



- CAN'T WAIT FOR A 'KNIGHT' AWAY FROM HOME?**
- Enjoy the ultimate sleepover at Warwick Castle in cosy Woodland Lodges and Glamping Tents**
 - Experience Zog and the Quest for the Golden Star with new family attraction**



XX March 2021: After weeks of homeschooling and the same four walls and with single household staycations set to return in April, Warwick Castle is perfect for taking the kids on an exciting break to fire up their imaginations.

The Castle will be raising its portcullis and welcoming guests back to enjoy its outdoor offering from 12th April. Book online now for a family stay at the Knight's Village and enjoy a unique break, nestled in the Castle's grounds*.

Choose from a medieval-themed Lodge**, complete with coat of arms above the doorway, falconer's gloves by the door and plush throws to cosy up with. Lodges sleep up to 5 or 7, with 2 or 3 bedrooms, bathroom and balcony. From 28th May, glamping stays** are also on offer, in fully equipped bell tents, complete with comfortable beds and medieval decor.

Currently every overnight stay at the Knight's Village includes one day's entry to the Castle*, where guests can explore its beautiful 64 acres and visit the Peacock Garden with its resident flock of colourful birds. The Horrible Histories® Maze also awaits, adapted to a one-way trail maintaining all of its entertaining and informative elements while keeping little ones safe.

April 12th also marks the roaring arrival of Zog, the loveable dragon, and his Quest for the Golden Star***. Based on the best-selling books by author Julia Donaldson and illustrator Axel Scheffler,

the trail features five fun lessons from Madame Dragon's school to enthrall children as they try out awesome roars, capture a princess and soar high without their feet ever leaving the ground. Collecting a stamp for each completed task, the final challenge sees children join Sir Gadabout's school for ambitious knights and to collect their very own golden star, before they head off to meet Zog himself for a photo.

Guests can also visit the Castle's impressive trebuchet on its River Island and discover the fascinating resident birds of prey, all before retiring to cosy Lodges and Glamping tents.

During the evening, guests can enjoy takeaway meals from the Knight's Village Banquet Hall.

-Ends-

Notes to Editors

*In line with government guidelines, only outdoor attractions and activities are open at the Castle from 12th April, with indoor attractions to follow as restrictions lift.

**Single household stays at Knight's Village Woodland Lodges are set to return from 12th April, dependent on government confirmation. Each Lodge sleeps between five and seven people and features its own self-contained bathroom and toilets. Glamping tents are set to return from 28th May. Each tent sleeps between four and five people, with communal toilet facilities.

***Zog and the Quest for the Golden Star activity trail is open every day from 12 April 2021 to 5 September 2021 and is included in the cost of admission.

Children around the world know and love the character, created by award-winning author Julia Donaldson and brought to life by Axel Scheffler's irresistible illustrations. Zog was published in 2010, and by 2015 it had sold over one million copies with publication in 19 languages. In 2016, the companion picture book 'Zog and the Flying Doctors' was published to great acclaim.

Magic Light Pictures adapted both books into successful animated films that are as loved by children as the books.

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Warwick Castle

Warwick Castle is currently closed to visitors. Further information on Warwick Castle can be found at: www.warwick-castle.com

Warwick Castle is easily accessible from Junction 15 of the M40, just 40 minutes from Birmingham and 1 hour 40 minutes from London. Warwick Castle is easy to reach by train from London Marylebone in only 86 minutes. The Castle, set in 64 acres of grounds designed by Capability Brown, rests on the banks of the River Avon at the heart of historic Warwick.

About Merlin Entertainments plc

Merlin Entertainments plc is a global leader in location-based, family entertainment. As Europe's Number 1 and the world's second-largest visitor attraction operator, Merlin now operates over 130 attractions, 19 hotels and 6 holiday villages in 25 countries and across 4 continents. Merlin's purpose is to deliver memorable experiences to its 67 million guests around the world, through its iconic brands and multiple attraction formats, and the commitment and passion of its c.28,000 employees (peak season).

See www.merlinentertainments.biz for more information and follow on Twitter @MerlinEntsNews.

#MakingMagicwithMerlin is an exciting range of content brought to you by the global company Merlin Entertainments.

Making Magic with Merlin has been created for families to watch and learn some fantastic facts about some of the world's best known attractions! We hope you enjoy watching our short series of films – new ones are being uploaded every day to YouTube – which will inform in a fun way. We call it creative learning and we hope you spread the word!

About Magic Light Pictures

Magic Light Pictures is an award-winning brand-building company with a strong background in production, creating rich and imaginative experiences for families worldwide.

The company, founded in 2003, directly manages production, licensing, global distribution and marketing. The company balances its brand-building work with film making of the highest quality.

Magic Light's key brand is The Gruffalo, from the best-selling picture books by author Julia Donaldson and illustrator Axel Scheffler. Magic Light produced the Oscar and BAFTA-nominated half-hour animated films, The Gruffalo and The Gruffalo's Child, and has sold them to over 180 broadcasters worldwide. Magic Light also runs a cross-category international merchandising programme for The Gruffalo brand, with over 80 licensees and hundreds of products that capture the charm of the original books. Magic Light has produced Room on the Broom, Stick Man, The Highway Rat, Zog, The Snail and the Whale and Zog and the Flying Doctors films – which have proved to be award winning half-hour classics that are as loved as The Gruffalo. Their film adaptation for Christmas 2021 is Superworm, and will premiere on BBC One.

In 2016 Magic Light produced two half-hours based on Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes. They were watched by 9.3million viewers and have won numerous awards including a BAFTA for Best Animation.