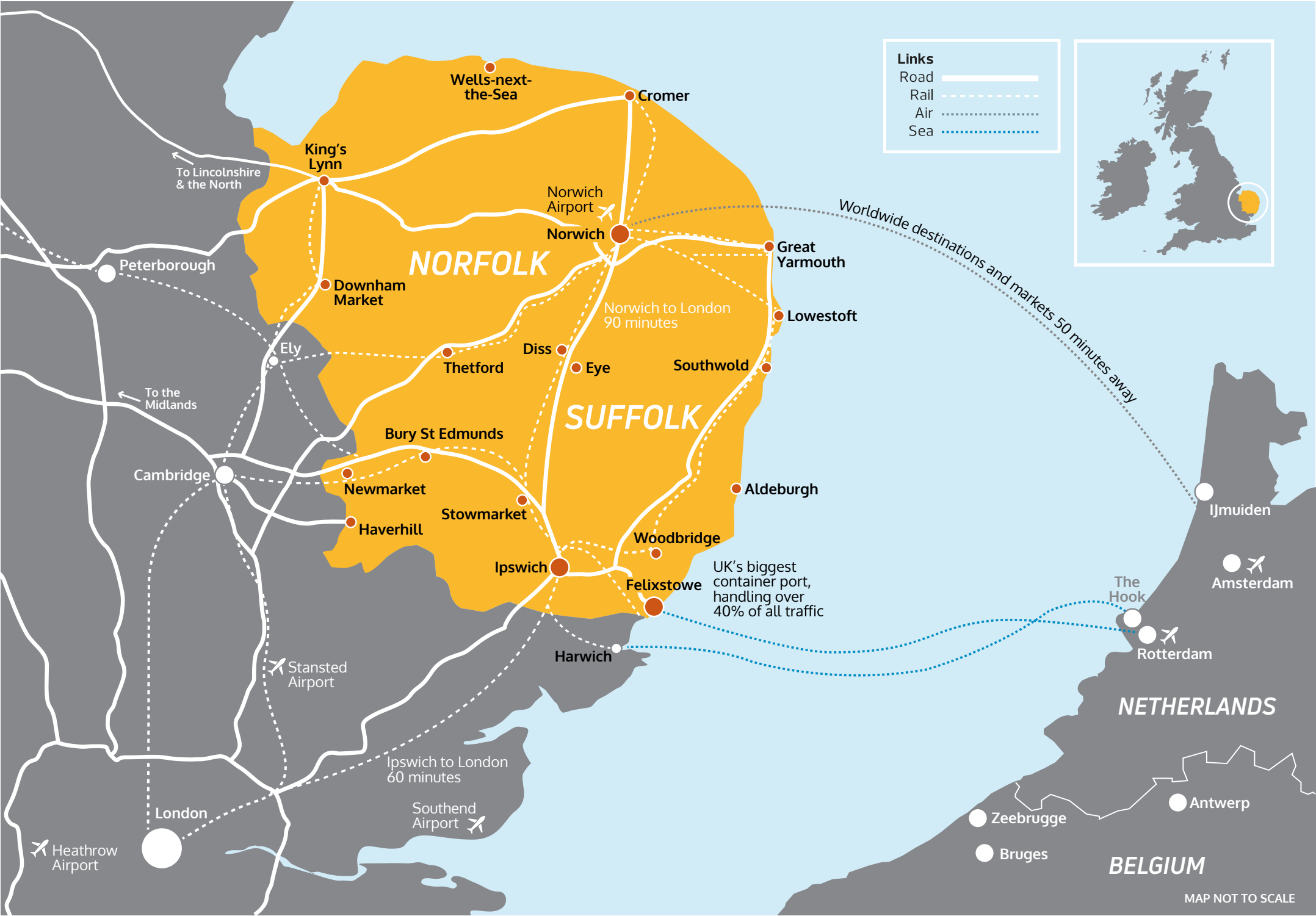


*Unlimited opportunities
in food, drink & agriculture*





With only 2% of the UK's population, we produce 11% of its food and drink in a sector worth £3.5bn



Norfolk & Suffolk is a haven for global food and drink brands and artisan producers.

Agriculture is part of our region's past, present and future, so it's little surprise that so many national and international brands choose to call our region home.

We have award-winning expertise in sugar, cider, beer, wine, chocolate, potatoes, poultry and pork production, to name but a few. With only 2% of the UK's population, we produce 11% of its food and drink in a sector worth £3.5bn.

