**A week of Millennium Garden magic at Pensthorpe**

**Pensthorpe is hosting a week of events in September to celebrate its much-loved Millennium Garden, created by award-winning designer Piet Oudolf.**

The 700-acre nature reserve on the outskirts of Fakenham is home to five stunning gardens, but this September, the Millennium Garden is marking its 25th anniversary. This milestone will be celebrated, with a week of specially curated events running from the 8-12th September.

Events across the week include history talks and plant tours, local artists taking residence in the garden, volunteers being welcomed to take part in the practical side of gardening and special mini gardeners club to ignite passion in the next generation of garden lovers.

There will also be a ballet class taking place in the garden and an evening event celebrating the history of the garden. The week will culminate with a time capsule being laid by Pensthorpe’s owners, Deb & Bill Jordan to commemorate the garden.

Jonathan Pearce, Head Gardener at Pensthorpe said; “Gardening is for everyone, from young children to retirees and potterers to experienced plantspeople. The Millennium Garden is a spectacular feast for the senses and can be enjoyed on every single level. The range of things on offer over the week means everyone can experience the garden in the way that feels right for them.

“Having Piet Oudoulf design the garden and then revisiting it ten years later was a huge honour for Pensthorpe. The team and I love all the gardens, but there is something wonderful about watching a garden grow and evolve over the last 25 years. We will give it the week of celebrations it deserves.”

Packed with over 150 species of shrubs, grasses and climbers – not to mention the wildlife that visits throughout the seasons – Piet Oudolf’s ode to natural nuance is where visitors will find the very best perennial planting in the region.

For the full itinerary of events visit [25 Years of the Millennium Gardens - Pensthorpe](https://pensthorpe.com/events/25-years-of-the-millennium-gardens/), where you will find all the details and how to book.

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**Notes to Editors**

**About Piet Oudoulf**

The Millennium Garden is the botanical brainchild of world-famous Dutch designer Piet Oudolf. In the 1990s he was a driving force in the Dutch Wave or New Perennials movement – embracing prairie-style perennials and ornamental grasses. Now, Oudolf is a horticultural superstar, having designed some of the world’s most beloved contemporary gardens, including the 9/11 Remembrance Garden and High Line in New York and the Lurie Garden in Chicago. Among other accolades, in 2019 he was the recipient of the Society of Garden Designers Lifetime Achievement Award.

**About Pensthorpe**

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

Entry prices: Seasonal, please see pensthorpe.com for current and correct pricing.

Annual Membership is available, giving members unlimited free access to the reserve all year round.

Parking is free.

General admission can be booked in advance or on the day at the time of entry.

General admission is not required for the Courtyard Café, Shop, or Discovery Centre.

All ticketed events and workshops must be pre-booked in advance. For more information about opening times for the reserve, shop, and café, please visit: [www.pensthorpe.com.](http://www.pensthorpe.com/)