

PRESS RELEASE

Swap the Mobile for Muddy Boots and Head for a Nature Day Out in Norfolk!

[Pensthorpe Natural Park](#) is a 700-acre modern nature reserve and 'open air classroom' making the beauty of the natural world accessible to visitors all year round.

Encouraging contact with nature and inspiring the next generation to understand and protect our beautiful planet is top of the agenda for this attraction with a conscience, which boasts wetlands, wildflower meadow and ancient woodland.

Situated 11 miles inland from the north Norfolk coast and with the beautiful River Wensum winding through it, Pensthorpe Natural Park encourages visitors to explore its diverse habitats and get acquainted with the thousands of bird, plant and wildlife species that call it home. Muddy wellies are encouraged and a sense of adventure is a must!

Plus, developed in 2014 and 2015, are two impressive eco play areas, WildRootz and Hootz House, which have been sympathetically designed taking inspiration from features of the natural world. Think dens, tunnels, streams, towers and zip wires and at 7,000 square-metres in size, these play areas are some of the largest and most architecturally exciting in the country.

Pensthorpe owners Bill and Deb Jordan, who founded Jordans Cereals, believe passionately in the power of nature and its ability to generate wellbeing. Their conscientious approach means that the park is not only seen as an exercise in conservation, being home to the Pensthorpe Conservation Trust, but it's an opportunity to excite future generations about nature plus protect green spaces.

In a return to the simple values of outdoor play, **new for 2018** is the Wetland Discovery Area, an introduction to life within the wetlands. Find out how this ecosystem works and who lives here, plus get involved in some serious pond dipping! *Opens July.*

Also **new for 2018** is the opening of an extra-large bird hide with expansive viewing panels, more seating and room enough to accommodate an entire class of students. The hide overlooks a newly created wetland area, and is the first time Pensthorpe has opened a new part of the reserve to visitors for over a decade! *Opens April 5th*.

Venture further into the reserve by following the woodland walks and boardwalks whilst beady eyed visitors can follow the Stamp Trail and Sculpture Trail. Armed with trail guides, explorers will weave through the reserve learning about ponds, wildlife, rivers, wetlands and migration as they play!

Ever wondered what it's like to be a Pensthorpe Warden? Then join the Daily Bird Feeds! Enjoy from the comfort of the viewing gallery and discover what birds live on or visit the expansive Mill Pond and lakes at Pensthorpe. Take the opportunity to ask the experts about ways to encourage wildlife in to your garden too!

For those who love animals a visit to the Pensthorpe Conservation Centre is a must. The Conservation Trust, which is based on-site, is a leading force in the research, breeding and reintroduction of rare and protected species. Visitors can see some of the very special animals who are part of this programme such as the super cute Red Squirrels and the majestic Eurasian Cranes; species that, thanks to Pensthorpe's efforts, face a better chance of survival once reintroduced in the wild.

Some of the cutest and cuddliest residents of Pensthorpe appear during April and June as 'duckling and chick season' appears along with the start of spring. Ducklings waddling behind their mothers, crane chicks learning to walk and the birth of a new litter of red squirrel kittens have become real highlights for visitors as the reserve celebrates new characters springing to life!

For families wanting to encourage wildlife into their own gardens at home, the Wildlife Habitat Garden is full of ideas. Find out which species of plant attract insects such as butterflies and bees and discover ways to make your own outside space more appealing to creatures such as Amphibians and Bats!

For the best way to see behind the scenes at the reserve visitors can book a place on the Pensthorpe Explorer*. Hop into the Land Rover and Trailer for an 'off road' exploration of the reserve to find out areas of interest, learn about the Pensthorpe history and go wildlife spotting!

Pensthorpe is a fantastic day out for families who share owners Bill and Deb's passion for protecting our beautiful planet and love spending time outdoors!

Family Events for 2018

Home Tweet Home – 10th to 18th February

Who lives in a house like this? Celebrate National Nest Box Week by exploring the Pensthorpe nest box trail and discovering how you can encourage birds to nest in your garden. Included in entry price.

Easter Eggstravaganza – 29th March to 15th April

An eggciting Easter trail awaits! Plus join in with some family craft-making activities and create an Easter-inspired treat to take home! Included in entry price.

Wild About the Wensum – 12th May

This special community day is aimed at encouraging young families to get outdoors and embrace the delights of nature. The reserve will be joined by a well-known TV presenter and naturalist on the day. Included in entry price.

Summer Days – 25th July to 5th September

Spend summer days outdoors and get closer to nature with den-building, craft making, pond-dipping and nature trail following! Included in entry price.

Trick or Tweet – 18th to 28th October

Discover the grim and gruesome side of nature this half term including spooky craft-making and a creepy crawly trail to get you in the mood for a 'spooktacular' day! Included in entry price.

A Winter's Tail – 19th December 2018 – 1st January 2019

Learn enchanting stories about the animals that tuck themselves away for a long winter's sleep or decide to migrate to a warmer climate or even adapt to bare the cold, wintery weather. Included in entry price.

For more information about Pensthorpe visit pensthorpe.com or call 01328 851465.

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Editors Notes

*The Pensthorpe Explorer is a seasonal attraction and carries an additional charge to the entry fee. Adults & Seniors: £5.00, Children: £4.00, Annual Members: £4.50. The Pensthorpe Explorer starts 27th March until the end of September. Limited capacity. Unsuitable for wheelchair users.

Pensthorpe Natural Park is on the A1067, one mile from Fakenham and just over 20 miles from the city of Norwich. Open all year, 1st January – 28th February 10am – 4pm, and 1st March – 31st December 10am to 5pm. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Entry prices: Adults £11.95, Seniors £10.95, Children £10.95, Under 3's free. Annual Members are free. Parking is free.

£3 off per person during Winter (January and February).

Online booking discount of £1 per person applies to tickets booked in advance (except during winter pricing).

For more information, images or press passes please contact Rachael Shakespeare on rachael@rs-pr.co.uk or 07833 940 000.