

**THE REGION** 

THE WORLD

OF LIFE

TO LIVE

**ECONOMY** 

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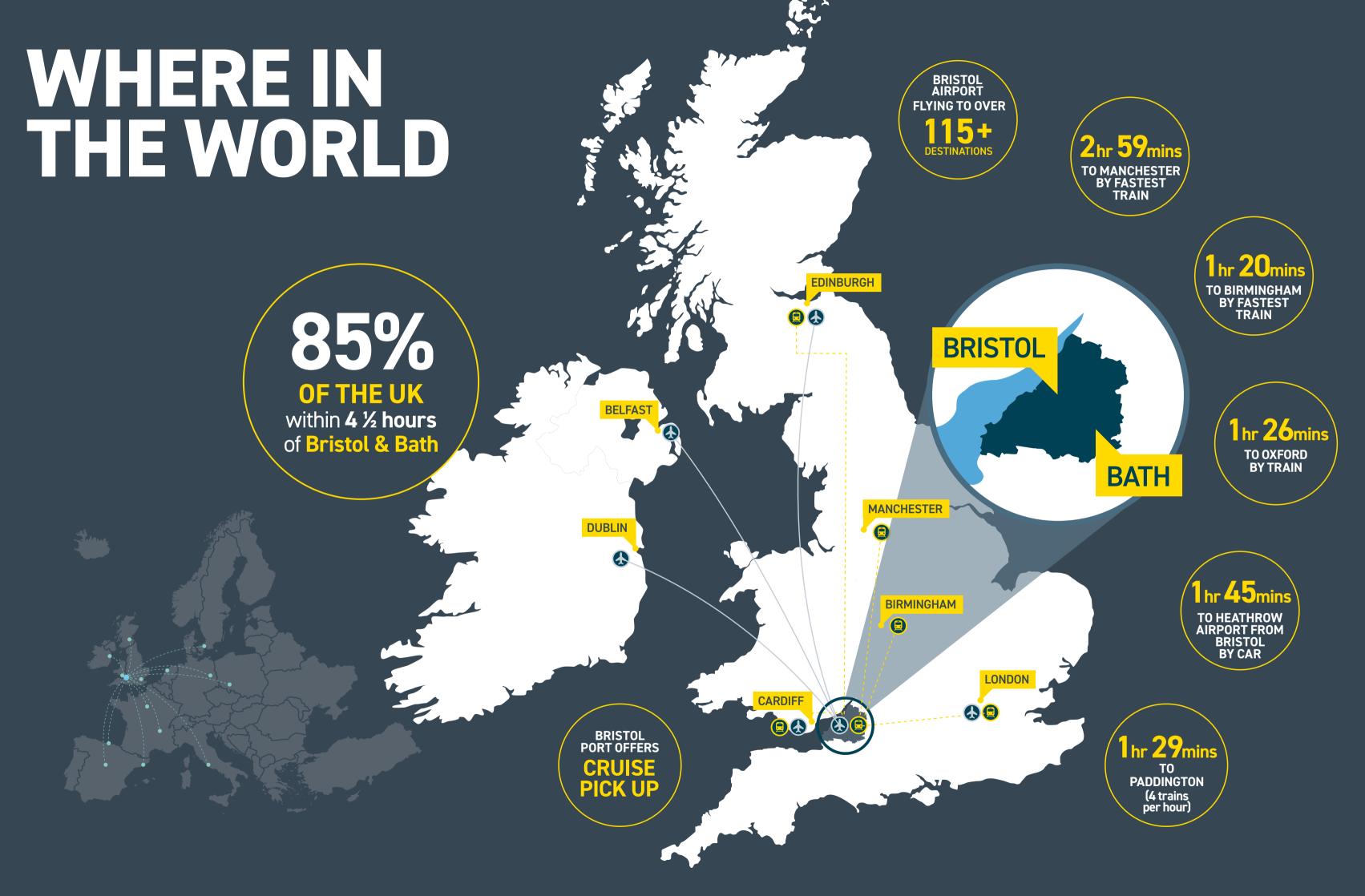
### **WORLD LEADING EXPERTISE**

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### **DISCOVER** WHAT MAKES **OUR REGION** A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY... **PEOPLE** PER WEEK relocate from London

to Bristol (ONS).



