

THE ULTIMATE FESTIVE FUN: CHRISTMAS AT WARWICK CASTLE

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA ON CHRISTMAS EVE TORCH-LIT TOURS, FESTIVE FEASTS, CHEEKY ELVES - AND MORE

Draft 14 August 2013: Storytelling with Santa, mediaeval banquets, Christmas lunch and torch-lit tours - there's so much festive fun on offer, it's no wonder a day out at Warwick Castle (www.warwick-castle.com) is on most kids' Christmas wish lists (and their parents', too!) this year.

Decked in the finest festive grandeur - and with its beloved 25-foot-high Christmas tree gracing the Great Hall - Warwick Castle is open every day apart from Christmas Day offering yuletide glee aplenty with a feast of events and attractions to ensure it's a magical time for everyone. There's nowhere better to escape the winter chill than the ancient Castle with its thick walls, roaring log fires and flickering candles set in 60 acres of grounds beside the River Avon in the heart of historic Warwick.

Breakfast with Santa: Eat, sing and be merry! This Christmas children are invited to a truly wonderful party in Warwick Castle's Undercroft. Breakfast with Santa includes games, carols and the chance to meet Santa himself and his trustworthy - if cheeky - elves. Breakfasts will be held on 7, 8, 14, 15 and 19-24 December, costing £23.50 per person (under2s, free) including Castle day entry, car parking and a gift for each child.

Stories with Santa in the State Rooms: Keep warm inside the State Rooms and enjoy festive tales told by none other than the man

himself, Santa Claus, throughout the day. Suitable to delight children of all ages and are included in the cost of day time entry.

Flight of the Eagles Show: This spectacular display showcases the Castle's very own beautiful and powerful birds of prey, with a focus on owls for the winter months. No matter what the weather, the birds take to the skies to provide a breath taking display of grace and power.

Christmas Lunches: Savour a traditional four-course festive lunch, with live music and entertainment, in the cosy Georgian Coach House and enjoy admission to the Castle and its ground on 1, 7, 8, 14, 15 and 21–24 December for £26.50 per adult, £16.50 for children aged 4–11 years and £5.50 for under 4s. Under 2s go free.

Torchlit Tours: Be guided by experts through the Castle and discover how Christmas has been celebrated through the ages. On arrival, warm up in Warwick Castle's grand interiors over a hot turkey and stuffing roll and a mince pie with mulled wine, or enjoy a hot apple punch served in the Castle's Undercroft. Tours cost £16 per person and are available on 1, 8, 15 and 22 December.

Great Hall Mediaeval Banquet: Festive feasts don't come much grander than those held in the Great Hall at Warwick Castle, a room swathed in history, warmed by a huge roaring log fire and bathed in candlelight. Many lords and ladies – and even royalty – have dined in the Great Hall and this Christmas promises festive fun aplenty with a traditional festive menu and a disco on 12, 18 and 20 December from £62.50 per person including three course dinner and drinks.

The Ultimate Castle Tour: Intrigued to know what happened at Warwick Castle throughout the ages? The Ultimate Castle tour highlights the key moments through Warwick's thousand-year history and how these moments have shaped the Castle today. The tour includes four never-before-seen rooms unlocked by Sir Tony Robinson in 2013 in addition to some of the spookier parts of the Castle interiors.

Welcome 2014 – New Year's Eve Great Hall Banquet: Enthralling entertainment from some of Warwick Castle's best loved characters – including a sword fight and pistol duel – and fine food served in the distinguished surroundings of the Great Hall in addition to a vibrant after-dinner disco provide a fitting way to welcome the New Year on 31 December, from £107 per person.

Book online at www.warwick-castle.com up to seven days in advance to save up to 40% off family ticket prices. All day entry to Warwick Castle for adults is from £17.10, children (aged 4–11 years) from £11.70 and seniors from £8.55.

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Notes to Editors:

Warwick Castle is easily accessible from junction 15 off the M40, just 40 minutes from Birmingham and 1 hour 40minutes from London. Warwick Castle is easy to reach by train from London in 86 minutes.

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company in the sector over the last five years. Europe's Number 1 and the world's second-largest visitor attraction operator, Merlin now operates 89 attractions, seven hotels/two holiday villages in 19 countries and across four continents. The company aims to deliver memorable and rewarding experiences to its 46 million visitors worldwide, through its iconic global and local brands, and the commitment and passion of its managers and more than 17,000 employees. Among Merlin's attractions are – SEA LIFE, Madame Tussauds, LEGOLAND, The EDF Energy London Eye, Dungeons, Gardaland, LEGOLAND Discovery Centres, Alton Towers Resort, Warwick Castle, THORPE PARK, Chessington World of Adventures Resort, Blackpool Tower, Heide Park, Sydney Aquarium, WILD LIFE Sydney, Sydney Tower Eye and SKYWALK, Siam Ocean World and Busan Aquarium. All brands which are distinctive, challenging and innovative – and which have great potential for growth in the future. Visit www.merlinentertainments.biz for more information.