



## **Three days in July will captivate the equestrian world**

Festival of the Horse, a thrilling first for equine events, will make its debut at Stoneleigh Park next July. The event will feature three individually themed days, showcasing the very best of British equine sports stars through a series of competitions and entertainment.

The festival will be staged at Stoneleigh Park from July 9-11.

Each day, a different discipline will headline in the main stadium. There will be dressage and international show jumping, plus Express Eventing, the exciting new stadium horse trials format seen at the Millennium Stadium in 2008.

Festival of the Horse will also host the prestigious Royal Show showing classes, including HOYS qualifiers and RASE silverware.

Jointly organised by the Royal Agricultural Society of England (RASE) and Express Equine Events (E3), organisers of the Royal Show and the marketing team behind Express Eventing respectively, this exciting new event looks set to be a big hit in the equestrian calendar.

“The RASE is committed to delivering a event that will deliver the ultimate equestrian experience, incorporating an exciting three day stadium programme alongside the prestigious Royal Show classes. Whether competing or viewing, we can promise visitors a great day out,” said Alice Bell, of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Co-organisers, E3 are equally enthusiastic about the new event. “We are delighted to be partnering with RASE for this unique event. It will provide the ideal opportunity to bring horse sport to a wider audience,” said Clive Hetherington of E3.

The Festival expects to attract 50,000 visitors. It already has the support of a number of key organisations including British Dressage, BSJA, Pony Club and BHS. Pat Parelli will also be at the Festival providing an insight into natural horsemanship.

Stoneleigh Park is synonymous with horse sport with its numerous arenas and 800 acres providing the perfect setting for the festival. A range of trade stands and ample space for picnicking will ensure the perfect day out for everyone.

Ends

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Notes to editors:

- Festival of the Horse is the ultimate equestrian experience taking place on 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010, at Stoneleigh Park in Warwickshire.
- Co-organised by the Royal Agricultural Society of England and Express Equine Events (E3).
- The event will provide a new and exciting platform for the traditional Royal Show classes and Express Eventing.

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