

FILM IS

GREAT

BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

Fold-out
film & TV
location map
inside

A promotional image for the book 'Film Is Great: Britain & Northern Ireland'. It features Sherlock Holmes (played by Benedict Cumberbatch) and John Watson (played by Martin Freeman) from the BBC series 'Sherlock'. They are standing in front of a cloudy sky with the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral visible in the background. Sherlock is on the left, wearing a dark green coat and a blue scarf. John is on the right, wearing a dark jacket over a checkered shirt. The overall tone is dramatic and cinematic.

A guide to visiting Film and TV locations in Britain

From Sherlock's London to the magic of Harry Potter

© BBC/Hartwood Films





WARNER BROS.
STUDIO TOUR
LONDON

THE MAKING OF Harry Potter

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DISCOVER THE BEHIND THE SCENES MAGIC



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WELCOME

STUDIO HEAD: DAN DARK



Film in the UK is undergoing a golden age: 2015 was a record year at the box office, with takings of just over £1.2bn, while film production in the UK had its second best year (just beaten by 2014), with £1.4bn spent across more than 200 films. High-end television production increased by 20 per cent.

As well as the great actors in front of the camera, we have arguably the greatest behind-the-scenes talent in the world. A veritable army creates every film: painters, carpenters, plasterers, through to visual effects technicians, make-up artists and costumiers, right down to those jobs people who don't work in film always ask about: the best boy, or the gaffer. Visitors will find that prodigious talent on full display at the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The



Making of Harry Potter.

We also have some of the most spectacular locations.

Drive just four hours out of London and you're amid the mountains and castles of Wales. In Hertfordshire alone, just outside the capital, you have historic Knebworth House and Hatfield House, while *The Legend of Tarzan* managed to make Ashridge Estate stand

in for the plains of Africa – extraordinary what you can do with a bit of technical wizardry.

Towards the beginning of my own film career, when I worked in special effects, I'd be blowing things up. Now I'm running Warner Bros. Studios Leavesden, which is undergoing yet another expansion programme, I spend my time building things. I'm proud of the film and TV industry we have created in the UK, and

—
"I used to blow things up. Now I build things"
 —

hope this magazine will take your own enjoyment of it a step further: by showing you where to discover the extraordinary places you have glimpsed on screen in real life.

Dan Dark is Senior Vice President and Managing Director of Warner Bros. Studios Leavesden

PARTNERS



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Published by Morris Visitor Publications, Samuel House, 6 St Alban's St, London SW1Y 4SQ, Tel: 020 7242 5222
 Printed by Acorn Web Offset Ltd

BRITAIN ON SCREEN

*“A rash of spy
movies and TV
series have used
The Thames as
a backdrop”*



★★★★★

LIVING THE SCREEN DREAM

From fairytale palaces to windswept coasts to the soaring
towers of London, Britain is the real star of the screen

★★★☆☆



Spooks: The Greater Good

When Tom Hardy mumbled his way to an Oscar nomination in a thick backwoods accent for *The Revenant*, or Christian Bale growled “I’m Batman” from the depths of his throat, or Hugh Laurie grouched “humanity is overrated” in *House*, most American viewers will have been unaware that these stars are British. UK actors have infiltrated Hollywood and US TV to a degree unimaginable only a decade ago. Even the

two young leads of *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* are Brits.

The same is true of Britain itself. You’ve seen it on screen in the past few years many more times than you realise. When you think of Britain in film and TV, the first thing to spring to mind is probably the stately homes in elegant costume dramas such as *Downton*

Abbey. And it’s true, Britain is blessed with such a wealth of historic buildings, palaces and stately homes –

well over 3,000 in all – that they could keep the costume drama industry in locations forever.

Britain’s heritage has always been a draw for visitors, but even more so with a site you’ve come to know and love



Devon's coastline, as seen in *Broadchurch*

on screen: pre-booked tickets for Highclere Castle, where *Downton Abbey* was filmed, are sold out for the year.