Our region boasts a successful agri-food sector, leading global innovations in hi-tech data, drone technology, machinery production, robotics and food research. Our researchers, in particular those at the world-leading institutions on the Norwich Research Park, specialise in the relationships between food and health which is key to our sustainable future.

And our support network has all the right ingredients for businesses to start, grow and flourish – whether through access to investment, support to trade overseas or helping to find space for them to develop and innovate.

We are open to your business and with us, your potential is unlimited.

DOUG FIELD
CHAIR, NEW ANGLIA LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

*We are
open
to you*

Norfolk & Suffolk is home to leading food and drink companies

Norfolk & Suffolk is home to some of the most significant food and drink companies in Europe.

Some of the leading food and drink companies in Europe have a major presence in Norfolk and Suffolk, including Adnams, British Sugar, Kettle Foods, Greene King and Muntons.

The region has the largest agricultural sector in the UK. It generates over £500m in food and drink exports and employs over 50,000 people – double the national average. The local sector is increasingly hi-tech and automated.

Our greatest focus is on innovation and productivity to enhance growth in local businesses. Leveraging commercial opportunities from our research and development activity wherever possible will help drive a more knowledge-based local economy long into the future.

We offer innovative agri-tech businesses an extraordinary environment in which to grow.

Investment in research and development in the local agri-tech sector has exceeded other UK regions in recent years. Consequently, we have seen growth in science and R&D employment accelerate by 50% since 2007 – compared with 19% nationally. This is in part thanks to the growth in the Norwich Research Park (NRP) and its wider academic cluster, as well as the work of Agri-Tech East in facilitating knowledge transfer from ‘lab to field’ across the region.

We have ambitious plans for the future – our AgriFood Tech Sector Skills Plan developed by the industry sector in Norfolk and Suffolk, aims to meet the region’s projected demand for more than 7,000 new workers in AgriFood Tech by 2024.



Farm to fork for growers

Securing significant capital investment into a state-of-the-art mustard and mint milling facility at the Norfolk Food Enterprise Park, Condimentum will secure a 150-year-old supply chain and maximise the added value of processing for local growers.

A unique consortium of mustard and mint growers, the business has secured a 10-year supply agreement with Unilever. The new facility will supply milled mustard flour and blended mint for Colman’s condiments and pack its mustard powder into various packs in the range. Unilever will continue to source mustard and mint from growers in the local area, as it has done for more than five generations.

Dave Martin, CEO, said: “The team at Condimentum is delighted to have engaged with the New Anglia LEP in our exciting business plan to deliver a state-of-the-art milling and food ingredient manufacturing facility in Norwich. It will ensure the retention of the famous Colman’s brand in the Norfolk region.

“The Condimentum business was built by the growers and we are very proud of our unique trading history and association with the brand. The new facility will be the only one of its kind in Europe and will result in the creation of jobs in the local area and provide the opportunity for the growers to build a business of which the region can be proud.”



A flavour of international business

From its base in Rendlesham in Suffolk, Stokes Sauces has grown steadily since it launched in 2004, supplying farm shops and delicatessens both locally and across the UK with its ketchups, mayonnaises and red onion chutneys.

Today its ketchups and mayonnaises are also sold in Waitrose, Ocado, and Sainsbury’s, and can be found in many hotels, restaurants and other eateries.

Chris Reeve, commercial director, says: “Working with the food services sector has been really good for us and it’s a way of getting more of our products out to people in an environment where they are enjoying food and looking to try new things.”

Stokes Sauces are sold in 40 different countries and there is a healthy appetite for its products in Denmark, Germany, Norway and Sweden, as well as the Middle East, China, and Australia.

We are open to food & drink

Success story

LEAF EXPRESSION SYSTEMS

We improve lives by accelerating clients' research and lowering costs in the development and manufacture of therapeutic drugs, vaccines and diagnostics.

Our plant-based transient expression technology delivers rapid, scalable production of quality products that are competitive to produce, more quickly and more cost effectively, thereby reducing the time from clinic to market.



SIMON SAXBY,
CEO, LEAF EXPRESSION SYSTEMS

Investment in agri-tech R&D exceeds other UK regions, having grown by 50% since 2007.

The Earlham Institute's research on the Norwich Research Park can be applied to fields, farms and industries from Norfolk to Vietnam, with high-tech and sustainable outcomes to increase yields, prevent losses and sustain environmental health and biological diversity. Its collaborations include both local farmers and researchers spanning six continents, allowing it to expand its impact on an international scale. Experts are tackling issues that affect not only UK agriculture but have a significant impact around the world.

