

Pensthorpe's Big Machinery Weekend returns with nearly three times as many vehicles

26–27 September 2026 | Pensthorpe, near Fakenham, Norfolk

Pensthorpe's Big Machinery Weekend is returning on 26 and 27 September with almost three times as many vehicles as last year, giving families and machinery enthusiasts even more to explore.

This year's expanded line-up brings together vintage tractors, military vehicles, coaches, telehandlers, off-road vehicles and more. From farming favourites to specialist working machines, visitors can get a closer look at an impressive variety of vehicles and discover the jobs they do.

Many of the owners and operators will be on hand on both days to chat with visitors, answer questions and give demonstrations. It's a chance to hear directly from the people behind the machines, learn how they work and share in their enthusiasm.

Victoria Saunders, Operations Manager at Pensthorpe, said: "We're delighted with how much Big Machinery Weekend has grown this year. With almost three times as many vehicles and so many owners and operators joining us to share their knowledge and give demonstrations, there will be even more for visitors to discover.

"What makes it particularly special is how local groups, vehicle enthusiasts and communities have come together to help make it happen. Their enthusiasm and support have been fantastic, and we can't wait to welcome families and friends for a weekend to remember."

There's plenty more to make a full weekend of adventures at Pensthorpe, too. The event coincides with the final two days of its popular summer maize maze, **The Great Conspiracy**, giving visitors one last chance to tackle its twists and turns before it closes for the season.

Families can explore the outdoor and indoor play areas, while the beautiful gardens offer their final weeks of seasonal vibrancy. Flamingos and cranes, 700 acres of nature reserve and a fantastic café and gift shop add even more to discover, whether visitors want to explore, play or simply relax over something delicious.

With an expanded machinery line-up and so much to enjoy across Pensthorpe, it's set to be an incredible weekend for families, friends and lovers of big machines.

The Big Machinery Weekend is included with Pensthorpe admission and membership.

Big Machinery Weekend takes place at Pensthorpe on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September 2026.

For more information and to book, visit pensthorpe.com/events/big-machinery-weekend.

ENDS

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 native and migrating wildlife – over 1,200 different species have been recorded.

A hidden gem for garden lovers, Pensthorpe is home to six spectacular gardens, including the Millennium Garden designed by world-renowned plantsman Piet Oudolf. Families enjoy wildlife-inspired eco play areas, including WildRootz, which are often hailed as some of the best in Norfolk. The reserve's serene environment offers unrivalled birdwatching opportunities and a unique way to connect with the natural world.

With over 110,000 visitors a year and a recent Best Rural Attraction award, Pensthorpe has become a standout destination for all ages. The reserve is on the A1067, one mile from Fakenham and just over 20 miles from the city of Norwich. Entry prices fluctuate through the year. Adult tickets start from £13.95 and children from £9.95. Under 3's at just £2.00. Annual members receive free entry. Parking is free. For more information about opening times for the reserve, shop and café, please visit: www.pensthorpe.com