

Advanced manufacturing related to defence

Port Stephens



Location snapshot



Close to RAAF Base Williamtown



Available industrial-zoned lands



Proximity to Port of Newcastle and Newcastle Airport



Support from Hunter Defence network



Large and qualified workforce

Defence innovation hub

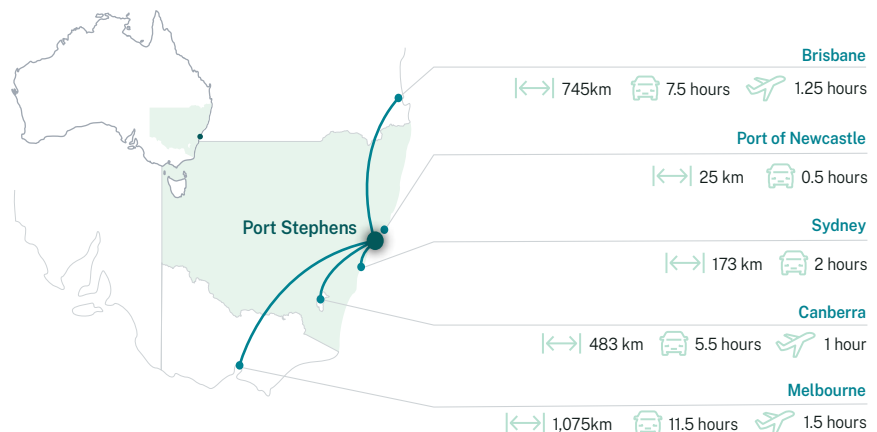
Port Stephens is an ideal location for manufacturing related to Defence. The region is home to Australia's premier jet fighter base and has a sophisticated aerospace and aviation support network. The region also hosts defence primes including BAE Systems, Thales, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon, as well as an operations and training base for the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

Businesses in the region are supported by Hunter Defence who provides advocacy, training, and networking opportunities in the industry.

Connected

Port Stephens is only 2 hours from Sydney and immediately north of Newcastle. The location just off the Pacific Highway – which connects Brisbane and Sydney – ensures strong road connectivity, and the Main North Railway Line provides excellent passenger and freight rail connections.

The region is home to Newcastle Airport, providing daily flights to Australia's major markets. This, coupled with the nearby Port of Newcastle (the largest bulk shipping port on the Australian East Coast), ensures the region is truly an international trade gateway.



About Port Stephens



\$986 million

in value add by the local Defence, Aviation and Aerospace sector



185,000

strong workforce within 1-hour drive



2 hours

north of Sydney by road

Choice of location

Port Stephens has a range of industrial land, depending on the requirements of your business. Key industrial land is provided at Heatherbrae and Tomago, where vacant and infill E4 General Industrial zoned sites are available.

Serviced industrial and commercial land close to Newcastle Airport is also available, including office and industrial build-to-spec options for lease.

Workforce

A large workforce of 185,000 resides within a 1-hour drive of Port Stephens. This workforce specialises in manufacturing, with nearly 11,000 workers employed across the sector. Furthermore, globally-ranked University of Newcastle provides a strong graduate pipeline of 35,000 students.

Also helping to feed this future workforce pipeline is the Port Stephens P-Tech program (Pathways in Technology), which provides pathways for students into advanced manufacturing, mechanical engineering and aviation.

Industry outlook

Driven by a national agenda to ensure sovereign capability, the Australian Defence sector is expected to grow at an average annual rate of 3.2 percent between 2022-2027, to over \$47 billion in annual expenditure. Exports for the Australian defence sector are strong, at around \$1.5–\$2.5 billion a year.

Enviably lifestyle

From powder-soft sands to turquoise waters, Port Stephens' picturesque location is complemented by world-class health and education facilities, and a flourishing food, arts and culture scene.

The liveability of Port Stephens provides a competitive edge for businesses when recruiting highly skilled staff, who can enjoy an enviable lifestyle just a short drive from Sydney and a short flight from Brisbane and Melbourne.



For further information

Contact us

Phone: 1300 679 673

Email: info@investregional.nsw.gov.au

www.investregionalnsw.gov.au