

Food & Drink in the South East Region

A 'bounce back' plan of trade measures for the agriculture, food and drink industry has been announced to help support businesses that have been impacted by coronavirus.

The new strategic interventions jointly announced by the Department for International Trade (DIT) and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) will offer immediate support to help businesses in the industry grow their trade activity overseas and allow them to capitalise on trade agreements with Japan, US, Australia, and New Zealand.

To find out more please visit: www.great.gov.uk/campaigns/agriculture-food-and-drink-support.

About the Region

The South East region employs 25,000 people in food and drink manufacturing sector and the value of exports in the agri-food sector increased by 5.3% in 2019.

- **Top Export Partners: Ireland, Netherlands, France**
- **Percentage of total UK agri-food exports 2019: 6.8 %**
- **Agri-Food Exports (2019): £1,602m**

Free Trade Agreements (FTA): A UK-US FTA presents an opportunity to reduce tariffs on beef exports which are currently up to 26%.

Sources: ONS Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2018

Food and Drink Industry

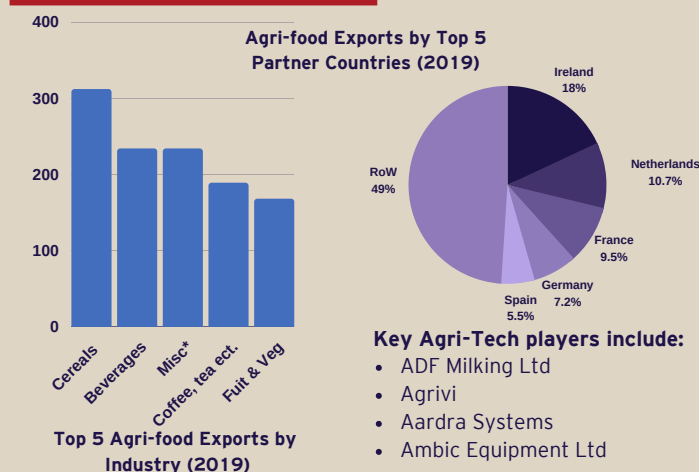
The South East region is famous for its English sparkling wine, craft beers, gin innovative & speciality ambient snacks, premium & gourmet foods and free-from, natural & organic foods.

Key food and drink players include:

- Ella's Kitchen
- Twinings
- Conscious Chocolate
- Whittard of Chelsea

Agri-Food Statistics

Source: HMRC Regional Trade Statistics, January to March 2020*



Misc*: this comprises key food items such as sauces, soups, infant food, margarine, and malt extract

Regional Export Champion



"The food & drink sector in Kent & the South East is rich & diverse, and there are many untapped opportunities for export. I am proud to be a part of the food & drink network which will help support other businesses looking to get into, or grow, their export activities."

Laura Bounds - Managing Director, Kent Crisps Ltd

To talk more about how the Department for International Trade can help with your plans for exporting food and drink you can speak to our dedicated regional team by calling +44 (0)330 300 0012, emailing info@tradesoutheast.com or visiting www.great.gov.uk.

*The 'Agri-food' definition is in line with the Defra 'Food, Feed and Drink' (FFD) system of code groupings and includes the following set of 2-digit Standard International Trade Classification divisions: 01 - Meat And Meat Preparations 02 - Dairy Products And Birds' Eggs 03 - Fish And Fish Preparations 04 - Cereals And Cereal Preparations 05 - Vegetables And Fruit 06 - Sugars, Sugar Preparations And Honey 07 - Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Spices Etc. 08 - Feeding Stuff For Animals (Excluding Unmilled Cereals) 09 - Miscellaneous Edible Products 11 - Beverages 22 - Oil Seeds And Oleaginous Fruits 41/42/43 - Oils And Fats