



Peterborough



Agri-Tech, Food & Drink

Overview

From locally sourced produce to international brands, Peterborough's food and drink industry has a strong foundation and contributes significantly to the local economy. From processing and packaging companies like **New Covent Garden Foods, Bokomo** and **Del Monte**, to cutting-edge food technology research being undertaken by **AB Agri** and **British Sugar**, and manufacturing equipment suppliers such as **Baker Perkins, Olympus Automation** and **Flo-Mech**, the city covers the full value chain of production and innovation.

Agricultural strength

With its hinterland home to around 4,000 farms which support 27,000 jobs, Greater Peterborough's agri-food industry generates around £4 billion of food-related trade each year. The rich farmland around Peterborough – The Fens – represents about half of the Grade 1 agricultural land in England and provides the city with a natural base for a cluster of food-

related businesses, supported by strong transport and logistics infrastructure. As a proportion of England's output, the Fens are responsible for approximately 37% of vegetables and 39% of the bulbs and flowers grown in the open, as well as 24% of the potatoes and 17% of the sugar beet. They also produce enough wheat for 250 million loaves of bread every year.

Food production

Over 400 food manufacturing and food-related firms contribute more than 6,000 jobs to Peterborough, covering machinery and equipment manufacturing, cold storage, packaging, labelling and haulage. **British Sugar**, the sole processor of the UK's sugar beet crop and one of the largest single customers for the engineering sector in the East of England, operates from Peterborough where it's enjoyed a long and profitable history. **Produce World** is also headquartered in the city and manages numerous fresh food supply chains for selected partners in retail and

the food service industries. Other major operators in the area include **McCain Foods, Bokomo, Masteroast, Kerrys, Bakkavor, Nestle Purina, AB Agri** and **Bourne Salads**.

Sector support

Peterborough and its surrounding region offers world-class support and advice to food and agricultural focused businesses. Local providers include **Peterborough Regional College's Food Manufacturing and Processing Centre of Excellence**, the **Fresh Produce Consortium**, the **Agricultural Industries Confederation** and the **Agricultural Engineers Association**.

Also within easy reach is Lincoln's **National Centre for Food Manufacturing**, Norwich's **Institute for Food Research**, Cambridge's **National Institute for Agricultural Botany** and the regional support organisation, **Agri-Tech East**.

Peterborough truly lies at the centre of the UK's Agri-Tech, Food and Drink heartland.



Easy access to Felixstowe, the UK's largest container port



Approximately half of all Grade 1 agricultural land in England is within 40 miles



4,000 farms operate in the Greater Peterborough area employing 27,000 people



More than 400 food manufacturers and food-related firms employ over 6,000 people



Greater Peterborough delivers more than £4bn GVA in this sector