

Cloud Power, On-Premise Control: Your Azure Local Journey



Azure Local extends the robust capabilities of Microsoft Azure directly to your data centre, merging the flexibility of the cloud with the physical security of your own infrastructure. This innovative solution offers the best of both worlds: the cutting-edge services of Azure combined with the low latency and data residency inherent in an on-site deployment. It's an ideal choice for organisations that want to innovate at speed without compromising on-site control.

The Challenge: Balancing Modernisation with Reality

In today's fast-paced digital landscape, many organisations find themselves caught between a "cloud-first" ambition and the practical realities of their current environment. You may be facing:

- **Strict Data Residency:** Industry regulations or internal policies that mandate sensitive data must remain physically within a specific geography or on-site.
- **Latency-Sensitive Workloads:** Applications that require immediate response times which traditional cloud connections simply cannot guarantee.
- **Infrastructure Complexity:** Managing aging hardware while trying to adopt modern DevOps practices and containerised applications.
- **Operational Silos:** The difficulty of maintaining two different sets of tools and skills—one for the public cloud and another for the data centre.

5 Key Benefits of Azure Local

- **Optimised Performance:** Achieve ultra-low latency for edge computing and mission-critical local applications.
- **Unified Management:** Manage both cloud and on-premise resources through a single Azure control plane, reducing operational overhead.
- **Enhanced Security:** Benefit from Azure's rigorous security standards applied directly to your physical on-site hardware.
- **Seamless Scalability:** Easily scale your local infrastructure while maintaining a consistent development experience.
- **Guaranteed Residency:** Maintain absolute control over where your data lives, meeting even the strictest compliance requirements.

Our Solution: A Seamless Extension of Azure

Imagine a world where your local data centre is managed with the same ease and elegance as your cloud resources. Insight's Azure Local solution turns this into a reality. We don't just provide hardware; we deliver a custom-designed, fully functioning, and verified Azure Local cluster.

Our expert-led, seven-step approach ensures a smooth transition:

- 1. Strategic Alignment:** We kick off by understanding your specific goals and expectations to ensure the solution fits your business like a glove.
- 2. Custom Cluster Design:** Our specialists analyse your systems to design a bespoke architecture covering everything from high availability to disaster recovery.
- 3. Rigorous Preparation:** We work with you to ensure all server, network, and firewall prerequisites are met before a single cable is plugged in.
- 4. Full-Scale Deployment:** From rack-mounting hardware to configuring the Windows Admin Centre, our team manages the heavy lifting.

- 5. Validation & Testing:** We conduct "live" migration and failover tests to ensure the system is resilient and performs under pressure.

- 6. Empowering Your Team:** We provide comprehensive knowledge transfer, showing you how to manage VMs and download images directly from the Azure Marketplace.

- 7. Complete Handover:** You receive a detailed "as-built" document, serving as a permanent reference for your new environment.

Is This Solution for You?

If you are struggling to bridge the gap between your local infrastructure and the cloud, Azure Local is your answer. It is specifically designed for organisations that need cloud-like agility but cannot move entirely to the public cloud due to connectivity or regulatory constraints. If you want to modernise your applications and simplify management without losing the "premise control" that keeps your business secure, this is the path forward.

Why Insight?

Choosing Insight means partnering with a team that deeply understands the intricacies of hybrid cloud environments. Our commitment to excellence is reflected in our structured deployment methodology, which prioritises clear communication and collaborative effort.

We don't just hand over a system; we ensure your team is fully empowered through comprehensive knowledge transfer and detailed documentation. With Insight, you gain the peace of mind that comes from working with experts who are dedicated to delivering a high-quality deployment that meets your strategic expectations every time.

Ready to bring the power of Azure to your data centre?

Contact your Insight Account Manager