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### QUALITY OF LIFE

Step on board the last Concorde at

### AEROSPACE BRISTOL



Experience life on the world's first great ocean liner,

### BRUNEL'S SS GREAT BRITAIN



Nothing captures the region's spirit better than its NUMEROUS FESTIVALS, celebrating everything from jazz and blues, film and animation, literature, food, and folk. Enjoy family fun at the HARBOUR FESTIVAL an extravaganza of dance, music, arts, food markets, and visiting vessels.





Bath is the UK's

### MOST FAMILY-FRIENDLY CITY



Source: MoneySuperMarket

# STREET FOOD POP-UPS

Explore the World Vegan Capital, as designated by foodie blog the

CHEF'S PENCIL



Watch amateur and professional riders competing together in what is easily the toughest sand track anywhere in the world, the RHL WESTON BEACH RACE – the UK's largest off-road motorsport event.



### HISTORIC THEATRES

Bristol Old Vic is the longest continually running theatre in the English-speaking world.

Built on its current site in 1805, the Theatre Royal Bath is one of the oldest working theatres in the country.



Discover Renaissance treasures and masterpieces by Gainsborough at the

### HOLBURNE MUSEUM





Explore one of the best-preserved Roman remains in the world at the

**ROMAN BATHS** 

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AN INNOVATIVE WORLD LEADING ECONOMY EXPERTISE

Share the unity and joy of live music. A music charity, renowned international concert venue, and awardwinning music education hub.



England's first inland surf lake in South Gloucestershire has hosted the Surfing England Adaptive Open Surf Championships twice.

### 'WHIRLIGIG'

Super Culture's award-winning outdoor arts and circus festival is held in late summer across the seafront in Westonsuper-Mare with its trademark line-up of extraordinary and eclectic acts.

# **BRISTOL**



One of the UK's oldest and most popular half marathons.



A wide range of **GALLERIES** & MUSEUMS bring our region's creativity and history to life, alongside **THEATRE AND COMEDY** with West End productions, ballets, and comedy regularly visiting the Bristol Old Vic and Bristol Hippodrome. More experimental works come courtesy of Old Market Assembly, the Arnolfini

centre, Clevedon Theatre Shop, Front

Room WSM, and Komedia in Bath.



With over 20 breweries, awardwinning distilleries, vineyards, and, of course, cider makers, our region is a paradise for beverage enthusiasts.



### **PARAORCHESTRA**

Experience the world's only large-scale virtuoso ensemble of professional disabled and non-disabled musicians.



Motion is recognised as one of the best clubs in the world, regularly appearing in top lists by industry experts.

Watch over 100 hot air balloons take off at dawn and dusk for Europe's largest annual meeting of hot air balloons.

BALLOON **FIESTA** 



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**QUALITY OF LIFE** 

# INCLUSIVE REGION

Diversity and inclusivity are at the heart of our region, enriching and enhancing our cities and towns. We're home to 91 languages, 45 different religions and across our population there are over 180 countries of origin.

#### **BATH IS THE UK'S MOST PROGRESSIVE CITY WITH BRISTOL#2**

Trends measured include: gender pay gap, recycling rates, voter turnout, number of vegan and vegetarian restaurants, number of ultra-low emission vehicles, and number of women in local government (The Bankrate UK Progressive Cities Index 2020).

Here in the West of **England**, we inspire diverse entrepreneurs and change makers. Some of the UK's pioneering disability and diverse led companies and organisations are based here including Extraordinary Bodies, Blak Wave, Gritty Talent and BeonBoard.

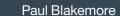
### **CELEBRATE COMMUNITIES**

Bristol is home to St Paul's Carnival, a celebration of Afro Caribbean culture which welcomes audiences of over 70.000. The city also hosts a range of other festivals. including the Bristol Harbourside Festival, Bristol Refugee Festival, and the Festival of Ideas. Throughout the region, a diverse array of venues offer a wide spectrum of entertainment and performances. From South Asian music and dance to West African Blues at Bristol Beacon, international



films at the arts cinema Watershed. and orchestral performances featuring professional disabled musicians in the Paraorchestra. there's something for everyone to enjoy.

