



# Aerospace



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England's most beautiful county attracts people and businesses looking for the optimum balance of future opportunity, stunning environment and exceptional lifestyle. Invest Somerset provides a seamless one-stop shop approach to facilitate more jobs and investment by working closely with potential new and existing businesses.

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# Aerospace and Future Mobility Solutions in Somerset

Somerset is at the heart of the South West of England's aerospace cluster with its extensive test, demonstration and manufacturing facilities for the commercialisation of smart and sustainable aviation programmes.

The epicentre of our credentials is Leonardo, a world-leading aerospace company and one of the biggest suppliers of defence and security equipment to the UK. With nearly 2,800 employees at its Yeovil site, the company produces helicopters such as the Super Lynx 300, AW159 Wildcat and AW101 Merlin. Leonardo is pioneering the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) in trials at Yeovil as part of its commitment to carbon reduction. A new £30 million single-site logistics hub, will open in 2023 to support Leonardo Helicopters' global fleet.



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## Future Aviation Test Zone

The Department for International Trade has recognised the South West of England as a High Potential Opportunity for the development, demonstration, and adoption of new and emerging aviation technologies. As a world leader in Smart and Sustainable Aviation, the region presents an exceptional opportunity for investors to plug into a leading aviation ecosystem, built on our aerospace heritage.

Partners across the South West are developing a Future Aviation Test Zone that will include integrated air mobility with drones, eVTOL systems, fixed wing alternative fuels and propulsion interacting with commercial air traffic.

## Talent Pipeline

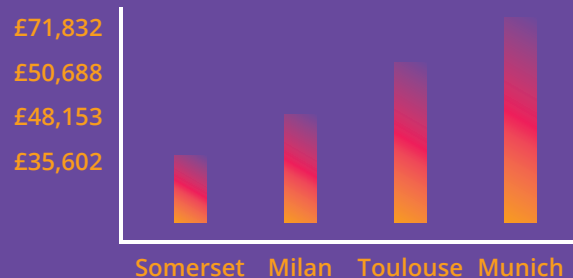
The South West produces **2,990 graduates** a year in key related aerospace and engineering subjects.

Our local colleges provide a crucial pipeline of practical skills for the aerospace sector. Yeovil College trains the engineers of tomorrow, thanks to a close relationship with Leonardo. The college and aerospace industry have a relationship that has spanned 50 years, with students able to work on loaned helicopters as part of their training. Bridgwater & Taunton College offers a range of aerospace and aeronautical engineering courses through the University Centre Somerset in Taunton.

"Leonardo has graduates in the South West and throughout the UK who are very motivated – not only by engineering, but by green engineering and green solutions. They will be at the heart of our transition to a greener future, for our business and for the world of tomorrow." - **Jane Cumisky, Head of Sustainability for Leonardo UK**

## Cost-Competitive:

Comparative Salaries for an Engineer in Major Aerospace Clusters:



## iAero Centre

The iAero Centre is a purpose-built research, design and innovation facility in Yeovil, built to support the competitiveness and growth of the aerospace and associated high-value design and engineering technology supply chains. The Centre offers high-quality office, light industrial and collaboration space as well as innovation support services.

