



Key facts about the Queen Elizabeth Class

The QE Class Aircraft Carriers will be the largest surface warships ever constructed for the UK and represent a step change in joint capability

The ships will be 65,000 tonnes at full displacement - over three times the size of the Invincible Class aircraft carriers

Length: 280m - 90m longer than the existing aircraft carrier

Width: 70m - twice the width of the existing aircraft carrier

Range; 8,000 to 10,000 nautical miles

The first ship, HMS Queen Elizabeth is due to enter service in 2020

Each ship has two propellers which together will output some 80MW of power - enough to run 1,000 family cars or 50 high speed trains

56m from keel to masthead, which is four metres taller than Niagara Falls!

The distribution network on board will manage enough energy to power 300,000 kettles or 5,500 family homes

Each ship requires 1.5 million m² of paintwork, which is 370 acres or slightly more than acreage of Hyde Park

Each ship's two propellers will weigh 33 tonnes each - nearly two and half times as heavy as a double decker bus and one and half times as high

Each of the two huge aircraft lifts can move two Joint Strike Fighters from the hangar to the flight deck in 60 seconds. They're so powerful that together they could lift the entire ship's crew

Each of the QE Class aircraft carriers can take up to 40 aircraft, both rotary and fixed wing. It is predicted they will routinely operate with 12 Joint Strike Fighters

Weapons: Designed to receive the latest generation of the Phalanx close-in weapon system for defence of the vessel. Each ship is also designed to receive 30mm guns and mini-guns located to counter asymmetric threats

Power: 2 x Rolls-Royce MT30 Gas Turbines and 4 x Diesel Generator Sets giving total installed power of 109MWe

110MW power station on board each ship - that's enough to provide all of Portsea Island with power

The anchors will be 3.1m high, each weighing 13 tonnes - almost as much as a double decker bus

The ships on-board water treatment plant will produce over 500 tonnes of fresh water daily

£1.6BN worth of sub contracts for work on the QE Class have now been placed with companies across most regions in the UK