

4 May 2016

Last few tickets available for Open Cockpits Evening

Date: 13-14 May 2016

Time: 6.00pm to 9.00pm

Cost: £12.50 per person

Tickets to the popular Open Cockpits Evening event taking place at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford next weekend are almost sold out. Less than 70 tickets are available for the event on Friday 13 May and all tickets for Saturday 14 May have now gone.

With new aircraft recently added to the line-up, the evening is packed with a mix of modern jets and nostalgic wartime aircraft, meaning there is something to please aviation enthusiasts young and old. The new line-up includes the **Folland Gnat F1** - the forerunner of the Gnat T1 trainer which achieved fame with the 'Red Arrows' aerobatic team. It was also used by the Finnish Air Force and the Indian Air Force with whom it was successful in combat in the 1965 and 1971 wars against Pakistan, becoming known as the 'Sabre slayer' for its success in downing Pakistan Air Force Sabres. Also new to the line-up is the **Hawker Hunter nose section** - part of an aircraft that served on the front line of the Cold War in RAF Germany from 1955 to 1957 and the **FMA 1A58 Pucara** - flown by Argentina's military government during the 1982 Falklands conflict.

With fifteen historic aircraft available for a close viewing both evenings, aviation fans who would like to climb on board are encouraged to purchase their tickets soon, before they sell out. Admission on the evening is by advance ticket only which are available to purchase via the museum's website www.rafmuseum.org/cosford, where you can also view a full list of aircraft open on the night.

Visitors will have exclusive after-hours access to the museum which displays a collection of over 75 aircraft, military vehicles, engines and aviation artefacts within three wartime hangars and the National Cold War Exhibition. To ensure visitors get the most out of this unique experience, the museum's team of volunteers will be on hand to talk through the aircraft controls and answer any questions they may have.

The museum will close at 5.00pm both days, however the Visitor Centre and Refuel Restaurant will remain open for visitors attending the evening event which commences at 6.00pm and finishes at 9.00pm. Tickets cost £12.50 per person which includes parking. Minimum height restrictions of 1.07 metres will apply.

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

Aircraft available for close viewing on 13-14 May (subject to change) include:

- Hawker Hunter nose section
- FMA 1A58 Pucara
- Folland Gnat F1
- Hawker Siddeley Dominie T.Mk.1
- Scottish Aviation Jetstream T Mk1

- Junkers Ju52/3M (CASA 352L)
- Vickers Varsity T Mk I
- de Havilland Chipmunk
- British Aircraft Corporation TSR2 (view only)
- Bristol Type 188
- Fairey FD2
- Short Brothers Belfast
- Handley Page Hastings
- Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-15bis
- Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG 21PF (view only)
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- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org
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