



DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF THE TRENTHAM ESTATE

the UK's most unexpected day out

2008 Highlights

- **Unique** monkey forest – where monkeys and man roam free together
- **UK's biggest** garden restoration project plus adventure play
- **New** Hornbeam maze and edible flower garden
- **UK's only** barefoot walk
- **Over 400 acres** of woodland, a mile long lake, and myriad of wildlife
- **Treetop adventure course**
- **Eclectic shopping** village and garden centre
- **Plus** tours and special events

The Trentham Estate, set in 750 acres of stunning Staffordshire countryside, offers visitors a day out of pure unadulterated fun, which couldn't be further from today's 'shrink-wrapped' entertainment. A £100 million regeneration programme has breathed new life into this little-known destination (once the ancestral home of the Dukes of Sutherland) to create a unique and innovative range of authentic, hands-on leisure activities in a truly picturesque setting that really does offer something for everyone.

UNIQUE MONKEY FOREST WITH NEW ADVENTURE PLAY FOR 2008

Unique in the UK and one of only four in Europe, Monkey Forest is a totally different and exhilarating walk through wildlife experience that transports guests into the heart of the "freerange" home of 140 Barbary Macaques. The monkeys roam free in 60 acres of forest and visitors can literally step into their home - no bars, no barriers – just up close access. Late spring promises new babies and last years playful little ones will be approaching their first birthdays; knowledgeable guides are stationed on the paths to answer questions and give insights. And NEW for 2008 an adventure play area where mini 'monkeys' can let off steam and copy some of the antics they'll learn from the real ones! Opens for February half term on 9th February.

STUNNING GARDENS WITH NEW SPIRAL MAZE AND EDIBLE FLOWERS

A monumental, award winning restoration project has seen the rejuvenation of Trentham's celebrated gardens. No 'keep off the grass' **signs** here - visitors are encouraged to immerse themselves with wild prairie grasses to run, hide and play in, labyrinthine pathways to explore and plenty of tranquil spots to just stop and relax. Plus an adventure playground with JCB

little drivers track. NEW for Easter 2008 is an “interactive” spiral Hornbeam maze, an edible flower garden with a mouthwatering display of floral bounty.

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

The gardens are also home to the **UK’s FIRST AND ONLY BAREFOOT WALK** where visitors can “free” their feet from a winter in shoes and socks for a sensory stroll across 24 terrains and textures, from mulch and mud to cool water and smooth stone. A toe-tingling, ancient practice believed to offer some of the benefits of reflexology – the experience is invigorating for every generation.

WOODS, WILDLIFE AND WATER

Trentham’s aim to maintain and enhance the diversity of the woodland community in its care is apparent in the myriad of wildlife on the Estate, including badgers, voles, hares, foxes, weasels, black fallow deer and one of the biggest heronries in the country with over forty breeding pairs. There are over 400 acres of woodland to discover with walks to challenge both keen walkers and casual strollers. On water, a picturesque mile-long lake designed by Capability Brown is home to kingfishers and otters and boating fun is available courtesy of Miss Elizabeth - an ecologically friendly catamaran – or by more intimate rowing boat.

EXTREME THRILLS AND HIRE WIRE ACTION

At Trentham Aerial Extreme visitors can safely swing, climb and slide their way through a tree-top adventure course up to 40ft above the forest floor with over 20 different obstacles including monster spider webs, islands in the sky and a 100m high zip wire. Whether a novice adventurer or a serial adrenaline junkie there’s something to thrill and challenge. A height restriction of 1.4m applies. For opening dates/times and pricing see www.trentham.co.uk.

ECLECTIC GIFT SHOPPING

Trentham Shopping Village is the ultimate answer for all gift buying, no matter how challenging. Over 60 shops, run with passion and specialist knowledge make up the ‘village’, with goods ranging from designer homewares, to the latest fashions for pampered pets, quirky woodcarvings and candles in every imaginable scent. The jewel in the crown is the award-winning Trentham Garden Centre, with an unbelievable range of indoor and outdoor living plants and everything any gardener could ever need – from seeds and bulbs to furniture, equipment, pots and containers. And for hungry shoppers, a range of eateries are on-site including Franky and Benny’s for family fare or build-your-own icecream sundaes at Cadwaladers.

