

Scottish Aviation History

Today, most of the visible infrastructure is in the form of Civil Airports and local airfields. Airfields of all sorts are the features that most people think of. However, there are many aviation and aviation related features to be found all over the country. Some are still in use – and others are memories of the past.

Amongst the most important places are the Museums – in these places the past is remembered through exhibits - through interpretation and displays – and in some cases through the site on which the museum is situated.



Famous Scots

It is also important that we remember the people associated with our aviation heritage. There are people who were pioneers of flight, taking to the air in the flimsiest of contraptions – and sometimes losing their lives in the process. Others had great engineering and business talent who created the machines that flew.

David McIntyre was one of the first to fly over Everest and also set up an aircraft factory at Prestwick. Scottish Aviation Ltd is now part of BAe Systems. Sir Robert Watson-Watt invented radar and some of the companies engaged in cutting edge aviation-related technology have bases today in Scotland.

Scotland has also provided great leaders – the operational head of the Royal Flying Corps – General Sir David Henderson and the mastermind of victory in the Battle of Britain – Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding, were both Scots.

RAF Stories

With the RAF now over 100 years old, up and down the country there have been thousands of people who have served with the RAF involved in all aspects of aviation – pilots, navigators, engineers, scientists, airfield and airport staff, air traffic controllers – and the list goes on.

RAF Stories – run by the RAF Museum and accessible through the Trail – invites anyone who is part of the RAF Family to add their own stories and memories. If you have a story – they'd love to hear from you.



The website www.scottishaviation.org.uk allows you to see and visit all of the locations currently identified and we hope that you will help us enhance the Trail with your local knowledge and RAF stories.



Scottish Aviation Trail

Scottish Aviation & STEM Trail

www.scottishaviation.org.uk

Commemorating Aviation and Promoting STEM in Scotland

Scottish Aviation STEM Trail

Scotland has a rich aviation heritage - both Military and Civil. The new Scottish Aviation STEM (Science, technology, engineering & maths) Trail provides a unique and easy-to-use means of locating important sites right across Scotland.

Whilst honouring those who gave their all and ensuring that Scotland's unique role in aviation is not lost, the Trail also seeks to inspire the next generation about aviation and space. Our hope is that some will then go on to work in one of the many STEM careers, perhaps as future engineers, pilots or astronauts!

What Is It?

The Scottish Aviation STEM Trail provides a unique means of identifying sites of Aviation importance right across Scotland – including Regional Museums – with STEM activities, former airfields, crash sites and memorials/RAF graves.

How Does it Work?

Usable on your mobile phone, you can either select sites from a number of categories, download suggested Trails, or simply input your current location to see what sites are nearby.

Why Was It Created?

The Army, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force have all played a major part in creating aviation history – and Scotland holds a unique place in this.

The Trail aims to do three main things:

1. Inspire the next generation to learn more about STEM and aerospace by connecting with the amazing aviation technology used over the last century.
2. Preserve and share the amazing history of aviation in Scotland – and encourage everyone to add to the site by submitting their own local information.
3. Encourage anyone with a link to the RAF, past or present, to share their own personal stories and memories via the 'RAF Stories' link, run by the RAF Museum.

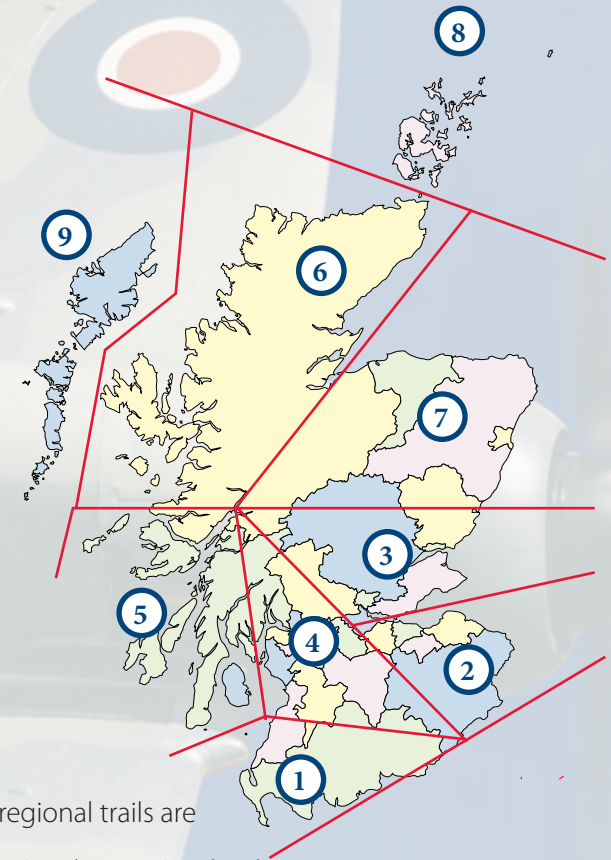
RAF STEM

STEM is important because our world depends upon it. The economy, our general well-being—it's all backed by science, technology, engineering, and maths.

It is also the underpinning of manufacturing, all food production, our health care, and so much more that we might take for granted, but we cannot live without.

As a technical service, responsible for protecting the nation in the air, in space and in cyberspace, the RAF also relies on STEM and so we are playing our part in encouraging the next generation to pursue STEM subjects – whatever field of work they might end up pursuing in later life.

The Regional Trails



The regional trails are

1. South West Scotland
2. Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders
3. Fife, Angus and Perth
4. West Central Scotland
5. West of Scotland Inner Isles
6. Northern Scotland
7. Aberdeen, Moray Coast and Grampian
8. Orkney and Shetland
9. Western Isles

www.scottishaviation.org.uk

