

EXPERIENCE

the excitement of Lincolnshire's Aviation History through Events, Aviation Trails and Heritage Sites



METHERINGHAM AIRFIELD VISITOR CENTRE 3

Westmore Farm, Martin Moor, Metheringham LN4 3WF
Open: seasonally from the last weekend in March to the last weekend in October. Wednesdays 11am to 4pm and Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays 11am to 5pm. Group Visits by prior arrangement.
 Atmospheric, original, wartime buildings of the former RAF Metheringham. Stimulating displays and friendly volunteers share the story of the airfield and those who served with 106 Squadron of Bomber Command. Inside its own hangar sits our WW2 C47 Dakota aircraft. We have a well-stocked gift shop, and we offer light refreshments. There is a small charge for entrance to the visitor centre, which includes access to the Dakota.
 For events and updates go to www.metheringhamairfield.co.uk
 Nearby are the remains of runways and taxiways with a memorial to 106 Squadron.

NEWARK AIR MUSEUM 4

Drove Lane, Winthorpe, Newark, NG24 2NY Tel: (01636) 707170
Email: enquire@newarkairmuseum.org
Open: March to October 10.00 am to 5.00 pm and November to February 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.
 Situated on the Lincolnshire/Nottinghamshire border with easy access from the A1, the museum is proud to be associated with Aviation Heritage Lincolnshire and its aims. From just one aircraft, Newark Air Museum now displays 95 aircraft and cockpit sections. This remains an excellent starting point if you are visiting from outside Lincolnshire, before you move further into the county to visit the other aviation heritage centres. There is an admission charge, with ample free parking, café and museum shop.
www.newarkairmuseum.org

WE'LL MEET AGAIN MUSEUM 5

Shore Road, Freiston, Boston, Lincolnshire PE22 0LY
Tel: 01205 270473 Mob: 07903 529614
Open: Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays
 Café Open: 10am-4pm
 Adults £7, children under sixteen £5, Family ticket £19. Fully disabled friendly Monday to Thursday Schools and Private Groups (booking essential)

We'll Meet Again Museum highlights life during the war, with an extensive collection of wartime memorabilia civilian and military. The museum also caters for dedicated and educational days for schools and private groups (these special private events are closed to the public) For Schools: Owners Paul and Linda deliver an award winning unique educational day enhanced by hands-on role play to help bring the WW2 subject to life.
www.wmamuseum.co.uk
 We'll Meet Again Museum

RAF DIGBY SECTOR OPERATIONS ROOM MUSEUM 6

RAF Digby, Scopwick LN4 3LH
Tel: 01526 327625 (office hours)
Email: UKStratCom-DI-JCG-JSSUD-Museum@mod.gov.uk

Open: Sundays (only) from first Sunday in May – to first Sunday in October for guided tours, and at other times by arrangement. Tours begin at 11am in the car park opposite the station entrance, and last approximately 90 minutes. Parties larger than ten people are asked to pre-book. No charge, but donations are welcome.

The original operations room bunker of this former Fighter Command airfield has been restored, complete with plotting table and equipment. Other rooms include displays relating to the history of RAF Digby.

Visitors should note that the Museum is undergoing a major refurbishment in 2024-25. The Ops Room itself will remain open, but some associated displays will be periodically closed
[@limasectors](https://twitter.com/limasectors)

BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL FLIGHT VISITOR CENTRE 1

RAF Coningsby, Dogdyke Road, Coningsby LN4 4SY
Tel: 01522 782040

Open: Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm, and some weekends in the summer. Guided tours of the hangar take place from 10.30am to 3.30pm (3.00pm November to February). The Visitor Centre is normally closed weekends, all public holidays and two weeks over the Christmas/New Year period.

Located on an operational RAF airfield the BBMF operates the only airworthy Lancaster in Britain, eight Spitfires, two Hurricanes, a Dakota and two Chipmunks. The Memorial Flight is a living tribute to all RAF air and ground crews who gave their lives in the Second World War. Commitments mean that the presence of particular aircraft cannot be guaranteed.

