

## Our Estate & Collections

**The RAF Museum comprises three sites: London, at our historic airfield site in Colindale; Cosford in the West Midlands; and a storage facility in Stafford. This is a total estate of more than 40 acres with 55,000 sqm. of indoor space.**

The RAF Museum is one of the UK's National Museums with a Designated collection. Among the 250 aircraft are the mighty Vulcan Cold War bomber and the fragile 1909 Bleriot monoplane. 80,000 objects, ranging from missile guidance computers to dinner plates, take up the equivalent of two football pitches of storage. The archive of over half a million documents is complemented by 340,000 photographs and more than 7,000 works of art.

As part of our Collections Development Strategy, the Museum is reviewing its collection with contemporary collecting to address gaps and a disposals programme to ensure it is relevant and fit for purpose.

The Museum plans to improve digital access for researchers and the public over the next four years, and create a more efficient storage solution and effective loans programme.

Masterplans for both our London and Cosford sites have articulated the development needs for a more coherent visitor journey, an enhanced visitor experience, and conservation and storage planning for the collection.

Our London site has benefited from the move of the historic First World War Watch Office onto the site in partnership with English Heritage and developer St George. This was the catalyst for the development of our award-winning First World War in the Air Gallery which formed the first phase of the Museum's RAF Centenary Programme.

Iconic at Cosford is the £12.5 million National Cold War Exhibition, opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Anne in In 2007. This landmark building powerfully tells the Cold War story illustrated by the Museum's fabulous collection including examples of the three V-Force strategic bombers: the Valiant, Victor and Vulcan.