RECORD NUMBER OF DOGS DESCEND ON EUROPE'S LARGEST PUMPKIN FESTIVAL FOR ANNUAL CANINE CELEBRATION

Tulleys Farm in West Sussex welcomed a record number of four-legged visitors as its popular Pooches, Paws & Pumpkins event returned for a third consecutive year.

Images – tulleysfarm.com/image-library



Tulleys Farm near Crawley welcomed a record number of dogs on Thursday, October 15, as hundreds of paws joined the pumpkins for the attraction's annual Pooches, Paws & Pumpkins celebration.

Now in its third year, the event has become a firm favourite with local families and dog owners, bringing together pumpkin picking, canine costume competitions and a range of activities dedicated to four-legged visitors.

The highlight of the day was the popular Canine Costume Competition, with two contests taking place at 12pm and 3pm.

Dogs of all shapes and sizes arrived in an array of creative costumes, with owners going to impressive lengths to dress their pets for the occasion.

Among the winners were **Lexi, Beanie and Minnie**, who claimed first place alongside their owner, **Emmi Carter**, after impressing the judges with their outfits.

Visitors were also able to enjoy free dog photoshoots, meet representatives from the Dogs Trust and take part in activities throughout the day.

There were plenty of treats for the dogs too, with Butternut Box joining the celebrations and offering samples to some very enthusiastic four-legged taste testers.

The event attracted a record number of canine visitors, continuing a trend of growing popularity since Pooches, Paws & Pumpkins was first introduced three years ago.

A GROWING TRADITION FOR SUSSEX DOG OWNERS

While many pumpkin patches restrict access for animals, dogs are welcome every day at Tulleys Pumpkin Festival, allowing visitors to bring their four-legged companions along for the experience.

The dedicated dog day has become an increasingly popular date in the festival calendar, with families returning each October to take part in the competitions and enjoy the seasonal atmosphere.

For many visitors, the event has become an annual tradition, combining a day out in the Sussex countryside with the opportunity to celebrate their pets.

30 YEARS OF HALLOWEEN AT TULLEYS

The canine celebrations took place during a milestone year for Tulleys Farm, which is marking 30 years of Halloween entertainment in 2026.

The fourth-generation family farm has grown from traditional pumpkin picking into one of Britain's best-known seasonal visitor attractions.

Today, Tulleys Pumpkin Festival is recognised as Europe's Largest Pumpkin Festival, featuring more than **1.5 million pumpkins and gourds**, over 100 varieties and more than 100 acres of farmland.

Visitors can explore colourful pumpkin displays, enjoy live music and street theatre, sample seasonal food and drink, and discover more than 30 dedicated photo opportunities.

Among this year's biggest additions is The Pumpkin Valley, the largest single expansion in the festival's history.

The newly landscaped area features winding pathways, peaceful ponds, streams, giant pumpkin sculptures and colourful seasonal displays, offering visitors an entirely new part of the farm to explore.

The festival has also introduced a Vintage Carousel for 2026, alongside its established Pumpkin Village and 33-metre Observation Wheel.

Tulleys Pumpkin Festival runs until October 31, with dogs welcome throughout the remaining season.

Further information and tickets are available at **PumpkinFarm.co.uk**.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Tulleys Pumpkin Festival 2026

Tulleys Farm, Turners Hill Road, West Sussex, RH10 4PD

- Europe's Largest Pumpkin Festival
- More than 1.5 million pumpkins and gourds
- More than 100 pumpkin varieties
- More than 100 acres of farmland
- NEW for 2026: The Pumpkin Valley
- NEW for 2026: Vintage Carousel
- More than 30 photo opportunities
- Pumpkin Village
- 33-metre Observation Wheel
- Roaming musicians and live entertainment
- Street theatre and live performers
- Seasonal street food
- Bars and coffee
- Free parking
- Dogs welcome every day

Pooches, Paws & Pumpkins 2026

- Held Thursday, October 15
- Third consecutive year
- Record canine attendance
- Two Canine Costume Competitions, held at 12pm and 3pm
- First-place winners included Lexi, Beanie and Minnie, owned by Emmi Carter
- Free dog photoshoots
- Dogs Trust in attendance
- Butternut Box sampling

Photography and filming

A full selection of high-resolution photography is available for editorial use.

Broadcast-quality video, interviews with Tulleys Farm representatives and media visits can also be arranged.

About Tulleys Farm

Tulleys Farm is a fourth-generation family farm owned and operated by the Beare family in West Sussex.

The farm has diversified into major seasonal visitor experiences including Tulleys Tulip Festivals, Tulleys Christmas Experience, Tulleys Christmas Light Festival, Tulleys Escape and Shocktober Fest.

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