Charge for guided tours.
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/bbmf

CRANWELL AVIATION HERITAGE MUSEUM 2

Heath Farm, North Rauceby, Sleaford NG34 8QR
Tel: 01529 488490 or Tel: 01529 308122 (out of hours information)

Open: Monday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 10am-3pm (last entry at 2:30pm). Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: available for private hire.

Royal Air Force College Cranwell is probably the most famous landmark in the RAF. This recently accredited Museum portrays the fascinating story of this historic establishment from its early days as a Royal Naval Air Service base to the current day. The experience includes interactive exhibits including a Jet Provost flight simulator, Vampire nose pod, exhibitions and artefacts. There is also a courtyard area with a Jet Provost aircraft. Light refreshments and a gift shop are available together with local tourist information. Group & school visits are welcome by arrangement. For information on special events please contact the Museum during opening times or visit their website.

Website: www.cranwellaviation.co.uk
[@cranwellmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/cranwellmuseum)
[@cranwellmuseum](https://www.instagram.com/cranwellmuseum)
[@cranwellmuseum](https://www.youtube.com/cranwellmuseum)



POLISH BOMBER SQUADRONS CENTRE 7

RAF Ingham, Middle Street, Fillingham, Gainsborough DN21 5BU
Tel: 01522 731861

RAF Ingham was the wartime home of No's 199, 300 and 305 Bomber Squadrons.

Here at RAF Ingham we have created a globally unique Heritage Centre, dedicated to remembering and celebrating the remarkable lives and memories of the men and women of the Polish Air Force Bomber Squadrons, who lived,

worked and flew alongside the RAF during WW2; and to tell the 'post-war' story, of their struggles to settle and integrate into 'post-war' Britain, whilst retaining their customs, culture and Polish heritage.

The Centre also remembers and celebrates those who were stationed at RAF Ingham (Cammeringham).

Our Main Exhibition Centre, Cafe and Shop are all new for 2024 season.

Free Car Parking - Toilets - Bi-lingual Exhibition (Polish and English)
 Enquiries: enquiries@rafingham.co.uk

[@rafingham](https://twitter.com/rafingham)
[RAF Ingham Heritage Centre](https://www.facebook.com/RAFInghamHeritageCentre)

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE AVIATION HERITAGE CENTRE 8

Off Redbourne Road, Hibaldstow, Brigg, North Lincolnshire, DN20 9NN
 NLAHC is a Centre dedicated to the men & women of all nations who served at the 7 RAF stations within North Lincolnshire during WWII.

Opening to the public in the Spring 2024, small groups can also be shown around the site to see the new building blocks and domestic areas constructed from the ground up. There is a comprehensive library of aviation related books and reading material, which can be viewed and used for reference purposes, together with unique and interesting artefacts. Open on Thursdays & Sundays between the hours of 9am and 1pm, a NAAFI style café is also available.

www.nlahcentre.com
 North Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre or call on 07803 740239

LINCOLNSHIRE AVIATION HERITAGE CENTRE 9

East Kirby Airfield, East Kirby, Spilsby, PE23 4DE Tel: 01790763207

Open: Easter to last week October, Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am-5pm (last admission 4pm) and last week October to Easter, Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 4pm (last admission 3pm)

Located on a WW2 airfield, the Centre includes Avro Lancaster 'Just Jane', which performs taxi runs regularly in the Summer months (check website for details, rides available with pre-booking), the country's only running Mosquito and a B25 Mitchell. The restored original WW2 watch tower forms part of the museum which holds thousands of exhibits and photographs focusing on Bomber Command, a Barnes Wallis 'Bouncing Bomb', Home Front exhibition, Blenheim, Hampden and Proctor restoration projects and the Royal Air Force's Escaping Society Museum.

Special events are scheduled throughout the Summer season. At the entrance to the centre is a memorial stone to 57 and 630 Squadrons.

Admission is charged. www.lincsaviation.co.uk

RAF WADDINGTON HERITAGE CENTRE 10

RAF Waddington, Lincoln LN5 9NB
email the Visits Co-ordinator on Wad-Heritagecentre@mod.gov.uk

Open: everyday, by appointment only.