AND WHY NOT STAY OVERNIGHT?

From Easter 2008, visitors will be able to stay overnight as a 120 bed flagship Premiere Inn arrives at Trentham. Offering great priced, modern and comfortable rooms with a warm welcome, the hotel will be fully equipped with a family friendly restaurant, bar and conference facilities.

PLUS A FULL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

MARCH

MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS – 5TH – 10th March. The world renowned Moscow State Circus pitches its Big Top at Trentham for a pre-Easter extravaganza of all new acts never seen in Western Europe.

SENSORY EASTER EGG HUNT – 21ST – 24TH March : Use your senses to see, smell and hear clues around the garden and claim a fudge-tastic Easter reward. Sponsored by Mad about Fudge. Free with entry to gardens.

LITTLE FERNS CLUB WISHING TREE WORKSHOP – Sunday 23rd March : Easter wishes might come true for “little Ferns” at Trentham as this fun workshop gets them writing their dearest desires to hang on the Trentham Fairy Tree, a spectacular 200 year old/6 metre tall yew. Free with entry to the gardens.

GREAT GARDEN WEEKEND – MAY 24TH-26TH

MAY - SEPTEMBER

GARDEN TOURS AND PLANTMAN’S WORKSHOPS – Guided tours of the stunningly restored Italian Gardens and workshops sharing insights into Trentham’s restoration programme from its expert gardeners, with maintenance hints and tips. Tours @ £10 and workshops @ £20.

SUMMER ALFRESCO PERFORMANCES

SHAKESPEARE ON THE LAKE : 1st – 5th July. A picturesque setting for open air theatre, the lake-side auditorium will be hosting five nights of Shakespeare over the summer (programme tbc).

OPEN AIR CONCERTS : 20, 21, 22 June and 23, 24, 25 August. Leading producer Chris Moreno presents a line up of A-list acts in two bursts of summer open air concerts in the unique setting of Trentham’s lake-side auditorium (programme tbc).

TRENTHAM TRIATHALON – 27th July

The country’s top triathletes compete in an intense competition including swimming in Trentham’s picturesque lake.

OCTOBER

THE GREAT SEED GIVE-AWAY – October 18th : Free seed and bulbs given with instructions on how to grow them at home.

HALLOWEEN OWL WALK – October 31st : This tantalisingly terrifying night-time trail through the gardens is a spookily great alternative to trick or treating. Guests dress up in their fancy dress finery for some chillingly good family fun including getting up close to some beautiful birds of prey; expect also plenty of surprises from some strange nocturnal characters telling tall tales and grisly ghost stories. Tickets (price tbc) must be booked in advance.

NOVEMBER

FIREWORK EXTRAVAGANZA – 1st November : Enjoy the spectacle of a sensational firework display and the toe tapping outdoor concert (programme tbc).

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS AT TRENTHAM – November – Mid January : The magical lakeside ice rink is at the heart of Christmas activities, with the winter beauty of the gardens, unbeatable Father Christmas plus sensational shopping guaranteed to help unearth a gift for even the most difficult friend or relative.

Prices and Opening Times

- The Trentham Gardens and Adventure Play, Shopping Village are open all year round with adult tickets to the Gardens at £6.50 until 1st March; £7 thereafter and great value family passes for two adults three children (5-15) at just £22. (£24 from 1st March). Monkey Forest is open from 9th February – 17th February, then at weekends until 15th March and then every day until the end of October. Adult tickets are incredible value at £6.00 and children (3-14) just £4.50. Guests are also entitled to a 2-for-1 ticket to Trentham Gardens.
- Trentham Aerial Extreme is open selected days in January/February and every day from March through to October. Check website for times and prices.
- For full details of all events, opening times and special activities at The Trentham Estate visit www.trentham.co.uk.

For further information contact Seb Thompson/Karen Abrams at freerange on 020 7402 9966.