



DOWNSIDE ABBEY  
PRESS RELEASE

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CLASSIC CARS RETURN TO DOWNSIDE

Downside Abbey, a Benedictine monastery 12 miles south of Bath, will host its Fifth Classic Car Show, on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Mike Penn, Founding Curator of the Haynes International Motor Museum, said of the event, *“The show is based in a remarkable setting and always with a fantastic array of top-class vehicles. I really recommend the Downside Classic Car Show to anyone who might be considering it.”*

The gathering of vintage, classic and interesting vehicles is now in its fifth year at the elegant Stratton-on-the-Fosse site. Each year, over 100 cars are on display with vehicles in the past including a 1904 De Dion Bouton, a 1926 Bugatti T23 Brescia, a 1936 Squire, a delightfully unrestored 1926 AC Sociable, and a 1911 Stanley Steam Car.

**If you have a vehicle that you would like to register for the event, please contact Sarah Kerr ([skerr@downside.co.uk](mailto:skerr@downside.co.uk)) or call 01761 235194.**

The site is on the Mendip Hills, on the Somerset/Wiltshire/Dorset border, just south of Bath and Bristol. Free tours of the Abbey and School will also be available.

Gourmet burgers and pizzas will be on sale and there is free parking for all visitors, plus a range of activities for all the family. Tickets and further information can be found at [www.downside.co.uk](http://www.downside.co.uk) and tickets can also be purchased on the day.

**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE ENDS \*\*\***

### NOTES TO EDITORS

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**About Downside Abbey and School** - [www.downside.co.uk](http://www.downside.co.uk)

**Downside Abbey** is situated on the Mendip Hills, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is home to a community of Benedictine monks, based in Somerset for over 200 years. Downside Abbey Church is dedicated

to Saint Gregory the Great and it is a Minor Basilica; it is also the largest of the Neo-Gothic style churches built in this country after the Reformation, and was described by Sir Nikolaus Pevsner as "*the most splendid demonstration of the renaissance of Roman Catholicism in England. If ever there was an excuse for building in period forms in the twentieth century, it is here*".

**Downside School** is one of England's oldest and most distinguished Catholic schools. It is an independent, co-educational, boarding and day school for pupils aged 11-18. Founded in 1606 in Douai (in France), the School is now housed in magnificent buildings at the foot of the Mendip Hills, twelve miles south of the City of Bath.

Downside is a strong academic school. Outstanding examination results are a priority. Everyone is encouraged to aspire beyond their academic expectations and the School has a thriving academic life with pupils going on to the top universities in the UK, the USA and Europe. Importantly, Downside also aims to educate young people through a Christ-centred curriculum to develop as future leaders in 21st Century society.

The school's pastoral care is excellent. 85% of Downside pupils are 7-day-a-week boarders and approximately 20% are from overseas. Weekends for boarders are busy with a full programme of activities.

@downsideabbey / @downsideschool