THE MOST POOP-ULAR TRAIL AT PENSTHORPE RETURNS

A fact-filled, family-friendly trail is making a welcome return to a Norfolk-based nature reserve for February half term.

The Poo Trail at <u>Pensthorpe</u> gives families a true voyage of discovery into the fascinating world of animal faeces, as they get to the bottom of how animal droppings and dung play such a vital role in the understanding of the natural world.

Taking place from 17th –25th February, it is designed to appeal to adults and children alike and winds through the reserve's stunning 700 acres, promising to captivate young explorers and would-be naturalists with heaps of gross facts and tales of animal left-behinds.

With conservation also firmly at its heart, it is expected to entertain, enthral and enlighten visitors in equal measures, as they examine real poo from bat droppings and owl pellets, including the skeletal remains of their diet.

Ben Marshall, general manager at Pensthorpe said: "Children are naturally curious about poo and often find the topic amusing, so we hope the trail will appeal to their sense of humour and blow them away.

"Conservation and bringing people closer to nature is at the heart of all we do, so the aim is to help educate them about the important role of animal faeces in our greater understanding of their habits, their lifecycles and of course, much broader environmental issues."

The littlest adventurers can experience a mini-poo trail through Pensthorpe's outdoor ecoplay area, WildRootz, home to zip-wires, slides and underground tunnels. Written by Bookbugs and Dragon Tales Bookstore in Norwich, the trail for toddlers and key stage one uses poo-themed books to keep them searching for clues around the trail.

As tummies start to rumble, the Courtyard Café will be serving tasty poo-themed treats, as well as its usual selection of sandwiches, paninis, warming soup, cakes and hot lunches.

"The Poo Trail really captured imaginations in 2022 and we're excited to bring it back this year, giving visitors a glimpse into this fascinating side of life that tells us so much information about animals and wildlife.

"The trail is a great opportunity to learn lots of fun facts while enjoying some fresh air in a beautiful setting," added Ben.

Ticket prices for this event have been held in line with 2023 prices, which are £14.95 for adults, £13.95 for seniors and children over three, whilst children under three enter for free. Blue light discounts are also available.

For more information about Pensthorpe, opening times and to book tickets, please visit www.pensthorpe.com, or the park's Instagram, Twitter or Facebook pages.

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For further information, contact Harriet Slinger at Silver Pear Communications on 07962 009992 or harriet@silverpearcommunications.co.uk

Notes to editors

Pensthorpe is a 700-acre family-friendly nature reserve located 11 miles inland from the North Norfolk coast. Interactive trails, seven bird hides and several charming boardwalks weave through the wilderness of the reserve and present an opportunity to get closer to the native and visiting wildlife – over 1200 different species have been recorded.

Part of Pensthorpe's beauty is its ability to appeal to all ages and interests; it's a hidden gem for garden lovers, boasting five gardens designed by some of the world's garden design heavyweights.

It's captivating for families and children curious to learn about the natural world, providing them with the perfect backdrop to paddle through streams, go bird and butterfly spotting, and enjoy hours in the wildlife-inspired eco play areas, often hailed as some of the best in Norfolk. And it's so serene that nature gravitates to it like a magnet, offering visitors unrivalled bird and wildlife watching opportunities.

Pensthorpe is on the A1067, one mile from Fakenham and just over 20 miles from the city of Norwich.

Ticket prices for adults, seniors and children over threes vary through the year with off peak and peak months, with under threes and membership holders free to enter all year round. Parking is free.

For more information about opening times for the reserve, shop and cafe please visit: www.pensthorpe.com



