



ENGLISH  
HERITAGE

# EVENTS



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## Whitby Abbey Gothic Falconry

Today we are going to investigate the natural world through the eyes of the Victorians as we pit old myths and legends against new scientific fact! Join Raphael Historic Falconry and their rapacious friends for a spellbinding blend of flying demonstrations and storytelling which will introduce you to winged warriors, prophets of death, dino-birds, super senses, and even the black shuck!

**10:00** The Hawk House opens for visitors to view a beautiful collection of hawks, owls, and falcons at rest.

**11:30 Gothic Flying Display** – Discover the ancient symbolism and folklore of our feathered friends, investigate the source of popular avian myths and legends, and learn how our ancestors' viewed birds of the flesh!

**1.30 Gothic Flying Display** – Leave the dark ages behind and enter the age of scientific enlightenment as we reveal the discoveries made by C19th naturalists about birds from the theory of evolution right through to extinction. Learn how the Victorians dealt with birds of prey through experimentation, observation, and personal endeavour.

**15:30 Gothic Flying Display** – Delve into the dark side of nature as we explore man's relationship with raptors from ancient pagan times to the more contemporary Victorian age. Watch warriors of the sky in action and listen to a collection of period tales.

**17:00 Hawk House closes.**

Please note that the hawk house is closed during displays.

Flying displays are weather dependent.

Approximate duration of flying displays is 40 minutes.

*Step into England's story*