“Film and TV is becoming a bigger part of the tourist landscape,” says Adrian Wootton, Chief Executive of the British Film Commission. “People want their pictures taken in front of the sets. The beauty of Devon’s coastline and beaches in *Broadchurch* has driven tourists there, and we will definitely see an increase to Cornwall after *Poldark*. Westminster Abbey didn’t want *The Da Vinci Code* filmed there, but still had a 28% increase in visitors the following year.”

But audiences also crave novelty – mystery as well as history – and here the thrusting, futuristic, constantly changing architecture of modern London shines. There has been a rash of spy movies and TV series that use The Thames and its glittering new towers as a backdrop: in the past year alone, *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation*; *London Spy*; *Spooks: The Greater Good*; *The Night Manager*; *Our Kind*

of Traitor, and of course the granddaddy of them all, the latest James Bond film *SPECTRE*.

In fact, the only thing Hollywood loves more than showing off London’s beautiful buildings is blowing them to smithereens, as in *London Has Fallen* or this summer’s *Independence Day: Resurgence*. A bus exploding on Lambeth Bridge, within sight of the Houses of Parliament, made front-page

“Film and TV is becoming a bigger part of the tourist landscape”



news earlier this year – but it was all in aid of a movie, Jackie Chan’s forthcoming *The Foreigner*.

Outside London, Britain’s landscapes provide extraordinary variety. From the windswept coasts of Devon and Cornwall that provide the breathtaking backdrop to *Broadchurch* and *Poldark*, to the lochs and bothies of Scotland in *Under the Skin*, these epic vistas are made for the big screen. In fact, so other-worldly are some of the views that they have literally been used to stand in for alien planets and alternate universes.

Northern Ireland, most famously, provides the

stunning base for filming *Game of Thrones*. And there’s more where that came from: the extraordinary Giant’s Causeway, consisting of 40,000 interlocking basalt columns which were caused by a long-ago volcanic eruption (or, according to legend, the meeting of two giants), has never been seen in *Game of Thrones*, but it stood in for a mythical Transylvania in the 2014 film *Dracula Untold*. When Rey discovers Luke at the end of *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, on a planet so far off the beaten track that it has kept him secret for decades, that place is really Skellig Michael in Southern Ireland. And when

Steven Spielberg needed to depict a land of the giants in this summer’s adaptation of Roald Dahl’s *The BFG*, he found it in Scotland’s Isle of Skye and the Old Man of Hoy on the Orkneys.

In the pages of this magazine, you’ll find everything from grand historic palaces and the sets and props from the *Harry Potter* films, to quirkier places such as the waterfall in Wales you can actually walk behind that served as the Batcave. You’ve seen it all on screen, often without even realising it: now it’s time to get out and experience it for yourself.

Clockwise from main pic:
Giant’s Causeway, as seen in *Dracula Untold*; Downton Abbey’s Highclere Castle and *London Has Fallen* on the Underground





BRITAIN'S REAL GAME OF THRONES

From London's Buckingham Palace to Balmoral Castle in Scotland,
these are the movie locations fit for a Queen



know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and a king of England, too.” Which actress would not give their ring finger for the chance to deliver this speech? Elizabeth I has been played by dozens of screen greats, from Bette Davis in 1939 through Glenda Jackson in 1971 to Cate Blanchett in 1998 and 2007 – plus Miranda Richardson’s hilariously childish Queenie in *Blackadder*. Helen Mirren hasn’t just played Elizabeth I but Elizabeth II, too, winning an Oscar for *The Queen*.

The Virgin Queen’s father, Henry VIII, is equally attractive to actors: Charles Laughton,

Richard Burton, Robert Shaw, Ray Winstone, Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Damian Lewis are just a few of those to play the axe-happy antihero. And the Royal TV series just keep coming: *The Tudors* was racy, *Wolf Hall* award-winningly cerebral, Liz Hurley’s E! series *The Royals* flat-out

bonkers; in May C4 launched its own sitcom, *The Windsors*.

