

Concorde

Concorde was a project run jointly between Anglo-French aircraft corporations to develop a supersonic passenger jet capable of flying across the Atlantic in three-and-a-half hours.

Engineered in the 1960s and 70s it incorporated a delta wing design and distinctive dipping nose cone, developed to maximise lift and high-speed flight. Concorde had a cruising speed of 1,350 mph, more than twice the speed of sound, while breaking the sound barrier at 760 mph caused a loud 'sonic boom' which restricted its speed over built up areas. Concorde was brought into service in 1976 but a crash in Paris in 2000 restricted its use and damaged its reputation and it was finally withdrawn from service in 2003.

Examples can be seen at several sites in the UK including Runway Visitor Park, Manchester; Imperial War Museum, Duxford in Cambridgeshire, and at Aerospace Bristol, where Concorde 002 was originally built.