

QE CLASS AIRCRAFT CARRIER

The Queen Elizabeth (QE) Class aircraft carriers will be the biggest warships ever constructed in the UK, each providing our armed forces with a four acre military operating base, which can be deployed worldwide.



The ships will be versatile enough to be used for operations by all three sectors of the armed forces, ranging from supporting war efforts to providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

With its complement of embarked aircraft the QE Class will be the centre piece of Britain's military capability and will be able to operate for long periods anywhere around the world at a time and place of the Government's choosing, without relying on basing aircraft ashore in other countries.

Programme

BAE Systems is a member of the Aircraft Carrier Alliance, a unique partnering agreement between BAE Systems, Babcock, Thales and the UK Ministry of Defence, working to deliver the two QE Class aircraft carriers.

We provide overall leadership and programme management to the QE Class, and have played a central role in the design of the ships. Responsible for the construction and outfitting of four large sections of the hull, as well as the island structures that house the bridge and air traffic control facilities, construction is well underway at our facilities at Glasgow and Portsmouth. BAE Systems is also responsible for the design, manufacture and integration of the mission system for the carriers, which enables all parties to operate cohesively within the battle space.

Weapons and sensors

Mission systems complex	
Artisan 3D medium range radar	1
S1850m long range radar	2
Navigation radar	
Highly mechanised weapon handling system	
Phalanx automated close-in weapons systems	3
30mm guns & mini guns to counter seaborne threats	

Mission capability

Capacity to accommodate up to 40 aircraft	4
280m flight deck, capable of landing Chinook and Merlin helicopters	5
Aviation store	
Hangar, capable of accommodating and maintaining fixed and rotary wing aircraft	
Aircraft lifts (forward and aft)	6

Mission system complex

Incorporating:
[Information system](#)
[Networks and bearers](#)
[Combat system](#)
[Air traffic control](#)
[Air management systems](#)
[Communication systems](#)
 BAE Systems produced equipment

Propulsion

2 x Rolls Royce MT30 gas turbines	
4 x Wartsila diesel generator sets	
2 x 33 tonne propellers	
4 x advanced induction motors	

Accommodation

Accommodation for 1,600 personnel
 Dedicated accommodation and facilities for embarked forces

Hospital area incorporating eight bed medical suite, operating theatre and dental surgery

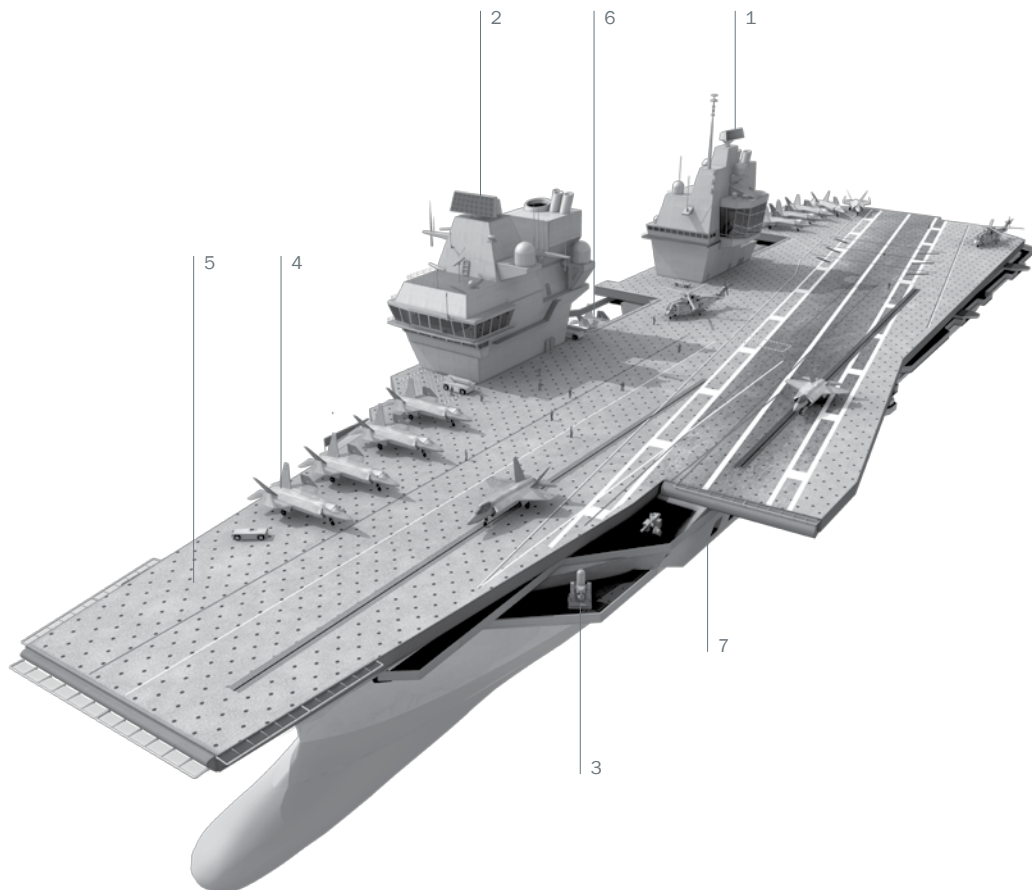
Recreational facilities including fitness suites and cinema

Main dimensions

Displacement	65,000 tonnes
Length	280 metres
Maximum beam	70 metres
Crew size	679
Embarked forces	up to 921

Performance

Top speed	25 knots
Range	10,000 miles



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