

**PRESS RELEASE  
2009**



### **A TASTE OF MEDIEVAL TIMES**

Popular visitor attraction, The Canterbury Tales will be bringing the sights and smells of the medieval kitchen to the city and taking people back in time to the days before ready meals and takeaways.

Anyone visiting the attraction at St Margaret's Street to hear Chaucer's tales of medieval Canterbury, from **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009, 11.00am - 4.00pm**, will also be able to witness what the colourful characters would have dined on during their pilgrimage to the city. Discovering Medieval, a group of historical enthusiasts who provide living history displays, will be bringing the medieval era to life in a fun, colourful, educational manner in the churchyard to the rear of The Canterbury Tales.

Steve Beer, centre manager at The Canterbury Tales, said: "We wanted to bring the medieval kitchen to life and educate visitors in what people of the era may have eaten and why. Many people may not realise that potatoes, cocoa beans, turkey and tomatoes weren't actually available and the main drink was ale, a safer option to the unsanitary water of the era.

"The event enhances our customers' visit to the attraction and will be a great day out for families or anyone interested in the medieval era."

Visitors will be able to join in and get their hands dirty by helping make butter in a churn or bake bread and experience the differences between the diets of the rich and the poor in medieval times. All kinds of medieval food will be on display such as pottage, spiced hippocras and medieval gingerbread plus various culinary delights will be cooking on the stove throughout the day.

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Bread made up the majority of the peasant diet and there were many different types. In the milling display, you will be able to meet the miller, feel the different grains, and make flour by grinding it on the stone quern. Visitors will be able to take a small bag of flour home as a souvenir from their labours and kids can help out by mixing the dough to bake pastries from scratch.

The event is included within the normal ticket price to The Canterbury Tales. Visitors not wishing to enter the attraction may purchase an event only ticket at an admission cost of £3 for adults and £2 for concessions.

**For further information please visit [www.canterburytales.org.uk](http://www.canterburytales.org.uk) or telephone 01227 784600.**

**FOR FURTHER MEDIA INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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**Notes to Editors:**

**The Canterbury Tales is a successful visitor attraction based in the heart of Canterbury. Join Chaucer and his band of pilgrims on their journey from The Tabard Inn in London to the Shrine of St. Thomas Beckett in Canterbury Cathedral. The attraction is open daily from 10am – 5pm, admission costs are adult £7.75, child £5.75 and concessions £6.75. Please call 01227 784600 for details or visit our web site at [www.canterburytales.org.uk](http://www.canterburytales.org.uk) for further information.**

**The Canterbury Tales is open every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day from 10.00am to 5pm.**