WECIL, an award-winning user-led organisation, works tirelessly across the region to support disabled individuals. 91 Ways, a social enterprise, actively engages with Bristol's 91 language communities, uniting people through food, events, and special projects. Off the Record is a charitable organization dedicated to supporting young people's mental health, and in Weston. The Other Place serves as a social space and skills hub catering to the town's global majority communities.



### **SHOWCASING CULTURE**

The Museum of East Asian Art in Bath offers a platform to showcase the work and collections of diverse artists. In Weston-super-Mare, four bandstands host a variety of global music performances, featuring artists from Malawi, France, Iran, Turkey, Brazil, and the UK. The GLOW festival brings together professional light artists and local communities, including Weston Pride, refugees, asylum seekers, and recovery groups, to illuminate and celebrate all the people who contribute to Weston's authentic shine.

### **SUPPORT**

The region fosters a sense of community through a multitude of social groups, forums, events, and community organisations that bring people together for support and shared experiences. Diverse Doors Open Day, organised by the Bristol Multi-faith Forum, opens places of worship to help discover and learn about the many faith communities across the region.

### **FULL OF PRIDE**

The region takes great honour in hosting annual Pride events in Bath, Weston, and Bristol, attracting over 60,000 visitors to its vibrant Pride Day and Parade celebrations. There's a thriving scene with regular drag king and gueen cabaret nights, the Queer Vision Film Festival, and events featuring live performances and DJs catering to women and non-binary individuals.

Venues across Bristol showcase black drag performers at Black Excellence Cabaret evenings, while many of the region's nightclubs host regular events for LGBTQIA+ party goers. In Weston why not pop-into Pride Bar and join the 'Let's Get Visible' craft collective or take a walking tour of the Queer Tales of Weston-super-Mare, cocreated with local voices, to explore the city's LGBTQ+ heritage.

Julian Preece Photography & W.E. Irish CIC

### **INTERNATIONAL CUISINE**

Food festivals and street food stalls are abundant across the region. At St Nicholas market in Bristol, you'll find anything from Caribbean to Moroccan to Japanese food stalls, East African cafes in St Pauls, and international chefs presenting at annual food festivals in Bath.

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#### **ENVIRONMENT**



### **ACORN**

is a pioneering carbon offsetting forest near Bath, the first in the UK.



### THE WEST OF ENGLAND IS RANKED 5TH

of all UK Combined Authority areas for progress on climate emergencies, with Bath and Bristol ranked 7th and 10th of all UK Local Authorities (Climate Emergency UK, 2023)



Bristol City Leap is an innovative partnership between Bristol City Council and Ameresco Ltd. investing nearly £500m into low carbon energy infrastructure, with the West of England housing the country's largest onshore wind turbine, and water source heat pumps.

Our region aims to be

### CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2030

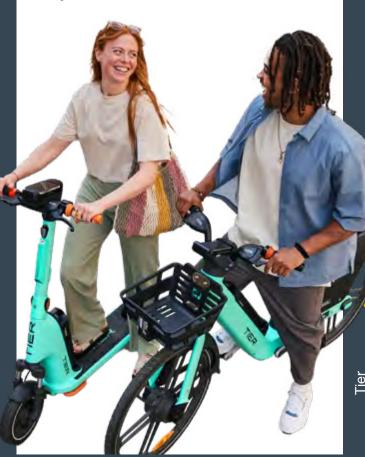
20 years ahead of the UK target.



Bristol, often dubbed

### "GREEN HOLLYWOOD"

plays a prominent role in producing nature programming worldwide, with 35% created here, including Blue Planet and Tiny World.



GREEN SPACES

**6.250 2** 

Explore ROYAL
VICTORIA PARK in Bath,
boasting tennis courts, a golf
course, and a sprawling
9-acre botanical garden.

people working in Low Carbon jobs in the West of England

Bristol has over
450 beautiful parks
and green spaces –
proportionately more
than any other UK city.



Carbon emissions have reduced

48%

since 2005
with the West of
England emitting
18% less CO<sub>2</sub> per
person than the
national average
in 2020.

# BATH CITY FARM AND WINDMILL HILL CITY FARM

are dedicated to education, environmental conservation, and assisting individuals with health and social care needs. Spanning 37 acres, these farms offer a blend of parklands, animals, scenic walking trails, a shop, and a café.