Visit RAF Waddington Heritage Centre and learn the history of the station. Travel back in time to RAF Waddington's history within Bomber Command and the Augsburg raid; learn about the V-Force during the days of the Cold War and the Black Buck raid on the Falkland Islands. Discover the science of radar and other modern technologies used in the Combat ISTAR platforms flown from Waddington today. Visits are free by appointment only and group visits can be arranged on request. Coach parties as part of an organised event are welcome with sufficient prior notification.

www.raf.mod.uk/rafwaddington/aboutus/heritagecentre.cfm
WAD-Heritagecentre@mod.gov.uk

INTERNATIONAL BOMBER COMMAND CENTRE 11

Canwick Avenue, Lincoln, LN4 2HQ Tel 01522 514755
Open: Tuesday to Sunday between 9.30am and 5.00pm (4.00pm in winter). Closed Mondays except Bank Holidays.

The multi-award winning IBCC provides a focal point for the personal stories of those involved in the RAF's bombing campaigns of WW2, on all sides. Its core themes of Recognition, Remembrance and Reconciliation run through the whole site, from the interactive and immersive exhibition to the 9 acres of landscaped peace gardens, to the Spire Memorial to the Learning programme. The Centre is the only place in the world that commemorates every life lost in Bomber Command individually. The Hub Café and Atrium shop provide visitors with everything they need to make their visit special.

Entry to the Gardens and Memorial is free. There is a charge for the exhibition. To find out more and plan your visit, please visit internationalbcc.co.uk.

Contact: info@internationalbcc.co.uk



RAF WICKENBY MEMORIAL MUSEUM 12

The Old Control Tower, Wickenby Airfield, Langworth, Lincoln LN3 5AX Tel: 01673 885000

Open: 10am to 4pm, Wednesday to Sunday

Located in the control tower of this former Lancaster base, the Museum records the history of the station. Near the tower is a memorial to 12 and 626 Squadrons. The airfield remains operational, used by light aircraft. Whilst enjoying your visit take the opportunity to have some light refreshments in the Watch Office café.

www.wickenbymuseum.co.uk

RAF CRANWELL HERITAGE & ETHOS CENTRE 13

Meeting point: Car Park behind Main Guard Room (Google Maps: NG34 8HB). All persons must carry photographic ID. Some small steps and steep ramps in the centre.

Open: All year round. Group bookings only - 10-30 persons (please email crn-rafcranwell-heritage@mod.gov.uk). Free entry.

The RAF Cranwell Heritage & Ethos Centre captures the Station's journey from its roots as a Royal Naval Air Station with Airship and hydrogen production activity, through the pioneering long-range flights and development of the jet engine, the early technical and flying schools, onto their modern day equivalents. Typical visits take 90 mins.

THORPE CAMP VISITOR CENTRE 14

Woodhall Spa Road, Tattershall Thorpe LN4 4PE Tel: 07396 228655

Open: every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday from Easter to the end of October and on Wednesdays during July and August from 1pm-5pm. Occasional special weekend events during the summer

The Centre, situated on the former bomber base, is dedicated to the history of RAF Woodhall Spa and the Squadrons which operated from the airfield: 97, 619, 617 (the Dam Busters) and 627 squadrons, and civilian life in Lincolnshire during World War II. Admission charged.

www.thorpecamp.org

THE PETWOOD HOTEL 15

Stixwold Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincoln LN10 6QG
Tel: 01526 352411
Group tours available by prior arrangement

Located in Woodhall Spa, the Petwood is a much-treasured part of Bomber County's history. Famous as the home of four RAF Squadrons in WW2, most notably 617 Squadron 'The Dam Busters', the hotel is bursting with wartime history. Memorabilia and artefacts include a prototype of Barnes Wallis's 'Bouncing Bomb' located in the memorial garden. The Squadron Bar is regularly open for public viewing and is also available for private hire. (To avoid disappointment, it is advised to call ahead to check the Squadron Bar's availability.)

www.petwood.co.uk

DISCOVER Lincolnshire's Aviation Heritage

Join us on a JOURNEY

through Lincolnshire's extensive
and rich aviation heritage



Experience the thrill of Aviation in Lincolnshire



Take to Lincolnshire's 'big skies' and experience the thrill and excitement of aviation – past and present. Discover a landscape criss-crossed by wartime airfields and reminders of Lincolnshire's historic aviation role – and home to the famous Red Arrows and Battle of Britain Memorial Flight display teams.

