Curiouser and curiouser! First peek inside as Alice’s Christmas Wonderland festive experience opens at Beaulieu

Published: November 23, 2026

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Online version:

https://www.wheels-alive.co.uk/curiouser-and-curiouser-first-peek-inside-as-alices-christmas-wonderland-festive-experience-opens-at-beaulieu/



Lord Montagu with the live characters of Alice’s Christmas Wonderland at Palace House.

The Beaulieu team tells us…

Alice's Christmas Wonderland has opened for visitors to 'tumble down the rabbit hole' into a magical festive themed experience in Palace House at Beaulieu.

The new event was opened by Lord Montagu after designers extraordinaire Charlotte Lloyd Webber and Adrian Lillie created the maddest Mad Hatter's tea party ever, scarlet Queen of Hearts' kingdom and mystical Caterpillar on a five-foot toadstool with their talented CLW Event Design team.

Get curiouser and curiouser as theatrical installations, immersive soundscapes and multi-colour projections turn the stately home into an imaginary world festooned with twinkling, enchanting forestry and dazzling glitterball sparkles to get you in the festive mood.

Lord Montagu said: ""It is a great pleasure to welcome visitors to *Palace House Presents: Alice's Christmas Wonderland*. Each year we look to create a Christmas experience for families and adults, and this year's adventure through Wonderland is our most imaginative yet. From the moment guests step through the door, they are immersed in a world of curious characters, displays and festive surprises around every corner."

"I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Adrian Lilie, Charlotte Lloyd Webber and the talented team at CLW Event Design, whose creativity and expertise have brought this vision to life. I would also like to recognise the tremendous efforts of our Palace House team and Estate Team, whose hard work and dedication have helped create a wonderful experience both inside and outside the house."

Don't be late for a very important date!

Alice's Christmas Wonderland is open from now until Sunday 3rd January *(excluding Christmas Day)* for Beaulieu's fabulous festive experience for 2026. Book tickets to be one of the first to enter Lewis Carroll's fantastical world.

Expect to see an explosion of colour in the Mad Hatter's hat shop, the grinning Cheshire Cat and flamingo mallets with fluorescent 'hedgehog' balls set on a topiary floor for a game of

croquet in the Motoring Room – with lavish swathes of decorations and festive twists at every turn.

Hunt for Christmas trees decorated with fairy woodland toadstools, cascading playing cards and pastel-coloured butterflies, as well as Beaulieu's showstopping 25ft Wonderland-themed real tree at the foot of the grand staircase. You can even take a little of the magic home with you, from the tempting range of the Wonderland-themed baubles and decorations on sale in the Palace House gift shop.

You may be lucky enough to meet live characters including Alice, the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts, as you pick up six character cards on your journey through Palace House*. Then put yourself in Alice's shoes for 'end-of-pier' peep-throughs to capture special memories with a selfie.

Complete your festive day out with a Wonderland Tea & Treats, with delicious heart-shaped scones with cream and jam, cakes and sandwiches all served on an *Alice in Wonderland*stand in the historic abbey Domus – and add a celebratory glass of Prosecco.**

It's your chance to follow in the footsteps of the real Alice – Alice Liddell – who was a guest at a tea party at Palace House to celebrate the coming of age of the Hon John Douglas-Scott-Montagu, the 2nd Baron Montagu of Beaulieu in 1887. See her signature in the guest book on a crimson velvet cushion at the top of the staircase.

Design Director Adrian Lillie, from CLW Event Design, said: "We are proud to have created such a very special magical world and are excited to unveil *Alice's Christmas Wonderland* to visitors at Beaulieu."

CLW Event Design's team of theatre designers and artists has created award-winning installations at heritage properties across the UK, including Kensington Palace, Belvoir and Bamburgh castles, Treasure House Castle Howard and the National Trust's Polesdon Lacey. They return to Beaulieu for the second time this year.

Book tickets now

A Palace House Christmas 2026 – Alice's Christmas Wonderland ticket includes entry to Beaulieu's National Motor Museum with new gallery *Driven: Britain's Motoring Story*, hands-on exhibition *We Had One Of Those*, fun adventure playground Little Beaulieu, 13th century Beaulieu Abbey, the Secret Army Exhibition, unlimited rides on the tree-top monorail and beautiful grounds and gardens.

For details and tickets to *Alice's Christmas Wonderland* at Beaulieu in the New Forest, Hampshire see www.beaulieu.co.uk or call 01590 612345.

Ends

* See real life characters during weekends and school holidays.

** Wonderland Tea & Treats bookable alongside your *Alice's Christmas Wonderland* tickets.