Microsoft Azure Discovery Program

Any developer or IT professional can be productive with Azure, Microsoft’s public cloud platform. The integrated tools, pre-built templates and managed services make it easier to build and manage enterprise, mobile, Web and Internet of Things apps faster, using skills you already have and technologies you already know. Some cloud providers make you choose between your datacenter and the cloud. Not Azure, which seamlessly integrates with your existing IT environment. When done right, cloud computing helps organizations to do more and to do it faster by letting them tap into the power of massive datacenters and IT services without having to build, manage or maintain them.

Getting started with and exploring Azure is as easy as it can be: you take out a new Azure subscription (e.g., the free trial) and 10 minutes later, your first virtual machine is up-and-running. It almost seems too easy to be true. Well, actually, that’s right: implementing a hybrid cloud introduces new challenges in terms of identity, security, privacy, network integration, consistency, interoperability, and manageability. It would be wise to consider all these aspects thoroughly right from the very beginning of your Azure project. When taking your first steps in Microsoft Azure, you may find yourself in need of a reliable partner to guide you along the way. RealDolmen can be that partner: our Azure Discovery or Azure Kickstarters program are just what you’re looking for.

Our Discovery approach has 2 phases: the Design phase and the Hands On phase.

The solution blueprint will be the starting point for a future detailed design. If the full picture is to be attained, then a Cloud Roadmap is a better solution for you!

The Proof of Concept or Limited Online Pilot should not be considered as a full installation. The objective is to demonstrate the capabilities of the solution blueprint.

Our Azure Discovery program is split into 8 modules. You are free to customize your Discovery program by picking the modules that are of interest to you:

- **ESSENTIALS:** this module is a prerequisite for all other modules and gives a complete overview of Azure.
- **GOVERNANCE:** this module addresses the setup and governance of your Azure subscriptions.
- **AUTHENTICATION:** this module addresses the challenge of identity in a hybrid cloud context.
- **NETWORKING:** this module discusses several topics related to networking.
- **VIRTUAL MACHINES:** this module discusses the features of virtual machines and some related scenarios.
- **OPERATIONS:** this module shows how to run operations on Azure resources in a hybrid setup.
- **ENTERPRISE:** this module addresses some Enterprise scenarios.
- **APPLICATIONS:** this module discusses some innovative scenarios that can be achieved with Azure Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) components.

Duration: the Essentials module lasts 5 days. The additional modules take 2 days for the Design phase, and 3 days for the Hands On phase.
The table below provides an insight into the topics that are covered in these modules:

**AZURE DISCOVERY KICKSTARTERS**

The Azure Discovery modules are presented in a bespoke package: you pick the modules you want. However, we offer the same content in another, scenario-based approach that we call Azure Kickstarters. Every kickstarter combines the Base module with a selection of items from the other modules, focusing on a specific scenario:

- **FIRST IMMERSION**: learn the basics about Azure’s Infrastructure-as-a-Service offering.
- **DISASTER RECOVERY**: learn the features Azure offers in terms of Disaster Recovery.
- **HYBRID DEV/TEST**: learn how to optimize the cost of your development and test environments by moving them to Azure.
- **ARCHIVING**: explore the possibilities of archiving with Microsoft StorSimple, CommVault and Microsoft Azure.

The table below provides an insight into the module items that are covered in these Azure Kickstarters:

**Duration**: the Azure Kickstarters typically take 3 days for the Design phase and 5 to 10 days for the Hands On phase, depending on the scope of the POC or pilot.