

# Azure Local by Insight: Cloud Power, On-Premise Control



Azure Local extends the robust capabilities of Microsoft Azure directly to your data center. This innovative solution combines the familiarity of your on-premises infrastructure with Azure's cutting-edge cloud services, offering the best of both worlds. It's an ideal choice for organisations requiring cloud-like agility with the critical benefits of low latency and data residency inherent in an on-site deployment.

## Our Step-by-Step Approach:



### 1. Project Kick-off:

We begin with an initial meeting to introduce our team, understand your strategic goals for Azure Local, and establish clear project expectations. To gather essential details, we'll provide a Cluster Deployment Questionnaire.



### 2. Azure Local Cluster Design:

Our experts will thoroughly analyse your existing systems and collaborate with your team to design a custom Azure Local solution. This comprehensive design phase covers critical aspects such as hardware and network setup, storage planning, security considerations, high availability, disaster recovery, and ongoing monitoring and management. The outcome is a detailed deployment plan, ready for thorough testing and validation.



### 3. Prerequisites Confirmation:

Before any deployment begins, we'll work closely with you to confirm that all necessary server, network, and firewall requirements are in place. We utilise a comprehensive checklist and questionnaire to ensure everything, from physical space and power to IP addresses and Azure subscriptions, is fully prepared.



### 4. Azure Local Cluster Deployment:

Our team manages the entire deployment process. This includes hardware installation (if required, such as rack-mounting and cabling), operating system installation and updates, Windows Admin Center configuration, and the comprehensive setup of your Azure Local cluster, encompassing networking, security, and storage.



### 5. Testing and Validation:

Deployment isn't complete until we've confirmed everything operates flawlessly. This rigorous phase involves physical and logical tests, cluster and network validation, and thorough Azure integration checks. We also conduct live migration and failover testing, along with assessments for security, performance, and scalability. Finally, User Acceptance Testing (UAT) ensures the solution fully meets your operational requirements.



### 6. Knowledge Transfer:

To empower your team, we provide comprehensive knowledge transfer sessions. These demonstrations cover managing your new Azure Local environment via both the Azure control plane and Windows Admin Center, creating and deploying Virtual Machines, downloading images from the Azure Marketplace, and managing workload migration and node updates.



### 7. Solution Handover and Documentation:

Upon project completion, you'll receive a detailed "as-built" document. This essential record outlines the complete configuration of your deployed Azure Local solution, providing a comprehensive reference for your team.



## What's Included & What's Not

Our service focuses specifically on the deployment of your Azure Local cluster.

**In Scope:** Our commitment includes delivering a custom-designed, fully functioning, and verified Azure Local cluster. This encompasses all detailed testing and validation activities, along with comprehensive knowledge transfer and as-built documentation.

**Out of Scope:** Certain services, though often related, fall outside the scope of this specific offering. These commonly requested items include the creation of a Microsoft Azure Landing Zone, modification of Microsoft Active Directory Domain Services (AD DS), migration of existing workloads to the Azure Local environment, and integration with your existing billing or monitoring systems. Decommissioning of old systems, network switch configuration, creation of service catalogues (e.g., VM templates), and integration with Azure services not explicitly mentioned in the design (such as Defender for Cloud, Azure Virtual Desktop, or Azure Backup) are also outside this service's scope.

## Get Started Today!

Ready to bring the power of Azure directly to your data center?

Contact Insight to discuss your specific needs and begin your Azure Local journey!

## Working Together: Roles & Responsibilities

Successful project delivery hinges on clear communication and collaborative effort.

**Insight's Responsibilities:** We are dedicated to delivering all the services and deliverables outlined above, ensuring a high-quality Azure Local deployment that meets your expectations.

**Your Responsibilities:** To ensure a smooth and efficient project, your team's collaboration is essential. This includes providing accurate information about your current environment, completing all agreed-upon prerequisite tasks (e.g., ensuring network ports are open and physical hardware is ready), and designating a single point of contact for queries and concerns. We also rely on your team to make relevant technical staff and stakeholders available for design discussions and reviews, and to review documentation and provide timely feedback (within 5 business days).