Bath Spa University and University of Bristol are in the

## TOP 20 OF ALL UK UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS

(People & Planet University League)

Bristol is one of the UK's

### LEADING CITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

and home to prominent environmental and ethical organisations such as the Soil Association, Triodos Bank and Sustrans.



Bristol and Bath are recognised as leading

### FAIRTRADE CITIES

in the UK, home to inspiring initiatives such as community food growing movement, Incredible Edible.



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#### SPOTLIGHT ON

### BATH

The UK's most PROGRESSIVE CITY offers an unbeatable lifestyle that seamlessly blends cultural and sporting excellence with breath-taking architecture, vibrant markets, eclectic bars, and diverse eateries. All of this set against the backdrop of a remarkable countryside setting.



### **MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES**

(Visit Britain). You can also marvel at Baths classical architecture by paying a visit to Bath

Abbey or taking a tour of Pulteney Bridge.

### **FESTIVALS & THEATRE**



Every year Bath Carnival transforms the streets throughout the city centre with sound systems, drummers, professional carnival dancers, schools, and community groups. The Bath Fringe is a festival of all the arts. encompassing theatre, dance, comedy, over a lively 17-day period in the summer. The Theatre Royal Bath, standing on its current site since 1805, is one of the oldest working theatres in the country, a testament to the city's enduring cultural heritage.

**BEST PLACE** 

**TO RAISE** 

**A FAMILY** 

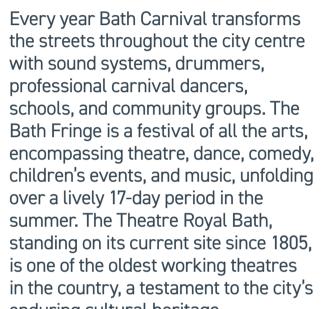
Number one choice

looking to relocate.

for Londoners

(Invest in Bath, Family Living

Index)





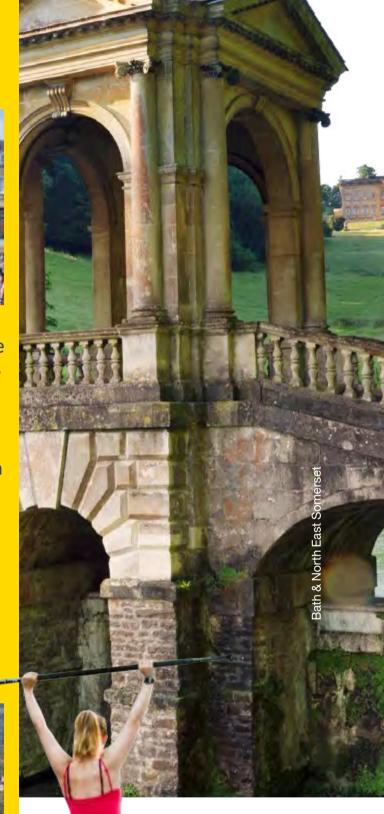


Take a ride along the Two Tunnels Greenway, featuring the longest cycle tunnel in Britain, or walk along Bath's Skyline and discover hidden valleys, flower meadows and ancient beech woodland.

Enthusiastic sports fans can cheer or Bath Rugby at the Rec or spend a delightful day at Bath Racecourse.

The city is brimming with activities and achievements. Athletes from the University of Bath achieved remarkable success at the Tokyo







**Unexpected Bath** 

#### graced the screen in productions such Bath has more museums per square mile as "The Duchess" and "Bridgerton," than many cities can boast altogether, making it a sought-after filming including Sally Lunn's Historic Eating location. House & Museum, The Herschel Museum of Astronomy and The American Museum



**UNESCO WORLD** 

**HERITAGE STATUS** 

Marvel at the best-preserved Roman

a more immersive experience, don't

miss the opportunity to take a dip in

Britain's only natural thermal spa.

prestigious Royal Crescent, a historic

architectural masterpiece that has

Home to Bath Abbey and the

Bath Spa from the ancient world. Or for

Paul Blakemore

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3ath & North East Somerset

BRISTOL

Bristol, while bustling with a wide range of activities and events, manages to maintain a warm, welcoming, and accessible atmosphere, making it a broad and diverse city with a personal touch. Bristol was named as one of the 10 happiest cities to work in the UK by The Guardian.

