B-Hive Living

"Living and working in the Motorsport Valley"

A mini guide for motorsport professionals and enthusiasts interested in living and working in motorsport in Oxfordshire.

CONTENT

This mini guide of the Motorsport Valley was created to inspire a new generation of motorsport professionals and guide anyone interested in living and working in motorsport in Oxfordshire.

B-Hive Living – a premium operator of co-living spaces, serving the motorsport community locally has produced this guide in partnership with a number of local actors who know the valley best.



MOTORSPORT VALLEY®

Also known as Silicon Fen, Motorsport Valley® refers to the cluster of firms based around Oxfordshire and the Midlands involved in supplying cutting-edge technology to Formula One, Formula E and many other motorsport sectors. They dominate the design and manufacture of components used in the majority of the world's racing categories today.

The valley is also home to some of the world's biggest and most recognised racing teams. It's within the geography of this valley that science and technology take the forefront in pioneering the next big innovations in motorsports.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MOTORSPORT VALLEY®

4,300

Motorsport Valley has around 4,300 companies that employ over 41,000 people. That's a good-sized town in motorsport alone.

£9 Billion

Motorsport in the UK has a turnover of £9 billion (as of 2019), which has more than doubled in the past twenty years.

90%

Nearly 90% of the motorsport companies in the UK export overseas and the majority of this economic activity takes place in the Motorsport Valley®.

15 -

15 different universities in the UK offer motorsport engineering as a specific course, and these universities are clustered around the Motorsport Valley®

25%-30%

Motorsport Valley companies spend a colossal amount on R&D at around 25-30% of their turnover – that's even more than the pharmaceutical industry (which spends 15%).



THE BIG PLAYERS FORMULA ONE

Welcome to the biggest hub of motor racing in the world: the Motorsport Valley®

Get a glimpse of some of the major companies and teams at the forefront of motorsports which are based at the valley.

THE BIG PLAYERS FORMULA ONE

AMG PETRONAS FORMULA ONE TEAM

ASTON MARTIN REDBULL RACING

MCLAREN

RENAULT

SPORT

WILLIAMS

Brackley, Northamptonshire

For Formula 1 fans, the name Mercedes has become synonymous with victory. Mercedes has become one of the most successful teams in recent Formula One history, having achieved consecutive Drivers' and Constructors' Championships from 2014 to 2018.

Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

Owned by beverage company Red Bull GmbH, the popular marketing line associated with the brand - Red Bull gives you wings- seems to have been put into practice on track with the team dominating race weekends and making their way into several podium finishes.

Woking, Surrey

The McLaren Formula 1 team has been one of the most successful teams in the sport's history. Since the team's inception in 1966, they have won 182 races, 12 Drivers' Championships and 8 Constructors' Championships.

Enstone, Oxfordshire

French auto car maker Renault is currently involved in Formula One as a constructor, under the name of Renault F1 Team. They have been associated with Formula One as both constructor and engine supplier for various periods since 1977.

Grove, Oxfordshire

Founded in 1977, the team has racked up several Grand Prix wins and championship glory. The team has also nurtured some of the greatest talents in the sport including Nigel Mansell, Jenson Button, Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna.

BWT RACING TEAM

Silverstone, Northamptonshire

Having the team's base established a stone's throw away from the legendary British racing circuit Silverstone, Racing Point F1 steadily established themselves as a midfield force under the Force India name since 2007.

THE BIG PLAYERS FORMULA E

ENVISION VIRGIN RACING

Silvertsone, Northamptonshire

Based on prime real estate at Silverstone, the team has been an active competitor in the ABB FIA Formula E Championship since its very inception. Virgin Racing became Envision Virgin Racing for the 2018/19 season after partnering with a digital energy company: Envision Group.



Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

Having joined the ABB FIA Formula E Championship in 2016, the Panasonic Jaguar Racing team is ready to head into its third season in the series with its new Gen2 Jaguar I-TYPE 3.

NIO FORMULA E TEAM

Woking, Surrey

The NIO Formula E Team is the racing arm of Chinese car maker NIO, and the evolution of Team China Racing. The team secured the inaugural FIA Formula E Drivers' Championship in 2015.

DID YOU KNOW?

With 54kWh of usable energy, the Gen2 Formula E battery could power an average British household for more than 4 days!

THE BIG AUTOMOTIVE COMPANIES & SUPPLIERS



Gaydon, Warwickshire

Founded in 1913 by Lionel Martin and Robert Bamford, Aston Martin is primarily associated with the manufacturing of grand tourers and luxury sports cars. Their cars are regarded as a British cultural icon.



Cowley, Southeast Oxford

MINI is a British automotive marque owned by BMW since 2000 and is responsible for pioneering the Mini Cooper – one of the most legendary small cars in automotive history. Their main plant is located right outside Oxford.



Whitley, Coventry

Founded in 1933 by William Lyons, Jaguar is an iconic British manufacturer and the name behind some of history's most legendary cars like the Type-E. Its operations were completely merged with Land Rover to form the Jaguar Land Rover company.



Crewe, Cheshire

Bentley is a British manufacturer and marketer of luxury cars and SUVs, founded in 1919 by W.O. Bentley and H.M. Bentley. The company claims to have one clear aim – to create extraordinary cars for extraordinary customers.



