



IWM DUXFORD PRESS RELEASE

19 July 2018

RAF Centenary finale presents 100 years of flying at the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show

22-23 September 2018

The Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show will bring the centenary of the Royal Air Force (RAF) to a resounding finale with a celebration of 100 years of RAF history and a vision of its innovative future capability, both in the air and on the ground.

Flying displays from the RAF include the Red Arrows display team, the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Avro Lancaster, the Eurofighter Typhoon and the Grob 115E Tutor. In celebration of the prestigious 617 Squadron, renowned for the Second World War Dambusters Raid, there will be a display of the squadron's aircraft, past, present and future, featuring the Avro Lancaster, Tornado GR4 and F-35B Lightning II. The air show will also include one of the last flying displays by the Tornado GR4 before it retires from active service in 2019.

In a unique display for IWM Duxford in 2018, the RAF will demonstrate its air-to-air refueling capabilities with the Voyager KC Mk.2 tanker taking to the skies alongside an immense Atlas A400M transport aircraft and two Eurofighter Typhoons.

The RAF100 Inspire Showcase will take over IWM Duxford's Conservation Hall in the AirSpace exhibition, showcasing cutting-edge technological developments from the Royal Air Force's industry partners, including BAE Systems, Airbus and Fujitsu, who are presenting a large-scale virtual flying display. The RAF100 Inspire Zone hosts the final of the Royal Air Force Engineering Competition 2018 on 22 September and the winners of this esteemed competition will be announced at the air show.

An array of historic aircraft from the past 100 years will take to the skies, showing the development of the RAF from its earliest aeroplanes flown in 1918, when Duxford first opened as an RAF station, through to aircraft from the 1930s, Second World War and the Korean War.

The Battle of Britain, a pivotal moment for the Royal Air Force and RAF Duxford, will be demonstrated by historic aircraft which would have been flown by RAF pilots during the Second World War. Up to twenty Spitfires will take to the air in a poignant massed flypast and tailchase display. Six Hawker Hurricanes will fly in formation and the rare Bristol Blenheim will fly with a Lysander (famous for dropping agents into occupied France in the Second World War) and a Gloster Gladiator biplane.

On the ground at the air show, visitors will be transported back to the 1940s and experience the sights and sounds that kept spirits up during the Battle of Britain, from dancing the jitterbug to live bands to meeting a cast of wartime characters, wearing forties fashion, having a 1940s hairstyle and playing family-focused games of the era.

As seen on ITV's Britain's Got Talent, the wartime spirit will also be brought to life by the heartfelt harmonies of the D-Day Darlings.

In the Meet the Authors tent, there will be talks, question and answer sessions and book signings with well-respected history authors, including historian, writer and broadcaster James Holland, who regularly presents documentaries for the BBC and was the history expert for the BBC One broadcast of the RAF 100 flypast in July 2018.

Tickets for all air shows must be booked in advance; no on the day tickets are available. A fantastic Early Bird offer is available until Sunday 9 September and kids go free when an adult ticket is purchased for the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show.

– Ends –

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Notes to Editors

- All flying is subject to weather, serviceability and operational commitments.
- *Kids go free when an adult purchases a ticket for the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show.
- All information in this press release is correct at the time of issue.
- Tickets for all air shows must be booked in advance; no on the day tickets are available.
- Early Bird tickets are available until Sunday 9 September for the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show. Ticket prices can be found [here](#).

Premium Experiences

Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show

The Gold Experience

A must for experiencing the very best hospitality that the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show has to offer and a fantastic way to enjoy a day out at Duxford. Enjoy our special service from the moment you arrive on site in the VIP car park.

The Gold Experience includes:

- Entry to the flightline walk, an essential part of a Duxford air show, getting you up close to the aircraft you will see fly and mingling with ground crew and pilots.
- Unrivalled seating, as close to the action as you can possibly get.
- Luxury toilet facilities, avoiding the queues.
- Add a light breakfast in the morning and optional lunch from our Street Food Selection to your Gold Experience purchase and all of your needs will be taken care of throughout the day.

Ticket prices for the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show Gold Experience can be found [here](#).

The Family Experience

Get closer to the action with the Family Experience at the Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show.

- Take your seats in a private enclosure close to the flying action and soak up the atmosphere on the airfield.
- Get direct access to the flightline walk, enjoy unrivalled views of Duxford's famous airfield and let the family loose on activities run by learning interactors.

Book your tickets for this exclusive package and enjoy a stress-free family day out.

Ticket prices for the Family Experience can be found [here](#).

The Grandstand Experience

Enjoy our brand new seating grandstand especially created to provide photographers, enthusiasts and aircraft fans with an uninterrupted view of all the flying action, perfect for those coveted camera angles and hard to achieve shots.

Please note that a valid air show ticket must be purchased before an upgrade to the Grandstand Experience can be bought. Ticket prices can be found [here](#).

IWM Duxford

IWM Duxford is Britain's best-preserved Second World War airfield, with a fascinating history that dates back to the First World War. Historic aircraft can regularly be seen taking to the skies from Duxford's wartime airfield. Duxford has been a witness to world-changing events over the past 100 years where ordinary people have had extraordinary experiences. Exploring state of the art exhibition halls and historic buildings, visitors walk in the footsteps of the men and women who served at RAF Duxford. Through the powerful stories of the men and women involved and the rich displays of aircraft we tell the story of the impact of aviation on the nature of war and on people's lives.

Open Daily: Last entry an hour before closing. (Closed 24 – 26 December).

Summer Hours: 10am – 6pm (mid-March to mid- October 2018).

Winter Hours: 10am – 4pm. (mid-October 2018 to mid-March 2019)

Admission*: £18.00 Adults; £14.40 Concessions (Senior, Student, Disabled Adult); £9 Child (5- 16); Free Child (under 5); Family tickets available; Special rates for groups of ten plus.

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* Please note entry prices include a voluntary donation, making a valuable contribution to the care and conservation of this historic site

IWM

IWM (Imperial War Museums) tells the story of people who have lived, fought and died in conflicts involving Britain and the Commonwealth since the First World War.

Our unique Collections, made up of the everyday and the exceptional, reveal stories of people, places, ideas and events. Using these, we tell vivid personal stories and create powerful physical experiences across our five museums that reflect the realities of war as both a destructive and creative force. We challenge people to look at conflict from different perspectives, enriching their understanding of the causes, course and consequences of war and its impact on people's lives.

IWM's five branches which attract over 2 million visitors each year are IWM London, IWM's flagship branch that recently transformed with new, permanent and free First World War Galleries alongside new displays across the iconic Atrium to mark the Centenary of the First World War; IWM North, housed in an iconic award-winning building designed by Daniel Libeskind; IWM Duxford, a world renowned aviation museum and Britain's best preserved wartime airfield; Churchill War Rooms, housed in Churchill's secret headquarters below Whitehall; and the Second World War cruiser HMS *Belfast*.

First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. IWM is marking the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the world. For more information visit www.1914.org

