

# Beaulieu

## FUN FACTS

### ABOUT BEAULIEU

- The name Beaulieu means 'beautiful place' in French.
- The National Motor Museum opened in 1972 and even today this building is not large enough to show all of the vehicles.
- Behind the scenes there is a workshop which restores rusty, old vehicles to good-as-new condition.
- As well as the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu is home to Palace House, Beaulieu Abbey, World of Top Gear and the James Bond Experience.



The Beaulieu Monorail and 1912 Veteran Bus

- The monorail is the longest one in the country; it came from Butlin's Holiday Camp in Minehead, and was first opened in 1974 by The Wombles.
- During WW2, the Beaulieu estate was used as a 'finishing school' for the training of special agents who were then parachuted into occupied Europe to work for the resistance.



Lady Laura from the Tweenies has visited Beaulieu

- A large number of celebrities have come to visit Beaulieu including:
  - Michael Jackson
  - The Tweenies
  - Rupert Grint (*Ron Weasley in Harry Potter*)
  - Prince Charles
  - Mr Tumble
  - The Stig
  - Cher



# NATIONAL MOTOR MUSUM

- Rupert Grint who plays Ron Weasley in Harry Potter has kindly lent the blue Ford Anglia which appears in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets to the National Motor Museum for it to be displayed to the public.
- Lord Montagu's father, John, was the first person to drive a motor car into the House of Commons Yard.



Rupert Grint AKA Ron Weasley visited Beaulieu



Ducati's on display in the Motor Museum

- The collection of World and British Championship Superbike Ducatis currently on display in the Motorcycle Gallery is the largest collection of Ducatis outside of Italy.
- The Mini Outspan Orange was made from a special fibre glass body which is built onto a frame of a Mini.



Outspan Orange



Mr Bean's Mini

- In real life Rowan Atkinson, who plays Mr Bean is an accomplished historic racing car driver. See Mr Bean's mini on display in the National Motor Museum.
- A veteran car = Any car built up to and including December 1918.
- A vintage car = Any car built between January 1919 and December 1930.



The Trotter's Reliant Regal

- The Reliant Regal on display at Beaulieu was the sole transport for the Trotter family in Only Fools and Horses. Although only 50 cubic feet one was raced around Mallory Park with 16 people crammed in!



# PALACE HOUSE

- Palace House was originally the Great Gatehouse of Beaulieu Abbey.
- Beaulieu was first opened to the public in 1952 with just five cars on show in Palace House reception hall but had to be moved to sheds in the garden when the family objected to the smell of petrol throughout the house.



Games on Palace House lawn



The Beaulieu Jazz Festival

- The movement of music festivals, such as Glastonbury, began at Beaulieu in 1956 when Lord Montagu held his first outdoor jazz festival on the lawn outside Palace House.
- A ghost in the house, 'The Gray Lady' thought to be Lady Isabella, Countess of Beaulieu, who died in 1776 has been seen several times walking through walls and making a lot of noise.



The original Motor Museum

# BEAULIEU ABBEY

- Beaulieu Abbey was the only place in the South of England that offered a permanent sanctuary for criminals; most famous was Perkin Warbeck who was the pretender to throne during the reign of Henry VIII.
- One famous priest at Beaulieu, known as Daddy Powes, said he knew the ghostly monks by name and would hold a candle light mass on Christmas Eve for the monks.
- Arthur Conan Doyle who wrote Sherlock Holmes did paranormal investigations in the Abbey and made many visits to Beaulieu and it is believed he contacted a ghost.



Beaulieu Abbey