#### **UNESCO CITY OF FILM**



This permanent global status recognises the city's achievements as a world leader in film and the moving image. Bristol proudly houses the renowned Bottleyard Studios, Aardman Animations, and a wealth of creative talent responsible for producing acclaimed series such as Poldark, The Outlaws, Sherlock, and Broadchurch.

It is also home to BRISTOL BEACON. renowned international concert venue showcasing everything from classical and orchestra to comedy, concerts and DJs.



### **CLIFTON SUSPENSION BRIDGE**

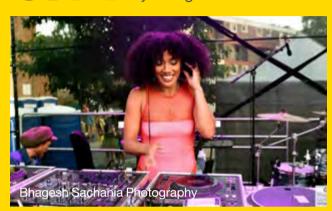
As an iconic landmark in the region, it holds a special place in history, having hosted the world's first bungee jump in 1979.

#### **ASHTON GATE STADIUM**

Home of Bristol City F.C. and Bristol Bears rugby club, with a 27,000 capacity for regular sports fixtures, and 32,000 for concerts featuring artists such as the Arctic Monkeys and The Killers.



### **VOTED COOLEST**



Home to the highest concentration of DJs and artists in Britain. Bristol is famous for its numerous festivals, carnivals, live music performances at its own amphitheatre, and its vast variety of nightlife.

And for art enthusiasts, don't miss the opportunity to participate in one of Europe's largest street art and graffiti festivals, Upfest.

Bristol proudly holds the title of the world's largest manufacturer of hot air balloons, hosting an annual festival to celebrate this achievement.

The River Avon winds its way through Bristol creating a beautiful harbourside area to explore. Enjoy ferry rides, paddle boarding and scenic cycle routes that offer picturesque views of the river. It is also home to Bristol's number one tourist attraction, Brunel's SS Great Britain.



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NORTH SOMERSET

If you're drawn to beachside living with convenient access to both Bristol and Bath, consider exploring Weston-super-Mare, Clevedon, and Portishead in North Somerset. These charming locales offer a peaceful atmosphere, scenic waterside walks, a wealth of cafes, restaurants, and pubs, and opportunities for windsurfing and enjoying family-friendly beaches. It's the perfect blend of tranquillity and coastal leisure.

### OPEN AIR POOL

Sitting right on Portishead seafront is a picturesque outdoor swimming pool welcoming the public since 1962. Nearby you'll find Portishead Marina, one of the best-equipped marinas in the South West.







### STAY CONNECTED

The proximity of Bristol and Bath is a great advantage, with both cities just a short 30-minute journey away. North Somerset is home to Bristol Airport, offering convenient access to a wide range of business and leisure destinations, making it an excellent travel hub for residents in the area.





Take a walk along England's only intact Grade 1 listed pier, or dive into the marine lake for a swim. Clevedon is a beautiful spot in every season. For a serene and scenic experience, stroll along Poets Walk, a path named in honour of esteemed poets Alfred

Tennyson and Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Weston-super-Mare also boasts its own marine lake, while further down the coast sits its Grand Pier, making it an ideal destination for non-stop indoor family fun, with rides and attractions.



### **FAMILY FUN**



Looking for non-stop family fun? Head to the **GRAND PIER** at Weston-super-Mare or Mendip Activity Centre for thrilling rides and attractions. If it's history you're after, the Helicopter Museum in Weston houses the world's largest dedicated helicopter collection, with over 100 exhibits on display.

For those interested in wildlife, explore Puxton Park, Noah's Ark Farm, Yeo Valley Gardens or the beautiful Tyntesfield Gardens, each offering their own unique charm and natural attractions.

### HIKE, BIKE AND EXPLORE

Ashton Court Estate boasts 800 acres of woodland open to the public and dogs and home to fallow deer, mountain bikers and golfers. Uphill Nature Reserve, Goblin Combe and the Strawberry Line are just a few of the many other local nature spots to explore. Brean Down, just 2 miles down the coast from Weston-super-Mare is one of the longest stretches of sandy beach in Europe boasting 7 miles of beach and dunes, providing ample space for relaxation and enjoyment by the sea.



