

"To overlook this city would be to miss out on its rare charm and cultural scene which, given upcoming multimillion-pound investments, is set to flourish." The Times

"The coolest little city by the sea. Discover Plymouth first and retain bragging rights forever" GQ

Plymouth named one of the top-ten cities for start-up businesses following research by online magazine Startups Geek (2020)



"Plymouth is the best location to start a business in the entire South West of the UK." Startups Geek (2020)

LIVING AND WORKING IN PLYMOUTH

INTERESTED?

If you would like more information, advice or support about relocating to the city please contact Plymouth City Council's Economy, Enterprise and Employment team

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 @investplymouth
 Economic Development
@ Plymouth City Council

Visit the website, to subscribe to receive regular newsletters covering regional news and events tailored to a business audience.

www.plymouth.gov.uk/investmentandgrowth
www.investplymouth.co.uk





Theatre Royal Plymouth is the best attended and largest regional producing theatre in the UK



Tinside Lido was named as the UK's most Instagrammable pool by Hello! Magazine (April 2021)



AN EXCITING TIME TO WORK IN PLYMOUTH

Located at the heart of the South West, Plymouth is a city by the sea with so much to offer. With an amazing quality of life, stunning waterfront location, vibrant city centre and fascinating maritime history, there is quite simply nowhere better to live, work and play than Britain's Ocean City.

Plymouth is one of the largest cities on the south coast and the 15th largest city in England with a population of approximately 263,000, an economic output of £5.63 billion, providing 111,500 jobs. It is the most significant economic centre in the south west peninsula and the largest urban area in the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership.

Plymouth is an ambitious city with huge growth potential and exciting major changes ahead. We have already seen the growth of the university, the redevelopment of Royal William Yard and Millbay, one of the UK's top 50 regeneration projects.

Over the next five years Plymouth will see significant capital investments in HM Devonport Naval base and Derriford Hospital, plus ambitious plans to improve the city's welcome for rail passengers and regenerate the area around the station are underway. Colin Campbell Court and Bath Street West will see a £50 million regeneration project, delivering new homes.

AN OUTSTANDING QUALITY OF LIFE

Plymouth offers an outstanding quality of life, with its fantastic location by the sea and the dramatic expanse of Dartmoor National Park as a backdrop. Plymouth is home to the UK's first National Marine Park, recognizing the quality of the heritage and quality of the sea scape. The sheltered waters of Plymouth Sound and adjacent rivers offer the perfect location for a huge range of water-based activities from sailing, paddleboarding, wakeboarding to scuba diving the many wreck sites.

Dartmoor is about getting out there and experiencing new things. It has the largest number of archaeological remains in Europe. With its stone circles, menhirs, stone crosses and ancient villages, Dartmoor is the perfect place to explore. It is also home to all manner of wildlife, from Dartmoor ponies wandering the moor, to the rare marsh fritillary butterfly.

Plymouth has hosted a range of internationally recognised events, such as the Great Britain Sail Grand Prix, Rolex Fastnet Race, MTV Crashes Plymouth; and holds annual events such as the British Firework Championships, Britain's Ocean City Half Marathon, Armed Forces Day, Flavour Fest, Plymouth Seafood and Harbour Festival, Bonfire Night, and Marine Tech Expo to name just a few. Theatre Royal Plymouth is the largest regional producing theatre in the UK, attracting some of the top touring shows in the UK.

If cycling is your passion, Plymouth is great for getting out on your bike; it's on the crossroads of National Cycle Network routes and on the edge of Dartmoor where some of the most amazing and challenging slopes for mountain biking can be discovered.



A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

A wide choice of housing is available in Plymouth and the surrounding area and, with water surrounding approximately two-thirds of the city and moorland and countryside the remaining third, many residential areas have spectacular waterfront or country views.

The city offers a wide variety of housing with large Victorian style houses in areas such as Stoke, Peverell, Mannamead and Hartley, all within close proximity to the city centre.

For more modern living with character and fantastic views, we have Royal William Yard, the former Royal Naval victualling yard and Mount Wise, Plymouth's new village by the sea.

Just outside the city, areas such as Plympton and Plymstock offer a wide range of housing with excellent community facilities such as shops, schools, libraries etc. Towards the north of the city is Derriford which is also home to University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust, the largest hospital in the South West, and also only 10 minutes away from Dartmoor National Park. A wide selection of large detached properties can be found within this area.

