

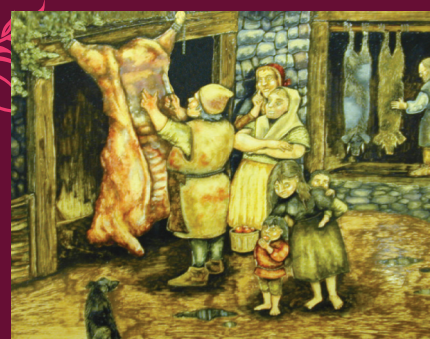
MARKETS IN PERTH



An artist's impression of High Street in 1440 with the Mercat Cross.

Look for the octagonal stone in the middle of High Street. This is where Perth's Mercat (market) Cross stood in medieval times. Markets were held on set days where you could trade gold, silver, precious stones, animals, hides, leather goods, wool and cloth. You could buy pottery, knives, soap, clothes, grain, wine, beer, spirits, fish and meat from pigs, sheep, goats, cattle and deer. On special days in the church calendar, there were bigger fairs with traders from further afield, larger crowds, noisier celebrations and more entertainment.

- The Mercat Cross was a decorated stone column on an eight-sided base. It symbolised the royal burgh's right to hold markets. It was also where officials issued proclamations and punishments.
- Livestock, walked to market, was slaughtered within view of buyers; the offal and blood was cleaned away by porters.
- There were markets for fish (in Watergate), salt (in Salt Vennel), areas for ale, bread, vegetables and fruit, and other sites for imported goods.
- Imports came mainly from England, France, Scandinavia and the Baltic States. They arrived by ship in the harbour at the foot of High Street.



Butchery in the street in medieval Perth.

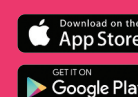
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Scan the QR code to see a 360° impression of this location in the year 1440.



Scan the QR code for a BSL version of this board.



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Discover more about medieval Perth at various locations in the city centre.



MEDIEVAL TRAIL PERTH