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### SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

South Gloucestershire is a diverse region encompassing Thornbury, Filton, Winterbourne, and Yate. It's rich with market towns, historic architecture, and sprawling countryside. Ideally placed close to Bath, Bristol, and the Cotswolds, it provides the perfect blend of both rural and urban living.

#### **FAMILY FUN**

South Gloucestershire offers over 50 acres of family entertainment, adventure, and wildlife experiences spread across the BRISTOL ZOO PROJECT, DYRHAM PARK and OLD DOWN COUNTRY PARK.

Say hello to bears, giraffes, zebras, or alpacas, and enjoy the walled garden, adventure park, and zip wire.

### CONCORDE

Pay a visit to Aerospace Bristol and step aboard the last Concorde to take flight, right in its birthplace of Filton.



### SURF, SKATE AND SPRING

Surf all year round at **THE WAVE**, the first inland surfing venue in the northern hemisphere, providing over 1000 waves an hour. It's a fantastic destination for surf enthusiasts looking to catch a wave at any time of the year. For ice sports enthusiasts, make your way to **PLANET ICE** to support the Bristol Pitbulls ice hockey team at their home rink or enjoy some skating yourself. Experience the exhilaration of flying at **AIR HOP**, with over 135 interconnected trampolines.

**THE MALL** at Cribbs Causeway offers the ultimate indoor shopping experience. It's the largest of its kind in the South West, with over 150 stores, including John Lewis, Apple, and Marks & Spencer.





### BADMINTON HORSE TRIALS

From Cross Country to Dressage, this five-day spectacular is arguably one of the most prestigious horse-riding events. The trials are a CCI\*\*\*\*\* event, a rating for the highest level of equestrian competition.

### 6 O'CLOCK GIN

Take a tour around the 6 O'clock Gin at Thornbury, perfect for those who want to see 'behind the scenes' at a working distillery.

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15 WHERE TO LIVE HOWMUCH FORAHOME? **AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES** London **Bristol** (Source: Carter Jonas, 2023) **AVERAGE** SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE TO BUY Flat Semi-detached Terraced house house £959K £892K £595K **AVERAGE FLAT TO BUY** £417K £1.16M E279K **FLATS TO RENT** £649K £640K £418K £419k £348K £408K £259K £210K £267K £286K £205K £241K £205K £169K £1,400 Clifton Montpelier Bedminster Bradley Stoke Keynsham Weston-super-Mare Portishead Thornbury Filton Data source: Carter Jonas, December 2023 **WELCOME TO** CONTENTS **QUALITY ENVIRONMENT** SPOTLIGHT ON **WHERE EDUCATION TRANSPORT WORLD LEADING** WHERE IN AN INNOVATIVE

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### WE'RE TOP OF THE CLASS





Our region offers some of the best schools, SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) facilities, academies, colleges, and universities in the country. This rich educational landscape, coupled with strong collaborations between educational establishments and employers in Bristol and Bath, results in enhanced job prospects for college graduates and students.

Home to four world class universities, ranked in the Top 100 in the UK - with 100,000+ under-graduate and postgraduate students studying in the region. Within an hour of this, lie a further 155.000+ students across an additional eight universities.

University of Bristol ranked #55 globally and #9 UK by QS World University Rankings 2023. A new £300m innovation and enterprise campus is being developed by the university.



University of the West of England ranked joint second in England for student satisfaction (National Student Survey 2020), with 91% of graduates finding employment or further study after 15 months (Graduate Outcomes Survey). UWE Bristol excels in research, with around 76% of its research being categorized as 'internationally excellent' or 'world-leading'.



**INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS** 





WHERE

TO LIVE

**ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROVISIONS** 



**SECONDARY SCHOOLS** 

Bristol became England's first UNESCO Learning City, joining a global network of like-minded cities championing learning as a way to transform lives, communities, and cities.

City of Bristol College is one of the largest FE and HE colleges in the South West.

Bath Spa University is one of the greenest universities in the UK and ranked as a top Gold Tier university (Uswitch Green Universities Report 2022). It also secured a place in the top 20 UK institutions for Art (Guardian League Table 2020).