Banbury, Oxfordshire

Prodrive is a well-known British motorsport group that designs, constructs and races cars for companies and teams such as Aston Martin, Mini and Volkswagen. Prodrive first became well known for its involvement with the Subaru World Rally Team, developing championship-winning cars for Colin McRae and Richard Burns. LEADING FROM THE FUTURE

3 TECH TRENDS TO WATCH IN MOTOSPORT

With teams scrambling to find the best way to make their machines faster, here are 3 tech trends to put you up to date on what's happening in the world of motorsports

3 TECH TRENDS TO WATCH IN MOTORSPORT



Simulation & Al

Simulation & Al allows having a virtual "third car" running at the factory and brings with it the ability to test a component without physically manufacturing it, allowing engineers and designers to identify an improvement which could bring the decisive victory in the real world!



Single Motor (Formula E)

So far, manufacturers have had freedom of choice over how many motors they could use in the Formula E car. However, a single motor restriction would mean a host of other changes and improvements within the car.



Aero and Downforce (Formula 1)

One of the most frequent changes in F1 are design changes that affect aerodynamics. Teams look to continually improve on-track performance, and changes like introducing a pair of winglets that help draw air more efficiently are a common sight on an F1 car.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rear view mirrors were first introduced in motorsports for drivers to have a view of the opponents approaching them. They have since made their way to commercial vehicles as a basic safety feature.

LIVING & WORKING IN THE VALLEY

If you're looking to make the move to Oxfordshire to pursue a fulfilling career in the world of motorsports, here's some essential information that might help you out.

THE DREAM JOBS UNIQUE JOBS IN FORMULA 1

Formula 1 is the pinnacle of motorsport racing, and brings along with it some exciting career opportunities.

Here are some unique jobs with major teams you could expect in this industry:

Aerodynamic Surface Designer

This role primarily involves creating new aerodynamic surface concepts for F1 teams, while helping the team continually develop and improve methodologies and capabilities in order to give them that extra competitive edge on field.

Lead Test Engineer

The role focuses on testing, quality assurance and control of the interconnected software and electronics systems, while ensuring all relevant documentation is safely stored and easily accessible should problems arise.

Composite Inspector

The role involves detailed inspection of complex and critical race car components and assemblies; ensuring that every part component is produced with the right quality during the manufacturing process for final inspection.

HOW TO GET INTO MOTORSPORT



Coventry University

With extensive links to automotive powehouses like Jaguar Land Rover and Lotus, Coventry University has a long and prestigious automotive heritage. They offer motorsport engineering courses accredited by the Institute of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).

THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Warwick University

Warwick is one of the top universities that teaches automotive engineering at under and post-graduate level. The university has even its own full-fledged racing club which aims to give aspiring students and drivers valuable practical exposure.

OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY

Oxford Brookes University

The university offers a BEng (Hons) in Motorsport Engineering that is accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). The university also offers a Motorsport Engineering MSc.

UNIVERSITY of Central LANCASHIRE

University of Central Lancashire

The university aims to offer plenty of practical exposure by giving students the opportunity to work on Formula Ford cars from the first year. Students also actively work in groups on the design and build of a Formula Student race-car.



University of Derby

The university offers exciting practical experience with track days and a chance to participate in the Formula Student competition. The university has on offer bachelors as well as postgraduate courses for Motorsports Engineering.



Oxfordshire can be an expensive place to live. Its proximity to London, major industries and one of the world's top universities all add to the cost of living here. However, this increased cost comes with its benefits like abundant career opportunities and a good standard of living.









En-Suite Double Bedroom **£650 – £850**

Contained Studio **£800 – £1000**

Takeout Meal **£8 – £15**

Regular Cappuccino **£2.50 – £3.25**

One-Way

Ticket **£2 – £2.80**

An en-suite double bedroom in Oxfordshire costs anywhere between £650 – £850 while a self contained studio costs between £800-£1000. A one-way ticket of local transportation anywhere between £2.00 - 2.80. A regular take out cappuccino between £2.50 - 3.25, and a take out meal between £ 8.00 -15.00.

At B-Hive Living, we are here to help you by providing medium to long-term rental contracts at outstanding living spaces with several unique amenities: stylish en-suite units, regular events, serviced cleaning and access to a curated international community of like-minded motorsport professionals and enthusiasts.

(Source: https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Oxford)

BEHIND THE SCENES

Thousands of men and women work tirelessly in Motorsport Valley to make one of the most technically advanced sports known to mankind a reality. Here we give you an insider's view of what it's like to be living and working in the valley.



Xabier Romero

"Motorsport Valley is a unique location for F1 with the Silverstone circuit at its heart. A fast-paced and rewarding work environment contrasts well with the lifestyle of an area with unique local amenities, relaxed life n the countryside and an easy reach to the never stopping London!"

Engineer at Mercedes-AMG Petronas F1 and a B-Hive Living resident



Mátyás Nagy

"No matter where you live in Oxfordshire, 7 out of the 10 Formula 1 teams are within an hour's drive. The majority of Formula E teams as well as many F2, F3, GT3 teams and their suppliers are based here too. If you're looking to work in the motorsport sector, Oxfordshire is definitely the best area to do so!"

Motorsport Engineer and a B-Hive Living resident

HOW CAN WE HELP? ABOUT THE AUTHOR



B-Hive Living is an operator of private rental co-living homes re-defining shared living for a new generation of entrepreneurs and professionals in Oxfordshire and internationally.

Beyond mere accommodation, our homes offer a dynamic and life-enriching experience through well-designed areas and a calendar of social and cultural activities to foster connection, boost creativity and enable a positive, healthier and more fullfilling lifestyle.

If you are looking to join a vibrant community of likeminded motorsport professionals and enthusiasts please reach out on +44 (0) 333 577 1088 or info@b-hiveliving.com.



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