. Duration 60 mins.



Napier Ceilidh

8pm-11:30pm at Ghillie Dhu, 2 Rutland Place, EH1 2AD.

A ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) is a lively night of traditional Scottish music and dance. Dress up nice (kilts are encouraged if you have one) and expect fantastic live music and a free welcome drink. Wear shoes you can dance in - don't worry, we'll teach you all the fun dance steps! Everyone is welcome, so come along and experience a bit of Scottish culture.

Tickets £20. Open to all.



WEDNESDAY 9 SEPT

International Students' Speed Friending

Starts 12pm at Craiglockhart Campus Espresso Lab, Colinton Road, EH14 1DJ.

This event is for international students at any campus. See description of speed friending on page 7.

*Tickets are free. Open to all.
Duration 1 hour.*



Napier Fest

1pm-4pm at Craiglockhart Campus lawn, 219 Colinton Road, EH14 1DJ.

Join us for fun inflatables, carnival games, a petting zoo, music, candy floss, popcorn and more! Open to students from all campuses. Some activities will be held inside if the weather forecast is poor.

Tickets are free. Open to all.



Napier Fest



Drag Bingo



Drag Bingo

Starts 7pm at The Three Sisters (Live Room), 139 Cowgate, EH1 1JS.

Join us for a night of fierce competition and slay the night away with a bingo sesh that definitely isn't for your grandma. Hosted by Lacy Rain. Guaranteed to eat with no crumbs.

*Tickets £6. Over 18s only.
Duration around 2 hours.*

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Karaoke Night

10pm-late at The Three Sisters (Live Room), 139 Cowgate, EH1 1JS.

Sing your hearts out folks, it's karaoke time! Belt out your favourite songs and break out your inner star on stage.

Tickets are free. Over 18s only.

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Napier Fest



THURSDAY 10 SEPT

Commuter Coffee Morning

Starts 11am at Merchiston Campus Espresso Lab, 10 Colinton Road, EH10 5DT.

We know the morning seems longer when you need to travel in from outside the city. Come along for a social caffeine hit and meet fellow commuters. Free hot drink included with your ticket (limited availability).

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration 1 hour.



Merchifest

12pm-2pm at Merchiston Campus Foyer, 10 Colinton Road, EH10 5DT.

Studying at Merchiston? Pop along for a fun afternoon with games, therapy ponies (or "Theraponies", if you will), snacks and music, all on your home campus.

Tickets are free. Open to all.



Edinburgh Sightseeing Run

Starts 2pm. Meet at Merchiston Campus courtyard, 10 Colinton Road, EH10 5DT.

Come along for a beginner-friendly afternoon run through the city and see the sights! Learn new routes and meet like-minded students.

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration around 90 minutes.



Screening: Best of Napier Student Film Festival

Starts 3pm at B55 Merchiston Campus, 10 Colinton Road, EH10 5DT.

We'll be screening a selection of standout short films from the 2025 edition of the Napier Student Film Festival. Featuring films created by students at Napier and other universities around the world.

Tickets are free. Over 18s only.

Duration around 2 hours.



Pub Crawl

Various times from 6pm. Starts at Teviot Row House, Bristo Square, EH8 9AJ.

Join us for our legendary annual Pub Crawl! Groups leave every 20 minutes and visit some of the best pubs around Cowgate and Grassmarket. Your ticket will include a complimentary pint of beer, cider, or a soft drink. You will also get free entry to the Westside Rodeo after-party, and a stylish cap to commemorate this unforgettable night!

Postgrads/Mature students:

The 6pm group is especially for you!

Tickets £14. Over 18s only.



FRIDAY 11 SEPT

Culture Crawl

Starts 11am. Meet outside The National Gallery on The Mound, EH2 2EL.

Join us for a day exploring the city's best museums and galleries. We'll start at The National Gallery, explore the Fruitmarket Gallery, then check out The National Museum, with a stop at Black Medicine for a coffee along the way. Drink not included with ticket.

*Tickets are free. Open to all.
Duration around 3 hours.*



Postgrads & Mature Students' Social

12pm-2pm at Upper Apex, Merchiston Campus (above Espresso Lab), EH10 5DT.

Come along for a chill lunchtime social at Merchiston. Grab a coffee (not included with ticket) and chat with other postgrads and mature students on your campus.

Tickets are free. Over 21s only.



Queer Picnic

2pm-4pm at The Meadows (near Meadows Compass), EH3 9GE.