Just outside of Plymouth is the South Hams, a region of rural and coastal Devon. To the north side it stretches to the edges of Dartmoor National Park, to the south it covers one of the most beautiful stretches of coastline in the UK from Torbay to Plymouth.

GOOD FOOD

Plymouth has a burgeoning reputation as a foodie heaven. Royal William Yard, with its Grade I Listed former Royal Naval victualling buildings, is bursting with vibrant cafes, bars and restaurants, including The Club House Plymouth, Steel Brew Co, Bistrot Pierre, The Hook & Line, Wagamama and Seco Lounge to name a few.

Make the most of the city's fantastic local food produce by enjoying freshly caught fish from the Barbican, the UK's best fish and chips and a fantastic array of artisan bread, locally brewed beer, home grown wine and the most delicious cream teas, cream first of course!

Plymouth is home to the second largest fish market in England, and sells over 6,000 tonnes of fish each year! A fantastic place to get the freshest locally caught fish.



Average house prices in Plymouth are around 31 per cent cheaper than the national average.



Plymouth boasts the second highest number of Gold Anchor marinas in the UK offering some of the best berthing facilities.





Image: Heads Up Definition

IN GOOD COMPANY

Plymouth benefits from a vibrant mix of innovative, globally leading businesses ranging from marine and high tech manufacturing, healthcare to research, digital, arts and creative industries. There are plenty of opportunities to develop your career.

MARINE

Plymouth is a global centre of excellence for marine science and technology and has one of the largest clusters of expertise in the world. Plymouth is home to the first Marine Enterprise Zone in the country in the form of Oceansgate, a multi-million pound development to create a business park with waterside access and freeport status.

With 300 marine related businesses operating in the city, the sector includes global research partners; Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Marine Biological Association, University of Plymouth and the Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science. In Plymouth the sector accounts for 20 per cent of blue tech/marine employment in the UK, and 11.3 per cent of the city's employment.

Plymouth has the impressive Future Autonomous at Sea Technology innovation cluster. This globally recognised cluster leverages the unique Smart Sound Plymouth testing facility which will soon be one of the first 5G connected 'at sea proving grounds' for marine technology. The Department for International Trade has recently named Plymouth as a High Potential Opportunity city for Marine Autonomy. Plymouth is positioned within the wider South West region that has the unique capabilities to design, develop, validate and deploy new technologies.

Plymouth is home to the largest concentration of marine scientists in the world.

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING

The city is home to a number of well-known manufacturing names, including the internationally recognised Babcock International Group PLC, Princess Yachts, Plessey, Mars Wrigley Confectionery, Kawasaki, Becton Dickinson, Collins Aerospace, Rittal and Schneider Electric. Babcock currently employs over 4,500 people in the city, with ambitious expansion plans. Plymouth-based luxury yacht builder Princess Yachts employs 3,200 people and is constantly developing and innovating new production techniques. Plymouth has the highest concentration of manufacturing employment of any large city in the whole south of England, providing opportunities in management, process engineering and advanced manufacturing.

Collectively, the manufacturing sector of Plymouth contributes roughly 14,500 full-time equivalent jobs; that's over 13.5 per cent of Plymouth's employment.

HEALTH

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust is the largest teaching hospital trust in the south west. It employs more than 6,500 staff working in 350 different roles, plus hundreds of volunteers. It has a number of specialisms making it an exciting place to further your career, including supporting an aging population. There are also a number of specialist medical companies operating at Plymouth Science Park.

Plymouth has a rapidly developing medical base with a mix of activity from teaching to medical-engineering, medical informatics and bio-marine science. The city is developing a growing knowledge-based manufacturing and service industry by linking to the work of the university, hospital and the advanced engineering sector. The total health and social care sector contributes almost 16,500 FTE jobs, that's 15.5 per cent of Plymouth's employment.



Plymouth has a strong pipeline of 10,000 construction jobs demonstrating the city's growth potential and commitment.

12 per cent of Plymouth jobs are in the manufacturing industry, exceeding the national average of 8.3 per cent.



