

WELCOME TO LINCOLNSHIRE: HOME OF AVIATION

RAF CENTENARY

RAF CENTINARARY ITINERARY

Lincoln is the perfect base to explore Lincolnshire's rich aviation heritage with fascinating heritage sites just a short drive away. The city is also home to the most popular Castle in the UK and the winner of the #CathedralWorldCup by public vote. At its peak, Lincoln was one of the largest aircraft production areas in the world; producing over 3,500 aircraft and 3,000 aero engines. Today the city is home to the Red Arrows aerobatic display team, often practicing over Lincoln's skies, the International Bomber Command Centre, the new RAF Scampton Airshow and many operating RAF bases.

These strong links with aviation has sparked interest around the world with ancestral tourism becoming a key hook for travelers to visit Lincolnshire. National pride in the RAF has ensured continued interest in the aviation offer in Lincolnshire and worldwide.

www.visitlincoln.com/aviation

EVENTS

Highlights:

- Bastion in the Air Exhibition at RAF Scampton and The Collection- Saturday 26 May – Sunday 9 September
- Official opening of International Bomber Command Centre- 12th April
- RAF Centenary Concert with the Band of the Royal Air Force College at the Lincoln Cathedral - 24th May
- Woodhall Spa 1940's Festival- 7-8th July
- RAF100 Weekend in Lincoln 11-12th August

Taking place 9-17th August:

- Bastion in the Air Exhibition at The Collection- 26th May to 9th September
- Heroines of the Home Front exhibition at St Marks Shopping Centre - 13th July to the 12th August
- RAF100 Dinner at the Lincoln Cathedral- 10th August
- 1940s Themed Dinner at DoubleTree by Hilton- 11th August
- Proms Concert at the Lincoln Castle 11th August
- RAF100 Weekend incorporating the annual 1940s weekend, static displays and Brew for the Few', 11th and 12th August in Lincoln City

Suggested RAF Lincolnshire Weekend Itinerary

DAY 1

Arrive in Lincoln, drop off bags and have lunch at the Pines Bar at the Forest Pines Hotel.



1.30- 5.00pm

RAF Scampton (17.7 miles, 24 minutes travelling)

Group discounts and tours are available of the RAF Scampton Heritage Centre and the Bastion in the Air exhibition.

Red Arrows

See for yourself the world's premier aerobatic display team at RAF Scampton performing their trademark Diamond Nine formation. Having performed displays in 56 countries, they are regularly seen practising over the skies of Lincolnshire – giving you a glimpse of their aerobatic talents that have become a firm fixture of British events.

Bastion in the Air (is located at RAF Scampton)

One-off exhibitions re-create a Royal Flying Corps airfield in the Dambusters' hangar at RAF Scampton, and tell the story of Lincolnshire's contribution to First World War aviation at The Collection.

RAF Scampton Heritage Centre (is located at RAF Scampton)

You can celebrate the history of RAF Scampton at the station's Heritage Centre. It is housed in one of the original WW2 hangars and contains over 1500 artifacts (including a Blue Steel Missile) which will be of interest to all aviation enthusiasts around the world.

Guy Gibson

Wing Commander Gibson led the 'Dambusters' raid in 1943 from his base at RAF Scampton, just hours after his black Labrador was killed. Before taking off for the Ruhr Dams, he left instructions for his companion to be buried outside his office. His office laid empty for more than half a century, but was recently restored and now forms part of the RAF Scampton Heritage Centre.

Visitors will need to book in advance and they will receive a guided tour of the RAF Scampton Heritage Centre and the Bastion in the Air Exhibition; tours will be free of charge. No food is provided at RAF Scampton but tea and coffee will be provided.



7.00pm to 9.00pm.

Dinner at Forest Pines (17.7 miles, 24 minutes travelling, North Lincolnshire)

EIGHTEEN57

The AA rosette winning Eighteen57 restaurant is a superb restaurant to enjoy dinner with family and friends in a stylish, warm atmosphere. The chef's ensure the freshest ingredients are used to create both classic and contemporary dishes full of flavour that will leave you eagerly waiting on the next course.

For relaxed setting please choose the Grill Restaurant:

The Grill provides a relaxed setting in which to enjoy some great food including some exceptionally well cooked home comforts including Grimsby haddock and chips or homemade pie of the day & carvery.



DAY 2

9.30am to 12.30pm **International Bomber Command Centre (24.3 miles, 38 minutes travelling)**

Group tours and group discounts to be confirmed.

Launching April 2018, the opening of the International Bomber Command Centre is the only official RAF event outside of London.

