From Coal Capital
To Modern Capital

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Head of Planning
Cardiff Today

- Capital City for Wales
- Driver of the Welsh economy
- City-region population of 1.4 million
- A diverse cultural heritage

Over 100 different nationalities have lived in Cardiff for over 100 years
Cardiff Today

- Top 5 UK shopping destination
- Top 10 UK conference destination
- 12 million visitors last year
- Top 10 UK university (RAE)
- 60,000 students
Roman Cardiff

- Romans invaded Wales in 55AD and built a fort in Cardiff
- In the mid 3rd Century the fort was rebuilt to defend against Irish raiders
- In the 4th Century roman civilisation declined and by the end of the 4th Century the fort was abandoned
Roman walls in Cardiff Castle
Norman Cardiff

- Town of Cardiff was founded when the Normans conquered Glamorgan
- Robert FitzHamon built a wooden castle inside the Roman fort
- Castle rebuilt in the early 12th Century
- Cardiff had a population of 1500 – 2000 in the Middle Ages
Norman keep in Cardiff Castle
Early 1800s

World’s first industrialised region
Industrial Revolution

- Iron and coal found in South Wales valleys
- 1794 Glamorganshire canal built
- 1796 docks built in Cardiff
- 1800 Trevithick – first steam train between Merthyr and Cardiff
- 1839 Taff Vale Railway
1850s - 1900

Connecting Wales to the Global Economy
Victorian Cardiff

- World’s largest exporter of coal
- Cardiff Coal Exchange set the world price for coal
- First £1 million cheque
- 10 million tons of coal exported per annum at Cardiff’s peak
Early 1900s

Global Centre of Commerce

World’s first £1m cheque
Victorian Castle

- Castle redeveloped by Marquis of Bute as a stately home
- Interior designs by Burgess
- Creation of a civic centre
Cardiff Castle
Burgess interior design Cardiff Castle
Early 20th Century

Heavy Industry

1945 – Most productive British steelworks
450,000 ingots per annum
Late 1970s  Economic Decline & Dockland Dereliction
Re-invention: Cardiff Bay
A vision of how things could be different

1987
International Event Capital

Rugby World Cup; FA Cup; 6 Nations Rugby; Heineken Cup Finals; Ashes 1st Test
Cultural investment

2004

Cardiff Millennium Centre
Capital City for Wales

1905: City Status
1955: Capital City Status
2005: Opening of Senedd in Cardiff Bay
A New Parliament for Wales

- 1999 Welsh Parliament established
- First since 1540s
- Powers over health, education, economic development, transport, culture
- No tax raising powers
2009 Ashes Cricket
2010  Ryder Cup
St David’s Shopping Centre
Emergence of the service sector
Cardiff Bay at night
Cardiff Bay: Oval Basin
Millennium Stadium
Cardiff Bay Marina
St Mary Street Pedestrianisation
Cardiff: A Capital Opportunity

Key Priorities

- Business Culture
- Connectivity
- Quality Capital
Key Projects

- Cardiff Enterprise Zone
- Porth Teigr - Media Capital
- International Sports Village
- Mount Stuart Square
- Maindy Park
- Completion of Cardiff Waterside (Cardiff Bay)
International Sports Village
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