CULTURE AND CREATIVE

Plymouth is home to an eclectic and diverse creative industries sector, which includes creative and digital media, audio-visual, design TV and film production, visual arts, music technology and games development. Made up of a vibrant mix of cultural businesses including the award winning theatre production centre Theatre Royal Plymouth, a rich programme of arts and cultural performances across the year and a growing number of artists and creators the city's reputation as a centre for high quality creative industry is growing. With nationally and internationally recognised companies, such as Two Four Group, Bluestone 360 and Sponge, having headquarters in Plymouth it's clear to see the growing creative and digital sector within the city has huge potential.

Creative industries are increasingly becoming an important ingredient to enhance productivity in Plymouth's traditional key sectors such as marine, manufacturing, medical and healthcare through the integration of creative technologies from enhanced design, to computer modelling, artificial Intelligence and gamification.

With major significant cultural activities, including the investment of £44 million into The Box, Plymouth's new cultural and heritage hub, and being one of only four UK cities to host the landmark touring exhibition, British Art Show 9, Plymouth offers a bright opportunity for businesses to thrive in 2022.

In July 2021 the Market Hall by Real Ideas opened a £7.6 million immersive technology hub, developed in partnership with Plymouth City Council and the Institute of Digital Art and Technology at University of Plymouth. The immersive dome within the build has the latest technology and is the largest of its kind in Europe, this along with co-work space, unique venue hire and food offers

VISITOR AND LEISURE

Plymouth is a major driver in the wider regional visitor economy acting as a key centre from which leisure, business and studying visitors can explore Cornwall and Devon. Plymouth will be creating the UK's first National Marine Park, which will encourage greater prosperity and engagement with our marine environment. The city's visitor and leisure economy is growing and offers exciting opportunities for the future, including advanced regeneration plans for the railway station.

SKILLED AND ADAPTABLE WORKFORCE

With two award-winning universities, a thriving Art College and the expanding City College Plymouth, the city continues to develop and grow new talent and a business-focused potential workforce. The new £13 million Regional Centre of Excellence for STEM facility at City College Plymouth will be vital for helping Plymouth employers meet their needs for highly skilled employees of the future.

The University of Plymouth has been named as one of the top 25 institutions globally in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2021.



The Box was a winner in 2020 for Museums + Heritage Awards, for Restoration/Conservation Project of the Year for the Royal Naval Ship's Figureheads



Plymouth is a global centre of excellence for marine science and technology and has one of the largest clusters of expertise in the world.





Britain's Ocean City is working to create the UK's first National Marine Park

A GREAT WORK LIFE BALANCE

Plymouth is not only a great city to work, with close proximity to the Moors, the water and a vibrant city centre offering everything from retail to food and arts and culture you'll be spoilt for choice with the leisure opportunities on your doorstep.

SHOPPING

If shopping is your thing, you're in luck. The city centre, with its mix of large department stores, high street staples and boutique shops, is a spacious pedestrianised precinct, easy to access and navigate.

The West End offers a mix of small retailers, cafés and galleries, and the 150-stall indoor Plymouth Market where goldsmiths rub shoulders with produce growers and specialist delis.

To the east is Drake Circus, with all you would hope for or expect from a modern undercover mall experience – easy parking, more than 60 shops including top brands and a food court to refuel.

The Elizabethan streets of the Barbican, by contrast, offer a quirky treasure trove of artisan makers, arts and crafts, prints, paintings and sculpture.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Plymouth is the West Country's cultural and entertainment capital with a dazzling year round variety of performance, music and art venues, festivals and events. Headline acts amongst these include the Theatre Royal Plymouth, the UK's largest regional producing theatre, featuring a diverse programme of stage shows in its two auditoria. Barbican Theatre offers drama and contemporary dance in an intimate setting, while Plymouth Pavilions presents an exciting mix of top comedy and music performers.

The Arts Institute at the University of Plymouth and MIRROR at Plymouth College of Art curate an eclectic range of contemporary art and culture, with a cutting edge theatre and dance programme in The House. You can also catch the latest independent films at Plymouth Arts Cinema, based at Plymouth College of Art. Film fans can enjoy the world's most immersive cinema experience with IMAX and 4DX at Cineworld, found in Drake Circus The Barcode.

Celebrated artists associated with Plymouth include George Passmore (half of the collaborative duo Gilbert and George), Beryl Cook, Robert Lenkiewicz and Royal Academy founder Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Today, the art scene is as dynamic as ever, supported by renowned independent galleries and represented by the many artists and craftspeople working in the Barbican and at Ocean Studios Royal William Yard.