Whether you're an enthusiast or simply looking for a great family day out, Lincolnshire has something to suit. See two of only four Lancaster bombers left in Britain. View the elegant buildings of the world's oldest military air academy at RAF Cranwell.

In the Beginning

During the Great War Lincolnshire's 37 airfields housed fighters targeting Zeppelins. They were also the locations for training aircraft and airships, whilst Lincoln was one of Britain's largest aircraft production centres.

The RAF was formed in 1918 from the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Flying Corps and after the war there were only three active airfields left in Lincolnshire. At Cranwell's Royal Air Force College, formed in 1920, Frank Whittle proposed the basis of the jet engine. T E Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) also served there.

Bomber County

During the Second World War Lincolnshire became Bomber County, home to many Lancaster squadrons. Almost half Bomber Command's 19 Victoria Crosses honoured airmen flying from Lincolnshire, including Wing Commander Guy Gibson of 617 Squadron, the Dam Busters.

By 1945 there were 49 airfields, more than any other county. Pilot poet John Magee flew Spitfires with the Royal Canadian Air Force and is buried at Scopwick. Almost 500 air force memorials mark the sacrifice of young men and women of many nations.

The American Connection

During the Great War US Navy flying boats flew anti-submarine patrols from the county and in the 1940s fighter pilots were trained here. C-47 transports carried D-Day paratroops and B-29 strategic bombers were also based in the county. The 3 Eagle Squadrons were all based at Kirton in Lindsey during WW2.

The Cold War

Britain's nuclear deterrent was maintained by the RAF's V-Force in the 1950s and 1960s, with Scampton and Waddington operating the mighty Vulcan bomber and the Lightning interceptors flew from Binbrook.

The Present Day Royal Air Force in Lincolnshire

RAF Coningsby Eurofighter Typhoons, the RAF's strike aircraft, and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight
RAF Cranwell The RAF College and Central Flying School
RAF Digby Ground communications base
RAF Waddington Home of The Red Arrows and Boeing RC-135 Rivet Joint surveillance aircraft

Aviation Trails

Lincolnshire Aviation Trail App.
The free Lincolnshire Aviation Trail App for both Android and iPhones is now available. Go to Download from Google Play App Store

South Kesteven District Council Aviation Trail
Entitled 'Heritage of Flight', the South Kesteven District Council aviation trail booklet can be obtained by e-mailing pr@southkesteven.gov.uk It is also online at www.discoversouthkesteven.com under 'Discover'.

North Kesteven District Council Airfield Trail
The North Kesteven Airfield Trail is downloadable from www.heartoflincs.com. If you would like a hard copy please ring 01529 308102 or email heartoflincs@n-kesteven.gov.uk

West Lindsey District Council Aviation Heritage
Copies of leaflets on Aviation Heritage and Air Force Memorials are available from West Lindsey District Council, Tourism Unit, Aviation Heritage, Guildhall, Marshalls Yard, Gainsborough, DN21 2NA
Tel: 01427 676866 www.west-lindsey.gov.uk

East Lindsey District Council Aviation Trail
This new trail is downloadable from www.e-lindsey.gov.uk or www.visitskegnessandmablethorpe.com. Alternatively if you would like a hard copy please Telephone 01507 613116 or E-mail: tourism@e-lindsey.gov.uk

North Lincolnshire Council Aviation Heritage

To find out more about aviation heritage in North Lincolnshire, please visit our website: www.visitnorthlincolnshire.com/aviation-heritage. For further information, please e-mail us at waters.edge@northlincs.gov.uk, or phone us on 01652 631500.

Aviation Heritage Lincolnshire will be developing various new aviation trails so for more information on the latest trails please visit our website www.aviationheritagelincolnshire.com



www.aviationheritagelincolnshire.com