University of Bath named 'University of the Year' (The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023) and scored an impressive 91% for graduate prospects (University League Tables 2024).

Bath College is one of the top 10% of FE Colleges in England for employer satisfaction with achievement rates significantly above the national average.

iO Academy is a 16-week, full-time full-stack coding bootcamp in Bath with a 100% graduation rate.

Weston College is recognised as a centre of excellence for **Special Educational Needs** and Disabilities (SEND) education, and a sensory learning base for students with Profound and Complex Learning Disabilities (PCLD).

**Boomsatsuma** is fuelling the next creative generation, offering a range of college and degree courses in Creative Industries including Gaming, Postproduction, Sports Media, and VR and VFX.

£3m of apprenticeship levy pledged under the Share to Support Apprenticeship Levy service has supported over 240 apprentices and 100 businesses.

The West of England Combined Authority has taken a significant step in enhancing the region's skills by **leading** £6 million worth of Skills **Bootcamp** delivery to employees.

**TRANSPORT** 

### BETTER CONNECTED

BRISTOL & BATH TO THE UK









180

mins

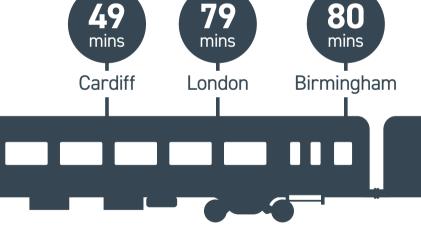
Manchester

Trains to the capital 4 times every hour

206

mins

Leeds





### **GETTING AROUND BRISTOL & BATH:**



#### The two cities are connected by:

- · an 11-minute train journey
- the Bristol & Bath Railway Path. a 13 mile off road route open to both walkers and cyclists



#### Hop on

Bristol Ferry Waterbus operates 364 days a year. sailing you around the city.



As of April 2020, First's fleet has 99 bio-methane **buses** serving the area, reducing emissions by up to 85%.

#### **INVESTING IN CONNECTIVITY**

- The West of England is investing £286 million to revolutionise the region's rail network, reopening lines and building new stations
- Bristol is the UK's first cycling city with a further £650m investment planned for walking, cycling and bus routes
- •£90m is being invested to create 'Future Transport Zones', providing testing facilities for clean technologies of the future
- · Electric scooters are available across the region providing an environmentally friendly and sustainable mode of transport

#### **ALL ABOARD**

Bristol Port is home to the UK's most centrally located cruise terminal.

#### **BRISTOL** & BATH TO **THE WORLD**

**Bristol Airport connects** to 115+ destinations across UK & Ireland. Europe, and the rest of the world. You can connect to several onward destinations including Orlando and New York.

