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## **Goodwood Racecourse and Visit Qatar strengthen partnership as Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes cements its place as Europe's most valuable mile race**

Goodwood Racecourse is delighted to announce that the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes will be run for a record £1.5 million in 2026, further establishing the Group 1 contest as the most valuable mile race in Europe.

The uplift represents the latest enhancement to Goodwood's partnership with Visit Qatar, following a successful first year of the sponsorship which began in 2025. The increase in prize money further builds the Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar's global standing.

Run on the Wednesday of the Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar, the Group 1 Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes is one of the defining mile races of the British Flat season, bringing together the Classic generation and older horses at the height of the summer programme for the first time. The increased prize money will further strengthen Goodwood's ability to attract the very best milers from across the leading international racing jurisdictions.

As part of the programme enhancements, the Qatar International Stakes, the Group 1 contest for purebred Arabians, will move from its traditional position as the opening race of the day to follow the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes on Wednesday afternoon. Established at the inaugural running of the festival, the race serves as the first leg of the Doha Triple Crown and holds significant international importance within Arabian racing. The revised scheduling is intended to elevate its prominence within the day and further strengthen the sporting narrative of the card.

**The Duke of Richmond, CBE DL, Chairman of Goodwood Racecourse, said:** "We are very proud to announce, alongside Visit Qatar, record prize money for the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes to £1.5 million. The uplift demonstrates a shared ambition to continue strengthening the Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar's global profile and to maintain its position among the world's leading racing events."

**His Excellency Saad bin Ali Al Kharji, Chairman of Qatar Tourism and Chairman of the Board of Visit Qatar, said:** "Our commitment to supporting the Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar is rooted in our mutual appreciation for sporting excellence and one of British racing's most storied traditions. This year, we are delighted to demonstrate that commitment through a significant investment, bringing record prize money to the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes. This enhanced level of support reflects our understanding of the power of sport

to bridge cultures and underscores Visit Qatar's dedication to elevating the festival as a premier meeting point where our cultures unite to celebrate shared values and sporting heritage.”

**-ENDS-**

### **Notes To Editors:**

Tickets, dining, and hospitality for the 2026 horseracing season at Goodwood Racecourse are now available to purchase. Visit [Goodwood.com](https://www.goodwood.com) to find out more.

### **Contact**

For more information about Goodwood Racecourse events, please contact: [Media@goodwood.com](mailto:Media@goodwood.com)

Imagery and news from Goodwood are available from our [Press and Media site](#)

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### **About Goodwood Racecourse**

Introduced to the Goodwood Estate in 1802 by the 3rd Duke of Richmond, Goodwood Racecourse has a long and distinguished horseracing heritage. Set on the South Downs, Goodwood Racecourse is regarded as one of the world’s most beautiful racecourses and has been home to significant moments in horseracing history.

Hosting 19 race days from May through October, thousands of racegoers flock to Goodwood each year to enjoy a season of top-class horseracing and entertainment. With a varied calendar of fixtures, race day highlights include the May Festival, Three Friday Nights, Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar—more affectionately known as Glorious Goodwood—and Season Finale to name a few.

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### **About Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar**

Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar is one of the undisputed highlights of the British flat racing season. The world-famous five-day festival is a sporting and social occasion like no other, unrivalled style, superb racing, and hospitality experiences to savour mean it’s not to be missed. The 2026 Qatar Goodwood Festival takes place from Tuesday 28 July to Saturday 1 August. The week is headed by three Group 1 races, including the Al Shaqab Goodwood Cup (2m), the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes (1m), and the Qatar Nassau Stakes (1m2f).