HERITAGE

The Barbican alone boasts more than 200 listed buildings; turn any corner or explore any cobbled lane and you'll be faced with a Tudor or Jacobean gem, such as the facades of Merchant's House on St Andrews Street and Elizabethan House on New Street.

Another of those jewels in the city's crown – or perhaps the olive in its Martini – is the world-famous Plymouth Gin Distillery on Southside Street, a former Black Friar monastery dating back to the 1400s. Take a tour, see how it's made – and taste the tippie.

The opening of The Box was one of the most significant cultural events in the UK in 2020. Plymouth invested £46 million in the new museum, art gallery and cultural centre, where you can discover more about Plymouth's rich and colourful history. Nine permanent galleries showcase incredible collections including 14 monumental ships' figureheads, thousands of natural history specimens, a full-size woolly mammoth replica and original art.

OUTDOOR PURSUITS

Whether you're keen to explore by foot or by water, Britain's Ocean City has a fantastic array of outdoor pursuit options to help you make the most of your time outside of the office.

Swim outdoors in style at the beautifully renovated Art Deco seawater Tinside Lido on the Hoe offshore, or the free family Mount Wise pools; the less hardy might prefer the superb indoor swimming and diving facilities at the Plymouth Life Centre, where Tom Daley and Tonia Couch have trained.

For the adventurous, the Mount Batten Water Sports and Activities Centre offers courses in kayaking, coasteering, climbing, stand up paddleboarding, powerboating and dinghy sailing.

Offshore, divers flock to explore wrecks and reefs – as do anglers keen to get among the conger, pollack and bass they hold.

The cruising waters of the Sound and the rivers Plym, Tamar and Yealm are, understandably, also a huge draw for sailors – particularly as Plymouth has such fine berthing facilities.

On land you can enjoy the green expanse of Plymouth Hoe, Saltram House or Mount Edgumbe on a sunny afternoon, or take a walk along the South West Coast Path to enjoy nearly nine scenic miles across Plymouth. Offering a taste of the countryside beyond the city, the 10-mile but easy-going Plym Valley Trail follows the route of an old Great Western Railway track.

Further afield you've got the wild expanse of Dartmoor offering idyllic walks, rugged Tors and great terrain for walking, cycling or horse riding, whatever takes your fancy.



'Look II' on West Pier is an impressive sculpture by world-renowned artist, Sir Antony Gormley



Plymouth offers a fantastic range of watersport activities, including stand up paddleboarding, canoeing and diving.



SailGP, one of the world's most impressive sailing events, hosted its third event of Season 2 in Plymouth.





COMMUTING AND TRANSPORT

Plymouth is easily accessible via main transport networks, including road, rail and sea and is just two hours by road from Bristol and three hours by train from London.

Plymouth has a central train station situated just a short walk from the city centre, where the Plymouth Coach Station can also be found.

There are 24 daily services running each way between Plymouth and London during the working week, three of which are high speed services offering journey times of just over three hours.

The latest rail timetables for the Tamar Valley and Looe Valley lines and other rural branch lines in Devon and Cornwall can be downloaded at www.greatscenicrailways.co.uk

Visit www.nationalrail.co.uk for more information on trains serving Plymouth.

An extensive choice of international flights is available from Exeter and Bristol airports located just one and two hours away respectively. Bristol offers connecting flights to over 110 destinations via Dublin, Brussels, Germany and Amsterdam.

For more information on Exeter airport, visit www.exeter-airport.co.uk

For more information on Bristol airport, visit www.bristolairport.co.uk

For more information on Newquay airport, visit www.cornwallairportnewquay.com

Britain's Ocean City location also offers the opportunity to pop to France or Spain for the weekend on one of the frequent Brittany Ferries services from Plymouth to Roscoff and Santander.

And with developments underway for a new Railway station and Cruise Liner facilities, Plymouth is set to offer even more transport options in the next few years.

Plymouth has been rated as one of the best places for families to live according to The Sunday Times



Plymouth is the 'coolest little city by the sea' according to GQ and ranked as one of the coolest places to live by The Times.



Plymouth benefits from an award-winning local transport network.



