

PRESS RELEASE

Wyldwood Renaissance Festival announces the Year of the Alchemist at Walworth Castle

Early Bird tickets for the UK's Renaissance Festival are now on sale, following a hugely successful debut that welcomed more than 5,000 visitors from across the UK and Europe.

Wyldwood Renaissance Festival is returning for 2027, with its second annual festival taking place from **21–23 May 2027 at Walworth Castle in County Durham.**

Following its debut in 2026, which welcomed more than 5,000 visitors from across the UK and Europe, Wyldwood is preparing to take its immersive Renaissance experience to the next level with a brand-new storyline, roaming characters, expanded quests and the mysterious **Year of the Alchemist.**

The 2027 festival will see visitors enter a Wyldwood already on the brink of change. Somewhere beyond the gates, an Alchemist has found a way to force open the ancient boundaries of the Wylds, bringing new characters, new dangers and new possibilities into the kingdom.

With Lord Highborne's authority under threat, help has been called from beyond the Wylds. But whether those who arrive can truly be trusted is another matter entirely...

For the first time, Wyldwood's story will unfold throughout the entire festival, with a fully developed plotline and roaming characters bringing the world to life beyond the scheduled entertainment. Visitors will be able to encounter characters throughout the festival site, make choices, uncover secrets and take part in a series of more formalised quests designed to make every visit to Wyldwood a little different.

And for those who want to immerse themselves completely, 2027 will offer something particularly special: **the chance to stay overnight inside Walworth Castle itself.**

Wyldwood was created to offer something different from traditional historical events. While its roots lie in Renaissance history, the festival brings together history, fantasy, performance, independent makers, food, music, storytelling and modern fandom to create a contemporary cultural experience where everyone is invited to play a part.

Its first year demonstrated the appetite for that experience, with more than 5,000 people travelling from across the UK and Europe to attend the debut festival. The Wyldwood team hopes to build on that momentum year after year, growing both the festival and the community that surrounds it.

Laura, Founder of Wyldwood and Bodkin Events Ltd, said:

“Our first year was something we had dreamed about for years, but seeing more than 5,000 people come through the gates from across Europe was beyond anything we could have imagined for our debut.

“Wyldwood has always been about more than simply putting on a festival. We want to build a world that people can step into, a community that people can belong to, and an experience that keeps giving them reasons to come back.

“The Year of the Alchemist is where we're really starting to explore what Wyldwood can become. We've got a full story to tell, characters who will be part of the world all weekend, quests to undertake and an incredible castle and Estate for our community to explore. We're so excited to see where the story takes us, and to keep watching our community grow year after year.”

Early Bird tickets for **Wyldwood Renaissance Festival 2027: The Year of the Alchemist** go on sale on **15 October 2026**.

The festival is also currently welcoming enquiries from **traders, entertainers, performers and potential sponsors** who would like to become part of Wyldwood 2027.

Wyldwood Renaissance Festival 2027

21–23 May 2027

Walworth Castle, County Durham

The Year of the Alchemist

Early Bird tickets available from 15 October 2026.

For tickets, festival information and opportunities to get involved, visit the Wyldwood Renaissance Festival website.

About Wyldwood Renaissance Festival

Wyldwood Renaissance Festival is a contemporary Renaissance festival created by Bodkin Events Ltd, bringing together history, fantasy, performance, independent businesses, craftspeople, food, entertainment and immersive storytelling.

Built around the fictional kingdom of the Wylds, Wyldwood combines the atmosphere of a traditional Renaissance festival with modern fandom and community culture, creating an inclusive space where visitors can explore, participate and become part of the story.

Following its debut in 2026, which welcomed more than 5,000 visitors from across the UK and Europe, Wyldwood returns in 2027 for the **Year of the Alchemist**.

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