Over 57,000 men gave their lives to Bomber Command defending the country during WW2: that's more than serve in the entire Royal Air Force today. Take time to see the 31-metre tall Memorial Spire and its surrounding Wall of Names that feature the names of all Bomber Command aircrew that lost their lives. There are also two peace gardens: one Lincolnshire and one International.



12.30pm to 2.00pm **Lunch at the Hub (on site)**

The Hub at the IBCC offers a locally sourced selection of tempting treats, from a Bomber Boy Breakfast or a Stokes of Lincoln coffee, with a sweet treat, through to an extensive range of freshly prepared paninis, sandwiches, quiches and the Daily Dish.



2.00pm to 5.00pm **International Bomber Command Centre continued**

Explore the International Bomber Command Centre further; the Chadwick Visitor Centre includes an adaptable exhibition spaces for touring displays, plus interpretation

pieces and artworks. There will be interviews and digital interactions with veterans who served as both air and ground crew. The Centre is named in honour of Roy Chadwick, designer of the Lancaster bomber.



John Goodman

5.30pm to 7.30pm **Dinner at Washingborough Hall Hotel (2.7 miles, 4 minutes travelling)**

The beautiful Grade II listed, Georgian Manor House hotel is set in three acres of mature gardens, in the heart of pretty Washingborough village. Over 250 years old, every care has been taken to retain the elegant Georgian character, whilst lovingly refurbishing the country house hotel.

Passionate about local produce, the menus at Washingborough Hall Hotel change regularly, depending on what's fresh and in season. This love of local food has meant that the restaurant received two AA Rosettes in April 2017.



DAY 3

10.00am to 1.00pm **Lincoln Cathedral (22.6 miles, 34 minutes travelling)**

Consecrated in 1092, the Lincoln Cathedral was a navigation point for World War Two pilots when they returned home.

The Airmen's Chapel of St Michael sits within Lincoln Cathedral and houses a memorial book and beautiful stained glass windows. The Chapel's four windows are decorative memorials to Bomber Command, Flying Training Command, the Royal Rhodesian Air Force and Royal New Zealand Air Force.



1.15pm to 2.30pm

Afternoon Tea at the Lincoln hotel (0.2 miles, 3 minutes traveling on foot)

The Lincoln Hotel is a beautifully restored 1960's hotel with stunning views of the Lincoln Cathedral in the heart of the medieval city.

Enjoy a traditional afternoon tea in the comfort of the Green Room or if its sunny, dine al fresco, with a selection of delicate sandwiches, homemade cakes, a miniature dessert, a scone, and a pot of tea or coffee.



Bastion in the Air at the Collection (0.4 miles, 10 minutes on foot, at The Collection)

The exhibition highlights the rising threat to Britain by air attacks and how Lincolnshire had a key role in Britain's response, namely developing the Royal Air Force.

A number of museums in Germany are supporting this exhibition with information and artefacts. Lord Ashcroft is kindly lending the exhibition the original Victoria Cross awarded to Lt William Leefe Robinson for shooting down an airship over Hertfordshire, the first one destroyed over Britain by a fighter aircraft. A model zeppelin over 5 metres long brings this story to life.



5.00pm to 6.30pm

Lincoln Castle (0.3 miles, 7 minutes on foot)

A special after hours 'twilight' tour of the Lincoln Castle.

With 950 years of rich history, the Lincoln Castle is home to one of only four surviving copies of Magna Carta. 22 million has invested in the ancient site, building a state-of-the-art vault for Magna Carta and its sister document the Charter of the Forest and a medieval wall walk that encircles the Victorian prison that is also open to the public.

During the Second World War, Civil Defence volunteers, equipped with binoculars and just a tin hat for protection, kept a look out from for enemy aircraft in the skies using Lincoln Castle's 19th Century Observatory Tower. Re-trace their steps and see spectacular views across the city from a new Medieval Wall Walk and restored Observatory Tower.



7.00pm to 9.30pm

Dinner at the White Hart Hotel (397ft, 1 minute walk)

The White Hart's is one of the cities most historic hotels and has a modern and refreshing approach with spectacular views of Lincoln's awe-inspiring Cathedral and within the shadow of the ancient Castle. In the hotel's 'Tank Room' the idea of military tanks was conceived by Sir William Tritton and Major W G Wilson. The first 200 tanks ever made were designed and built in Lincoln.

The AA rosette award winning Grille restaurant uses locally sourced food and has been recently refurbished to feature a glass roof, revealing spectacular views of the Lincoln Cathedral.



DAY 4

10.00am to 12.00am

Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (45 miles, 1 hour 9 minutes travelling) (RAF Coningsby)

Experience Lincolnshire's aviation heritage at close quarters with a guided tour by volunteer guides, many of whom have firsthand experience of the aircraft.

