

Press Release
8 September 2010



Birds of Prey Take to the Skies over Bodiam Castle Battlements

On **18 and 19 September 2010 at 12:30 and 3:00pm**, visitors to Bodiam Castle can see spectacular birds of prey displays over the impressive castle ruins.

Expert falconers, Leigh and Jo Holmes, star presenters of CITV's nature programme *The Wild World*, will be providing amazing birds of prey displays, when visitors can marvel at Kestrels, Vultures, Harris Hawks and Red Kites as they soar across the impressive castle battlements and towers.

In Medieval Britain falconry became the "Sport of Kings"; it was used as a means of procuring food and later became a national sport. Falconry remained very popular among royalty until the reign of George III.

In the middle ages the type of bird owned defined your status; servants and children would often only own kestrels, whilst hawks were strictly the prerogative of the nobility.

Bodiam Castle dates back to 1385 and provides an entertaining day out for everyone.

Visitors can learn about the castle's history and explore the castle battlements and towers which offer stunning views across the countryside.

The weekend's activities are included in the castle's normal admission price, no booking necessary.

Admission prices

Gift Aid Admission: adult: £6.40, child: £3.20, 2 adult family £17 and 1 adult family £10.60. There is a reduced rate for visitors arriving by cycle, on public transport or via The Kent and East Sussex Railway.

For more information please visit www.national.trust.org.uk/bodiamcastle or telephone 01580 830196.

Bodiam Castle, in the care of the National Trust since 1924, is just three miles off the main A21 at Hurst Green, midway between Hastings and Tunbridge Wells.

For images or to arrange a press visit to Bodiam Castle please contact Caroline Edmunds on 01892616647 or e-mail caroline@penningtonpr.com