Heathrow Airport is just **1HR 45MINS** drive away



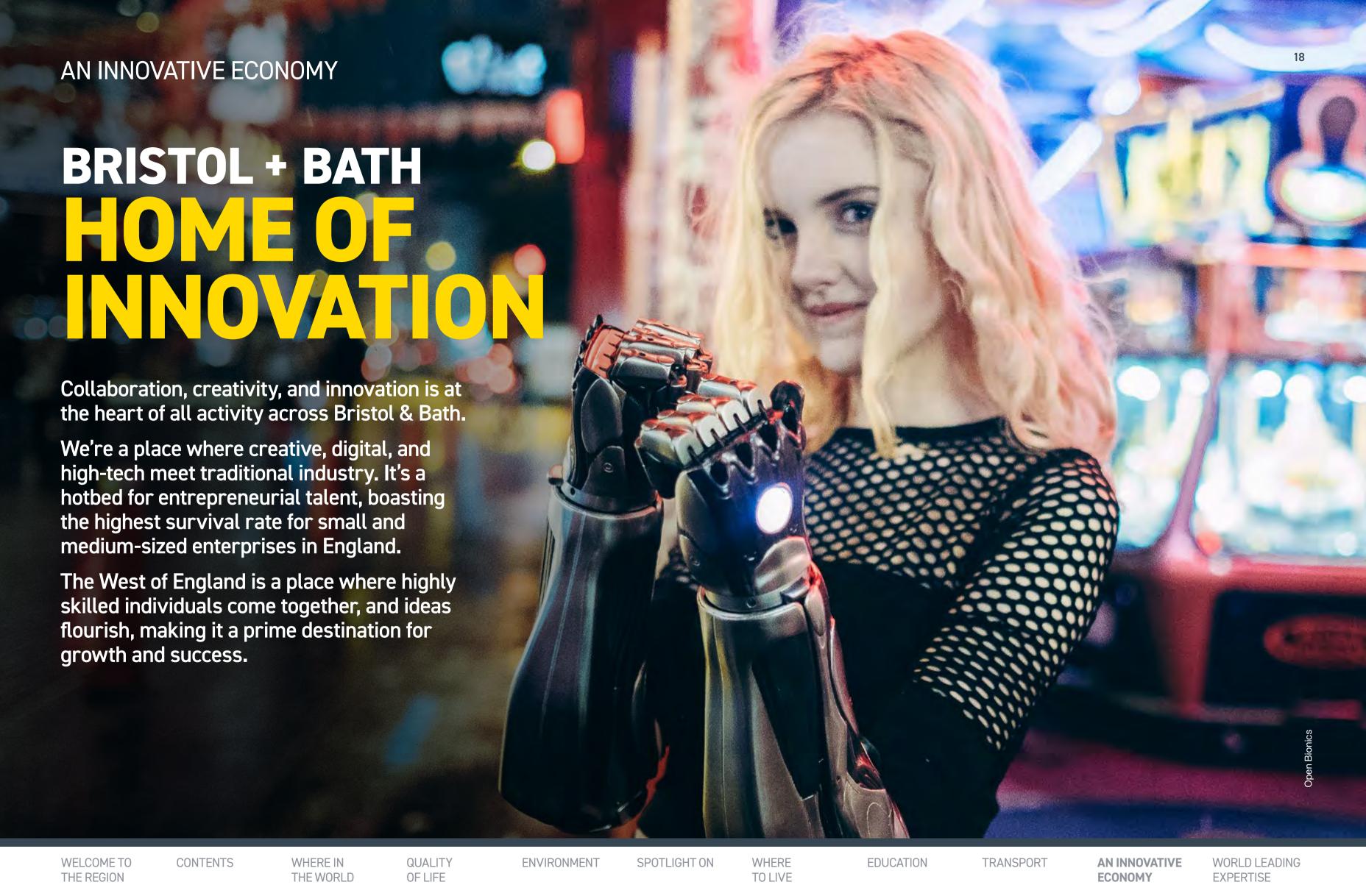
185

mins

Cambridge

WHERE

TO LIVE



#### AN INNOVATIVE ECONOMY

### WELCOME OAE40BN ECONOMY

The West of England is an economic powerhouse for the UK and is home to six business districts. A world leading talent pool with 46,000 businesses and 28,000 graduates per year.



Bath & North East Somerset is ranked the **best UK location** for microbusiness (Business Financed)



The West of England is home to the SETsquared Partnership, a world leading business incubator with a strong track record of commercial success in bringing research and innovation to market

for over 20 years.



In 2021 UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) invested £296m in businesses and universities in the West of England.





- with more than 55,0000

companies (the Business



Bristol named third largest business hub in the UK





The University of Bristol spinouts lead the way with the highest proportional growth between 2022 and 2023 in the UK, currently home to 47 spinout companies (Beauhurst).



Bristol is the **2nd most innovative city** in the UK (Paymentsense, innovation index), making it one of the top 5 regions for start-ups outside London, with 580 high growth companies (Beauhurst).

### **OUR KEY SECTORS**



**AEROSPACE & ADVANCED ENGINEERING** 



**FINANCIAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES** 



**FINTECH** 



**CREATIVE** & MEDIA



**DIGITAL** & TECH



LIFE **SCIENCES** 



**CLEAN TECH** & ENERGY



**LOGISTICS & DISTRIBUTION** 



**FOOD & DRINK INNOVATION** 

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If you are thinking of relocating to our region, we can offer a variety of client services to suit your needs. Contact us to find out how we can help you:

Invest Bristol + Bath
invest@bristolandbath.co.uk
+44 (0)117 428 6211
www.bristolandbath.co.uk



