

Welcome to Fenland



Fenland is a beautiful, rural district of around 55,000 hectares situated in the north of Cambridgeshire. It is conveniently located within easy reach of the cities of Peterborough (20 miles), Norwich (50 miles) and Cambridge (25 miles) and is just one hour from London via rail. Fenland even has a **commercial port** in the north of the district, just a short distance from The Wash, one of the largest estuaries in the UK, providing direct shipping access to Europe.

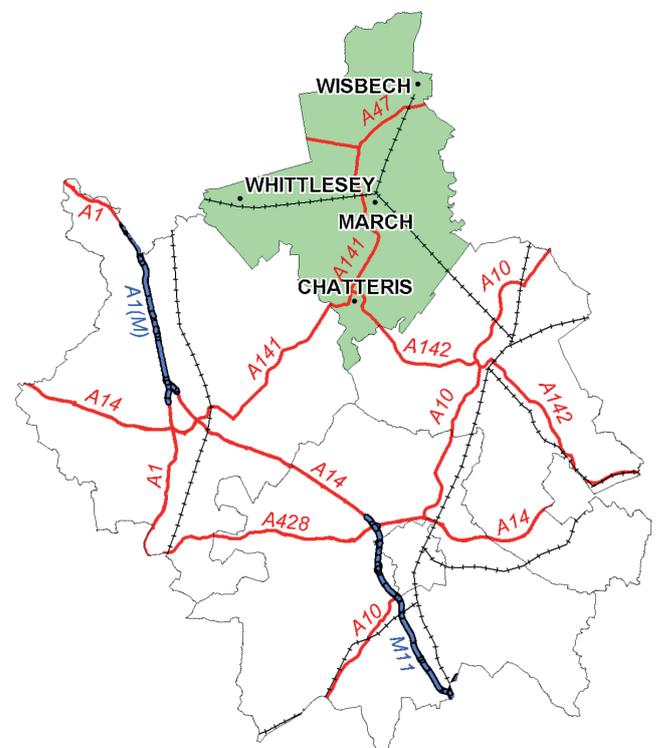
Fenland has four thriving market towns – Wisbech, March, Chatteris and Whittlesey – each with their own unique heritage and character. The population of the district is set to grow at a higher rate than the national average over the coming decade with many people moving to the area, from both overseas and inside the UK, as a result of Fenland's inclusion in the London-Stansted-Cambridge-Peterborough growth area. As such a number of developments have been planned for the district in order to provide the growing population with the facilities and infrastructure required to support a modern, sustainable and productive community.

Fenland's economy has traditionally been based on agriculture which still provides many direct and indirect jobs in food processing, specialist engineering, packaging, transport and business services. The added value investment within the agri-food sector continues to be highly successful, with leading multi-national companies such as **Del Monte Fresh Produce** and **Nestle Purina** choosing Fenland as a prime location for UK operations. Fenland's largest industrial sectors are currently wholesale and retail trade, manufacturing, construction and public administration. Yet new

areas of commerce such as Green industries are also beginning to set up in Fenland and it is expected that this sector in particular will grow considerably in the future. This is in part due to an increased demand for services and products to serve new markets such as sustainable construction and bio-fuel, as well as to meet food security needs and the increased domestic and international demand for food.

Business support is fully coordinated for businesses starting up in Fenland, relocating to the area or looking to expand. A range of serviced land is available on very flexible terms, from office space in the new business centres in the north and south of the district to larger industrial units.

With its low overheads, abundance of space, business support networks and advantageous location Fenland has much to offer businesses looking to establish a presence in the UK. To find out more about Fenland contact the Economic Development teams at Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.



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KEY FACTS

- Over a thousand people are expected to move into the district each year until 2021
- More than 500 homes will be built in the district per year during Fenland's period of rapid growth
- House prices are lower than the county and regional average
- Unemployment rates in Fenland are below the national average
- A higher proportion of the population is economically active compared to the eastern region and nationally.

In Good Company

Food and Drink – Del Monte Fresh Produce, McCain Foods, Nestle Purina, Premier Foods, Lamb Weston, ERMS (UK) Ltd, Greenvale AP, Moy Park, Partner Logistics, Produce World Ltd, Rokewood Ltd

Materials – Forbo Adhesives UK Ltd

Printing & Packaging – Smurfit Kappa

Engineering – Stainless Metalcraft, Cambmac, Cousins of Emneth, PCML,

Business Services – Commercial Utility Brokers, Datashredders, Elmstok

Environmental/Science – Eclipse Scientific Group, English Brothers Ltd, Plasgran Ltd

Quality of Life

While Fenland benefits from its strategic location, it also has a number of other advantages which make it an ideal place for people live and work. The district has three nationally recognised council-run leisure centres, a range of museums and other attractions such as wildlife parks, an 18th century brewery and one of the oldest theatres in the country. Work has also begun on a new retail park on the outskirts of Wisbech, which will have a selection of shops, restaurants and Europe's first fully digital cinema.

The many waterways throughout the district are perfect for a relaxing boat trip and also provide high quality fishing. The beautiful open countryside which surrounds Fenland's towns and villages gives the area its famous sunsets and also attracts migratory birds and other wildlife. Some of the finest Georgian architecture can also be found in the district, including the stunning National Trust attraction Peckover House. Naturalists, writers, artists, walkers and cyclists have been coming to Fenland for many years to find inspiration in its beautiful open views, architecture, wildlife and relaxing atmosphere.

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