

## **NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Branklyn Garden's autumnal glory open for all to see**

Conservation charity the National Trust for Scotland is opening its glorious Branklyn Garden in Perth up for free to all visitors this weekend (29 – 30 September).

Branklyn Garden was first conceived and planted by Dorothy and John Renton in the early 1920s. Since then, the garden has developed greatly, with the Trust adding to the original planting of many tree species, including Birch, Rowan and Maples, with more varieties, especially fine beds of autumn-flowering Gentians.

To encourage a greater awareness of this famous jewel of garden on their doorstep, the property will be open to local people and visitors from further afield free of charge.

The National Trust for Scotland's Head Gardener at Branklyn, Jim Jermyn said:

"I hope as many people as possible can come and enjoy a walk around the garden. It has a unique blend of formality along with an informal woodland setting, with bold plantings of Autumn Crocus, Colchicums and Cyclamen.

"Spectacular autumn-colour is increasing daily with the famous Katsura Tree (*Cercidiphyllum*), *Disanthus* and *Vacciniums*. Look out also for the Gentians which open into full flower on sunshine and display a variety of shades of blue as well as the stunning white cultivar, *Gentiana 'Oban'*.

"These Gentians require an open position that will not dry out and an acid moisture-retentive soil. This weekend some of the finest cultivars on show will include: GG. 'Balmoral', 'Braemar', 'The Caley', 'Kidbrooke', 'Devonhall', 'Troon' and 'Oban'."

Jim will be on hand to offer gardening advice and tea, coffee and home-baked Scones will be available in the property's Tearoom. There is also going to be a plant sale offering a wide range of herbaceous, alpine and woody plants.

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