A picnic for our LGBTQ+ students and allies. Come as you are, bring some snacks if you like, and connect with others in a friendly, laid-back setting. Board games and cards will be available. Weather dependent.

Tickets are free. Open to all.



Edinburgh Castle Visit

Starts 3pm. Meet at Edinburgh Castle entrance, Castlehill, EH1 2NG.

Explore Edinburgh Castle and learn about exciting tales of its time as a military fortress, royal residence, and prison of war. Walk in the footsteps of soldiers, kings, queens, and even the odd pirate or two.

*Tickets £23.50. Open to all.
Duration around 2 hours.*



Sip & Paint

Starts 6:30pm at Union Social, Teviot, Bristo Square, EH8 9AJ.

Get creative over a drink, whether you're an aspiring artist or just looking to unwind and meet other students. Canvases, paint, and paintbrushes will be provided. ID will be required to buy alcohol.

*Tickets £5. Open to all.
Duration around 2 hours.*



SATURDAY 12 SEPT

Bring Your Own Craft with Girls Craft Club.

**Starts 10am at Levels Café and Lounge,
9C Holyrood Road, EH8 8FQ.**

Come along for a relaxed crafts session to hang out with other crafters and work on any creative project you've got. For everything from drawing and scrapbooking to knitting and painting. Hosted by Girls Craft Club. Coffee and food available but not included with your ticket.

*Tickets £3. Open to all.
Duration around 2 hours.*



Bring Your Own Craft

Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt

**Groups start from 11am-12pm. Meet at
the bottom of Cockburn Street, EH1 1BL.**

Embark on an exciting 3-hour adventure through the historic streets of Edinburgh's Old Town. In groups of between 4 and 8, you will follow a series of clues in a quest to unravel the mystery and claim the title of ultimate detectives!

Tickets are free. Open to all.



Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt

Queer Cocktail Night

**6pm-8pm at The Dog House, 18-24 Clerk
Street, EH8 9HX.**

An evening especially for our LGBTQ+ students and allies. Come and enjoy the cocktail and mocktail menu at one of Edinburgh's most vibey bars. Vegan food is also available at this venue. Drinks and food not included with ticket.

Tickets are free. Over 18s only.

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SUNDAY 13 SEPT

Run, Seamus, Run

Starts 12pm at Seamus' Pub, 15 Brougham Place, EH3 9JX.

A 4-mile charity run between Seamus' Pub at Tollcross to Dougal's in Portobello, with a free pint of stout waiting for you at the end. This event is run in partnership with Always Forward, a mental health charity focused on social connection.

Tickets £5. Over 18s only.

Duration around 2 hours.

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Postgrads & Mature Students' Brunch

Starts 12pm at The Chanter, 30-32 Bread Street, EH3 9AF.

Take a break from your reading lists and join us for a relaxed brunch. You'll need to pay for whatever food/drink you order (your deposit will go towards your bill). Student discounts available, including £3.50 drinks.

Tickets £5 (deposit). Over 21s only.

Duration around 2 hours.

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Charity Shop Crawl

Starts 2pm. Meet at St Patrick Square Garden (by the bus stop), EH8 9EZ.

An afternoon of awesome finds and hidden gems. Fill in the bits of your wardrobe that you forgot to bring with you to uni. The route is a short walk in a student-dense area, so you're bound to find some exciting pieces!

Tickets are free. Open to all.

Duration around 2 hours.



NQ64 Retro Arcade

7pm-9pm at NQ64, 5 Lothian Road, EH1 2DJ.

A night of retro gaming and banging tunes at Edinburgh's very own neon arcade bar. Shred it up on Guitar Hero, thrash your mates at Mario Kart, or breeze between retro cabinets and 90s/2000s consoles at your own pace. Special 50% Welcome Week discount (25 tokens are included with your ticket).

Tickets £7. Over 18s only.

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Looking for more events?

There are more events happening over at the University of Edinburgh from 12 September, and Napier students are invited to join in the fun! Scan the QR Code below for details and tickets.

Edinburgh
University
Students'
Association





scan for info
and tickets



EDINBURGH NAPIER

Welcome

FAIR

2026

**FREE
EVENT**

TUESDAY 8 SEPT

10AM-3PM @ EDINBURGH CORN EXCHANGE

**All students are
welcome to attend!**

Massive event featuring
150 stalls with useful info,
sports, societies, games, food,
music, student discounts
and freebies galore!

Book your free ticket at:

napierstudents.com/fair



Edinburgh Corn Exchange, 11 New Market Road, Edinburgh, EH14 1RJ.