The largest Naval Base in Western Europe the HMNB Devonport and home to luxury boat builder Princess Yachts International





SCHOOLS IN PLYMOUTH

Plymouth benefits from a wide range of education options including academies, grammar schools, free schools and schools specialising in engineering, health and sport. The city also contains further and higher education colleges, private fee paying schools and two Universities. We have a diverse and comprehensive offer of education designed to meet the needs of all young people.

To find schools in Plymouth visit www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouthschoolsdirectory.

Children in the city benefit from having the opportunity to enjoy high quality early years education to ensure an excellent start to their learning. 97 per cent of three year olds take up the offer of an early education place. We place high importance in helping children to achieve a flying start to their learning and provide early years providers with a range of support measures designed to enhance their offer to children and parents.

This positive start is successfully built upon by primary schools that put learning at the centre of all that they do and who work in partnership to raise standards. Parents and carers have a 90 per cent chance of obtaining their choice of primary school. Led by some of our outstanding primary schools, school leaders have well established arrangements for improving learning across the city.

The curriculum offered by primary schools is rich, broad and balanced, and is designed to embed the basic skills needed for success in later life. Culture awareness is encouraged, for example through the Mayflower 400 commemorative programme.

Secondary schools ensure that the city's young people continue to make progress by offering a curriculum that is relevant to meet the needs of a modern economy. Pupils enjoy a well-rounded education but at the same time can specialise in subjects such as engineering, health and sport. Plymouth schools have been successful in helping pupils to progress to become Olympic swimmers and divers and over 95 per cent of Post 16 pupils' progress into employment, education or training, which is above the national average.

All schools are well supported with a range of services allowing pupil to progress through the key stages. Well established arrangements are in place for children whose first language is not English and provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities is highly effective with a strong local offer from good and outstanding providers.

86 per cent of Plymouth Primary and Secondary Schools were judged 'good' or 'outstanding' in August 2016



In Plymouth, there is a wealth of high quality STEM education available from primary school to university.



FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

The University of Plymouth - A three-time winner of the Queen's Anniversary Prize, including in 2019 in respect of its world-leading research on microplastics and marine litter, the University is among the highest-ranked modern institutions in the country. Founded as a School of Navigation in 1862, the University now has 18,000 students in the city and a further 9,000 at partner institutions, and was ranked in the top 25 institutions for teaching in the 2020 National Student Survey. It has developed renowned research expertise in areas including marine and earth sciences, medicine and health technology, psychology and engineering. www.plymouth.ac.uk

University of St Mark and St John - Awarded university status in 2013, meaning Plymouth is now home to two universities, and provides full and part-time higher education with a range of courses from foundation degrees and progression courses to honours degrees and postgraduate study. www.marjon.ac.uk

City College Plymouth - One of the largest colleges in the South West and rated Good with Outstanding features by Ofsted, the College's aim is to enrich its community through knowledge, experience and skills. Its learning environment and organisational culture impacts positively on the health, wellbeing and sustainability of its community and enables its students and staff to achieve their full potential. First in the South West for achievement for 16-18 year olds and those on level 3 courses, and first in the South West and second nationally for Apprenticeship achievement out of all general further education colleges, City College Plymouth enables every student to be the best that they can be. www.cityplym.ac.uk

Plymouth College of Art - A specialist independent Higher Education Institution (HEI) run by artist for artists. Founded in 1856, the college offers a range of Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Pre-Degree study across Art, Design and Digital Media - combining over a 160 years of history with up-to-the-minute thinking and cutting-edge facilities, including Fab Lab Plymouth in the college's new £8 million Craft, Design and Fabrication Workshops. www.plymouthart.ac.uk

DEVELOPING YOUR CAREER

If you're ambitious and keen to further develop your career prospects, Plymouth is well placed to support you. With a wide variety of higher and further education offers, apprenticeships and a well-defined STEM Plymouth strategy the city offers a multitude of ways that professionals can grow and develop.

Numerous networking groups and support providers including STEM Plymouth, Building Plymouth, Connected Plymouth, Digital Plymouth, Plymouth Area Business Council, Plymouth Manufacturers' Group, Plymouth Social Enterprise Network, Devon & Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Small Businesses are also prevalent in the city, offering business support, networking opportunities and growth avenues for businesses.



Plymouth has over 50,000 students studying in the city, potentially providing a highly skilled and adaptable workforce



Plymouth's digital sector is a growth industry and ranks as the eighth highest location for job growth in digital industries in the UK.