Within the hangar, you may see: Lancaster PA474, Douglas Dakota ZA947, six Spitfires, two Hurricanes, and two Chipmunks at close quarters and the BBMF technicians working to maintain them in airworthy condition

Group bookings are by prior arrangement only. Group discounts are only applicable for groups of 15 or more. Contact the customer centre on 01522 782040 or by email.



12.30pm to 2.00pm

Woodhall Spa and lunch at The Petwood Hotel (4.9 miles, 11 minutes travelling)

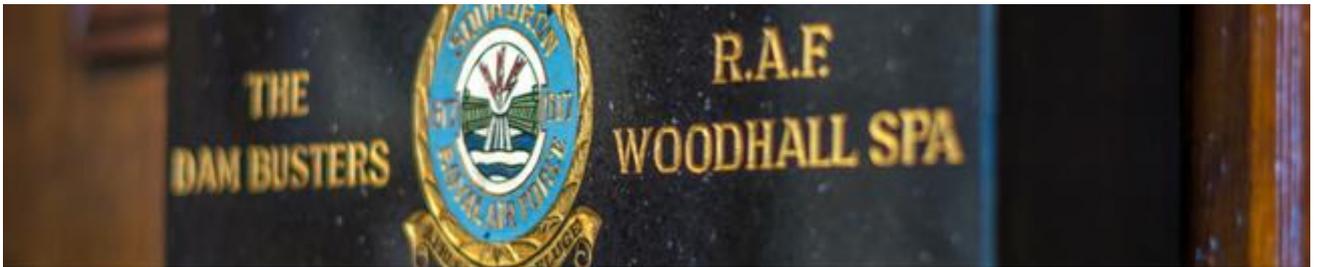
Woodhall Spa

Visit one of the best loved areas of Lincolnshire. Explore Woodhall Spa at its boutique shops and discover the aviation history of the area at Thorpe Camp Visitor Centre. www.thorpecamp.org

Squadron Bar at The Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa

Full of character and old world charm, The Petwood Hotel was the officers mess of the legendary RAF 617 "Dambusters" Squadron in World War Two and its Squadron Bar is a unique dining experience, full of fascinating wartime memorabilia.

Take a leisurely stroll through the majestic Edwardian gardens that surround the Petwood. Created by the famous British landscape architect and garden designer Harold Peto, the gardens have been used to entertain the great and the good over the years - you can follow in the footsteps of statesmen, aristocrats, actors, sporting greats, and wartime heroes when you visit.



2.30pm to 4.30pm

East Kirkby (11.6 miles, 18 minutes travelling)

Once in a life time opportunity to see a Lancaster taxi down a runway at a World War Two Bomber Airfield that also still includes its original control tower.

An emotionally evocative Memorial Chapel contains the 848 names of personnel who gave their lives from this airfield.



6.30pm to 8.30pm

Dinner at Eighteen 57 (45.2 miles, 1 hour 9 minutes travelling)

The AA rosette winning Eighteen57 restaurant is a superb restaurant to enjoy dinner with family and friends in a stylish, warm atmosphere. The chef's ensure the

freshest ingredients are used to create both classic and contemporary dishes full of flavour that will leave you eagerly waiting on the next course.

For relaxed setting please choose the Grill Restaurant.



DAY 5

Sign out of Forest Pines and have lunch at the Pines Bar

Sit on the fabulous terrace savouring the tranquility of the North Lincolnshire countryside.



Cranwell Aviation Heritage Museum (40.2 miles, 1 hour 2 minutes travelling)

Discover the fascinating story of the historic Royal Air Force College Cranwell, from its early days as a Royal Naval Air Service base to the current day. The College was designed after the famous Christopher Wren's Royal Hospital at Chelsea, London.

At the Cranwell Aviation Heritage Museum experience a Jet Provost flight simulator and view interactive exhibits and artefacts.



RAF Cranwell tour (3.1 miles, 5 minutes)/ RAF Digby

RAF College Cranwell

Enjoy an exclusive tour of the Royal Air Force College Cranwell, the first Military Air Academy in the world. Its history dates back to 1918, after the amalgamation of the Royal Naval Air Service and Royal Flying Corps who sought to establish a single unit where officers could be trained to fly.

Only on a Tuesday morning, dates limited booking essential, 30 max

RAF Digby

Digby has a long and distinguished history and heritage. From a Royal Naval Air Service flying site during the First World War, to a Royal Air Force Station on the formation of the RAF in 1918, it continued as such until March 2005 when its command passed to Defence Intelligence.

From an outsider's perspective, Digby may appear to be a sleepy hollow in which nothing much happens; however, this could not be further from the truth. The site supports both strategic decision makers at the highest level and the front line on a 24/7 basis, directly supporting our Armed Forces wherever deployed.



RAF College Cranwell