"With all the other plant biologists around us, it made absolute sense for us to be here"

SIMON SAXBY,
CEO, LEAF EXPRESSION SYSTEMS

Norwich Research Park

The Norfolk & Suffolk region leads the UK in agriculture and food, employing 80,000 people. Businesses, research and support extends from plant biotechnology and food and drink production to agricultural machinery, inputs and expertise. They are supported by the Agri-Tech East membership organisation and the Agri-food Tech Sector Skills Plan.

Our scientists are working at the leading edge of new discoveries and technologies, in areas such as precision farming, animal health, crop disease control and prevention, and food in human health. They are commercialising the latest knowledge in gene editing, AI, data science, robotics and marine science, supported by world-class research institutions on the Norwich Research Park, including the John Innes Centre, Earlham Institute, The Sainsbury Laboratory and Quadram Institute.

With our large and progressive farming sector behind them, food and drink providers have chosen Norfolk & Suffolk to produce a wide range of products including sugar, sauces, flavourings, snacks, meats, seafood, malt, beer and cider, as well as ingredients, packaging and refrigeration. Through the Port of Felixstowe, we are well placed for efficient international supply chains.

Agriculture is changing fast and our companies are helping. Our region is home to innovators in farm machinery, harvesting, drones, animal health, fertilisers, petfood, seed and crop management.

We are open *to agri-food*

Delicious produce and world-leading innovation

Norfolk & Suffolk's mix of food science experts and quality producers means our region is a hotbed of exciting new products and developments.

Investing here will give your business the advantage. Profit from a community of fast-growing knowledge intensive businesses and supportive networks, while experiencing lower costs of doing business and excellent connectivity.

New businesses survive and thrive here better than across the UK as a whole. High-growth firms flourish in particular, with 43% growth since 2012, significantly out-pacing both the East of England region (23%) and the UK (12%).

The businesses of the future are being created right here, with leading innovation centres in our urban centres of Norwich and Ipswich, both among the top 10 fastest growing city economies in the UK. The region attracts significant global investment with multinational companies alongside smaller businesses and start-ups.



Funding supports banana genome editing project

Scientists in Norwich are embarking on a project to help banana growers keep their produce fresh for longer and make them more resistant to disease.

Supported by funding from the Eastern Agri-Tech scheme, researchers at Tropic Biosciences on Norwich Research Park are using genome editing techniques to create the new characteristics in the Cavendish variety of banana, which accounts for 99% of global exports.

We are open to innovation



Growth for coffee firm

Scott Russell, founder and CEO of Suffolk-based business Paddy & Scott's, a craft coffee pioneer, has global ambitions.

"Our business is about fuelling ambitions," he said. "It started off in my garage with a £2,000 roaster, and it was not that long ago that I decided to take the business international."



open
to your business

Unlimited space, talent and opportunities. What more could you want for your business? Norfolk & Suffolk has a great talent pool, a wealth of high-tech assets and excellent connections to the rest of the UK and beyond. And a great team ready to throw open its doors and support your business.

Here in one of the fastest growing regions in the UK, we're pioneers in food and drink production.

Norfolk & Suffolk is a fantastic location for food and drink businesses. With space to grow, great regional and international transport connections and a well-developed network of business support and advice, it's no surprise that our region's firms flourish.

We have a network of dedicated specialists that can offer advice, support and financial assistance to help you grow a successful business and unlock new opportunities. The team can help you identify funding opportunities and support your business to grow and expand.

Norfolk & Suffolk offers an unbeatably affordable yet high quality of life that will attract top staff and help you to retain them. With lively towns and cities, and beautiful coasts and countryside, our region has all that any workforce could want.

With a growing population, Norfolk & Suffolk is planning ahead for the future skills requirements of our emerging technology-based agri-food sector. With our businesses, universities and colleges we have created skills plans for each key sector.

In addition to our homegrown talent, we actively seek to attract and retain highly skilled people to support the sustainable growth of businesses located here.



Supporting
business growth

The Norfolk & Suffolk Unlimited team helps businesses move to and expand into the area. Our aim is to support the creation of well paid jobs and drive economic growth. Whether you're a small business or a global company, our experts can help you realise your relocation and development ambitions. Contact us to talk about:

- Relocation and expansion plans
- Commercial property
- Economic data
- Sector specific information
- Access to finance, including grants and funding
- Introductions to business networks and supply chain partners
- Skills and training providers.

Visit: norfolksuffolkunlimited.co.uk

Call: **+44 (0)1603 510070**

Email: info@norfolksuffolkunlimited.co.uk

We are open to your business



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We are *open* to you

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