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YORKSHIRE'S GREAT HOUSES, CASTLES & GARDENS OPEN DOORS TO DAYCATIONS MARKET WITH LAUNCH OF THEIR 2011 GUIDE

With daycations set to replace two week summer holidays, Yorkshire's Great Houses, Castles and Gardens (YGHC&G) took the opportunity to launch its new 2011 guide representing over 40 great days out ideas in the region. Sir Thomas Ingilby, Chairman, YGHC&G, Gary Verity, Chief Executive, Welcome to Yorkshire and John Edwards, Wentworth Castle Gardens Trust Chairman soaked up the first rays of Spring sunshine for the shoot in the beautiful surroundings of Wentworth Castle Gardens.

The new look free 2011 guide features over 40 of Yorkshire's most prestigious houses, castles and gardens. With reviews, directions, opening times and full illustrations the guide provides a wealth of useful information about each attraction. Yorkshire boasts the highest concentration of houses, castles and gardens in England and this breadth of offer ensures that there are a whole host of ideas for great days out with something to suit everyone.

Sir Thomas Ingilby, Chairman of Yorkshire's Great Houses, Castles and Gardens and owner of Ripley Castle said:

"The 2011 season is expected to be a good one with the anticipated daycation market. We are perfectly placed to capitalise on this with our fantastic selection of formidable castles, splendid stately homes, ancient abbeys and glorious gardens which will transport visitors from reality to a world of history and intrigue.

"Whilst castles remind you that times have been worse, with wars and religious strife tearing our nation apart, the great stately homes take you back to a glorious era of hospitality, culture and learning. The abbeys retain a sense of peace and that special aura of spirituality and the parks and

gardens provide many of life's simple pleasures – bright colours, lovely perfumes, beautiful views and vistas, homegrown fruit and vegetables – nature in all its glory.”

Gary Verity, Chief Executive, Welcome to Yorkshire said:

“We are delighted to support Yorkshire's Great Houses, Castles & Gardens. There's a whole lot more going on in Yorkshire and this guide brings a flavour of what's out there to be enjoyed by all.”

The 2011 guide can be picked up at any one of Yorkshire's Tourist Information Centres and is also available to download via www.castlesandgardens.co.uk. The guide includes famous sites such as Castle Howard, Harewood House, The Walled Garden at Scampston and the RHS Garden Harlow Carr as well as National Trust properties like Fountains Abbey and Beningbrough Hall and Gardens and the English Heritage maintained Brodsworth Hall and Gardens, near Doncaster.

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Notes to the Editor

1. Yorkshire's Great Houses, Castles and Gardens is a marketing consortium which comprises over 40 of the region's castles, stately homes, abbeys and gardens.
2. Further pictures available on request.
3. For more information log onto www.castlesandgardens.co.uk.
4. Yorkshire's Great Houses, Castles and Gardens is sponsored by Grand Central.

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For more information please contact:

Jo Pickering, Co-ordinator

Yorkshire's Great Houses, Castles and Gardens

T. 01759 373628

M. 07977 636038

E. castlesandgardens@jopcommunications.com