

media information



Blenheim Palace
Woodstock
Oxfordshire
OX20 1PX

February 2010

BP PR 1 2010

■ **BLENHEIM PALACE SPECIAL EVENTS 2010**

SPRING

13th February

Blenheim Palace opens for the new season

13th Feb - 28th March

Garden of the Year Award

Sponsored by Christie's and Historic Houses Association

25th Anniversary Photographic Competition and Exhibition

Blenheim Palace is proud winner of the 2008 HHA/Christie's Garden of the Year Award. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the award, HHA and Christie's have commissioned a professional photography competition and exhibition to feature the winning gardens of the last 25 years, to be displayed at Christie's in November. Blenheim Palace is delighted to host this fabulous photographic exhibition for six weeks from the open of the new season. **PPG**

2nd - 5th April
Easter Weekend

A Hare-Brained Easter Hunt!

Join in the family fun with the annual Easter Egg Challenge at Blenheim Palace, including face painting. Follow the trails of clues around the beautiful Pleasure Gardens; will they be in the Marlborough Maze, Butterfly House or the Blenheim Bygones exhibition? Complete the hunt and you will receive a prize. **P&G**

11th April

Orvis Fly-Fishing Fair

Come and have a go at fly-fishing at the Blenheim Palace Trout Fishery in Blenheim Park. Enjoy a full programme of fly-fishing with the Orvis Pro-Guide Team, and beginners can enjoy demonstrations and free casting tutorials. Orvis Fly-Fishing Tackle will be available to hire or purchase at the marquee including professional tips and advice from instructors. Enjoy a BBQ and family activities including falconry and archery.

1st - 3rd May
May Bank Holiday

Jousting Tournament featuring “The Knights of Royal England”
Gallant Knights and their mighty steeds will meet at Blenheim Palace to battle for glory in a spectacular jousting tournament. The weekend will be packed with action and entertainment including falconry displays and knights charging in the traditional tilt and battling on foot with the mighty mace. **P&G**

15th May

Girl Guiding Centenary Event
Over 6,000 guides parading in this unique event

23rd May

Aston Martin Owners Club 75th Anniversary Spring Concours
The highlight of the International weekend, will it break the record with the most ever Astons to attend a club event anywhere in the world?

SUMMER

29th - 31st May
Whitsun Holiday

“Art, Design and a Taste of Summer”
Quality art, design and craft come together with the very best hand-picked specialty food and drink, combine to bring together a summer show not to be missed.
Advance tickets available Visit www.livingcrafts.co.uk **P&G**

5th-6th June

Blenheim Triathlon
The setting of Blenheim Palace is the most scenic triathlon with a safe environment as all roads are closed. So come along and watch sports men and women taking part in the second largest triathlon in the UK.
The Palace will be open for tours throughout the day.
Visit www.theblenheimtriathlon.com
NB Please note that activity takes place within the Great Court and therefore admission procedures could be affected. P&G

9th - 12th & 14th - 19th June

The Oxford School of Drama
A summer Shakespearean production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *The Comedy of Errors*. (performed alternate days). These classic dramas are set in the glorious surroundings of The Pleasure Gardens. *Separate admissions apply*. (No performances on Sunday).
Visit www.blenheimpalace.com to purchase tickets

12th June

Junior Sculling Regatta
This inaugural event is aimed at juniors of 13 and below to offer a chance to compete in a series of 500m multi-lane races.

17th July

Battle Proms Concert
The ever-popular Battle Proms at Blenheim Palace is the ultimate summer event, with something for everyone: a stunning setting, rousing classical favourites, breathtaking spitfire fly-over, bold cavalry and infantrymen, and of course the thunderous cannons and fireworks!
Visit www.battleproms.com *Separate admission prices apply.*

- 6th - 8th August **Jousting Tournament featuring “The Knights of Royal England”**
Brave knights meet on the South Lawn and enjoy the activities including archery and falconry displays. **P&G**
- 21st - 22nd August **Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club
Championship Dog Show**
- 29th - 30th August
August Bank Holiday **Classic Car Show**
A spectacular gathering of classic cars from vintage through to kit and custom cars. This is a great day out for all classic car enthusiasts. **P&G**
- 9th - 12th September **Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials**
The Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials is one of the world’s premier three-star three-day events. Cross Country is on two days and set in the magnificent grounds of Blenheim Palace. The horse trials offer a fabulous opportunity to see some of the world’s finest riders and their horses compete against one another in a truly spectacular venue.
The Palace, Park and Gardens are open as usual.
Visit www.blenheim-horse.co.uk
Separate admission for the Horse Trials
- 16th - 19th September **The Independent Woodstock Literary Festival**
A diverse mix of literary talks and events set in Woodstock and Blenheim Palace.
- 3rd October **Bike Blenheim Palace**
Blenheim Palace opens its grounds for the 3rd year running a chance for you to take part in a unique cycling festival established as one of the most exciting cycling events in the country.
For entry prices visit www.bikeblenheimpalace.com **P&G**
- 23rd 31st October **October Half Term - Halloween Entertainment**
There are ghostly goings-on at Blenheim Palace this Halloween for families to enjoy over the Half-Term week. **PPG + PG**
- 13th Nov - 12th Dec **Christmas at Blenheim Palace**
A truly magical time at Blenheim Palace when Christmas trees sparkle in the Great Court and sumptuous decorations adorn the State Rooms. Festive entertainment takes place at weekends.
PPG + P&G
- 19th - 21st November **Living Crafts for Christmas**
Celebrating the best of British crafts, there is no better place to stock up on presents and stocking fillers. Find unusual gifts from amongst a stunning range of the highest quality work created by around ninety of the country’s top craftspeople. **P&G**
Advanced tickets available.

12th December

Blenheim Palace and Formal Gardens closed for the winter.
Park remains open daily (except Christmas Day).

All events listed are provisional bookings. The details of these events may change. Please check prior to your visit.

PPG: Palace, Park and Gardens ticket required to access event

P&G: Park & Gardens ticket required to access event

PPG + P&G: Denotes activity inside the Palace as well as the Park & Gardens.

Historic Houses Association Garden of the Year Award 2008



enjoyEngland®

Awards for
Excellence 2009

SILVER WINNER

LARGE VISITOR ATTRACTION OF THE YEAR

For further information about Blenheim Palace, opening times and admission prices please call 01993 811091 or visit the website at www.blenheimpalace.com

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