

The National Space Centre



The National Space Centre was co-founded in the mid 1990s by Leicester City Council and the University of Leicester, which has more than 30 years' experience in space research. It was the subject of a joint bid to the Millennium Commission, which agreed to back the project as its Landmark Millennium Project for the East Midlands region in the summer of 1997.

The visitor attraction is an educational facility and research centre dedicated to the subject of space science which opened June, 2001 after several years of planning, supported by lottery funding from the Millennium Commission.

The attraction opened on June 30 2001. The Challenger Learning Centre opened in October 1999.

The Exhibition: a hands-on three to four hour walk-through exhibition with interactive exhibits, artefacts, audio-visual displays and simulators to explore space, travel, astronomy and the relevance of space to life on Earth.

The Space Theatre: a state-of-the-art, multi-media, domed theatre for stunning space shows. Highly flexible, with both an entertainment and education remit. Shows, produced in-house and lasting 20-30 minutes as part of a public visit, are included in the ticket-price. Longer programmes, including specialist schools shows, may be shown for educational groups and specific events. The shows are produced in-house by a team of experts at the Space Centre.

Challenger Learning Centre: A mission control/space station "simulator" designed for the schools market to teach maths, science and technology as well as team building, problem solving, decision making and communication skills. Also, an excellent business training facility, it has the only license to be granted outside North America, where there are currently around 50 Challenger Learning Centres. Missions generally last about two and a half hours.

Also: Boosters Restaurant
Cargo Bay Store
The Satellite Bar
Classrooms
Facilities for corporate hire

The National Space Centre



Key building statistics

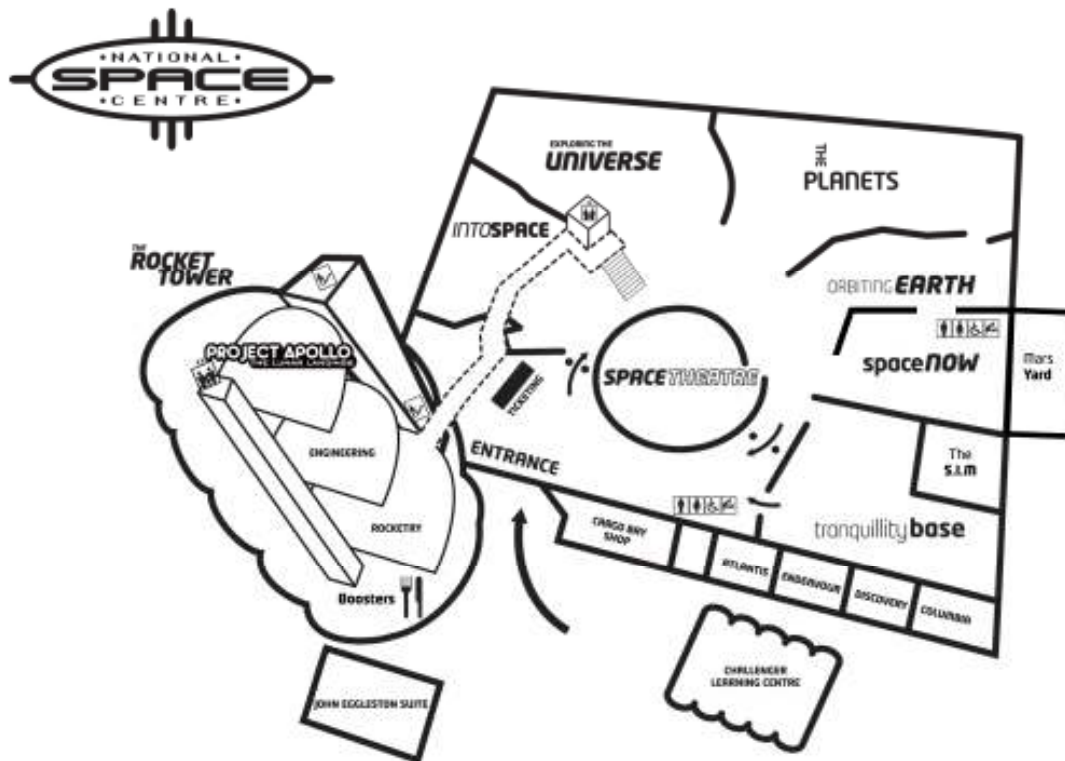
Site area	4.2 ha.
Total size of all buildings	7,360 m ²
Exhibition floor space	3,446 m ²
Tower floor space	1,105 m ²
Height of tower	42 m
Diameter of dome (external)	20.5 m
Diameter of dome (internal)	17.68 m

Key Exhibition Statistics

The exhibition includes

- More than 250 exhibits, around 100 of which are interactive (both computer based and physical)
- More than 700 text panels
- 150 artefacts
- 2000 images and diagrams

Website: www.spacecentre.co.uk



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