Because some of the castles and palaces are lived in by the Royal family, they don’t all welcome huge

film crews, so other historic buildings act as stand-ins. Here are Britain’s top Royal attractions, as picked by Visit Britain, along with their “stunt doubles”.

“*The Tudors* was racy, *Wolf Hall* cerebral, *The Royals* flat-out bonkers”

BRITAIN'S TOP 10 ROYAL ATTRACTIONS

Buckingham Palace, London

The office and official residence to the Queen is opened to the public from July to September. Tour the lavish State Rooms and garden, and see the Old Masters in the Royal Collection of art. **Seen on screen:**

countless appearances of the exterior, though the interior is usually doubled by other homes, including Cliveden House and Englefield House in Berkshire, and Lancaster House and Osterley Manor in London.

Kensington Palace, London

Visit the magnificent King’s and Queen’s State Apartments in this former home to Queen Victoria and Diana, Princess of Wales, and pay a visit to the Diana Memorial Fountain nearby in Hyde Park. The exhibition *Fashion Rules*



Liz Hurley in *The Royals*

Restyled is on until next year. **Seen on screen:** in *Young Victoria*, Ham House in Richmond stood in for Kensington Palace.

Windsor Castle, London

This is the Queen's favourite residence, and the largest and oldest occupied castle in the world. Visit the sumptuous State Apartments, St George's Chapel and Queen Mary's Dolls' House. **Seen on screen:**

My Week with Marilyn did shoot briefly outside the castle, but the visit by Michelle Williams and Eddie Redmayne to the library actually took place in Hatfield House in Hertfordshire.

Westminster Abbey, London

This is where every monarch since 1066 has been crowned, and where the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (Prince William and Kate Middleton) were married. **Seen on screen:** feature films have to use stand-ins, such as Lincoln Cathedral in *The Da Vinci Code* and *Young Victoria*, Ely Cathedral in Cambridgeshire in *The King's Speech*, and St Nicholas Church in Dunsany Castle in *Braveheart*.

Hampton Court Palace

Tudor times are recreated by costumed characters in Henry VIII's favourite residence; don't miss the maze and the famously beautiful gardens, which host outdoor film screenings on Aug 12-13 and Sept 2-3. **Seen on screen:** in recent years Hampton Court has become



Clockwise from top: Tower of London; Edinburgh Castle; Hampton Court Palace; Windsor Castle



one of Britain's biggest film "stars", appearing in *Young Victoria*, *Jack the Giant Slayer*, *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*, *The Theory of Everything*, *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows* and Terrence Malick's *The New World*.

Sandringham House & Estate, Norfolk

This is where the Queen chooses to spend Christmas, and it's open to the public until October. The Royal memorabilia museum includes vintage cars such as a 1900 Daimler Phaeton, and until the death of George V it was literally in a different time zone: King Edward VII had ordered all the clocks to be set half an hour ahead to give more daylight for hunting.

Seen on screen: Cumberland Lodge in Windsor was the double in *The King's Speech*.



Edinburgh Castle, Scotland

The stunning view of historic Edinburgh from the cliff top is reason enough to visit, but there's also the Scottish Crown Jewels and the National War Museum of Scotland. **Seen on screen:** "Observe, little girls, the castle!" declaims Maggie Smith to her class in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. The backdrop for many films set in Edinburgh, most stunningly Anne Hathaway's *One Day*.



Balmoral Castle & Estate, Scotland

A fine example of Scots Baronial architecture, this was purchased by Prince Albert in 1852.

Because the Queen and her family spend the summer here, it is only open to visitors from April to July. **Seen on screen:** in *The Queen*, Blairquhan Castle is the stand-in; in *Mrs Brown* it's Duns Castle.

Tower of London, London

This 900-year-old guarded fortress by Tower Bridge is home to the Crown Jewels – expect to queue. **Seen on**



screen: Tom Cruise

filmed *Mission*

Impossible:

Rogue Nation

here, though the café he eats at does not exist in real life; but even his star

power was upstaged

by the wedding of

Kermit and Miss Piggy in

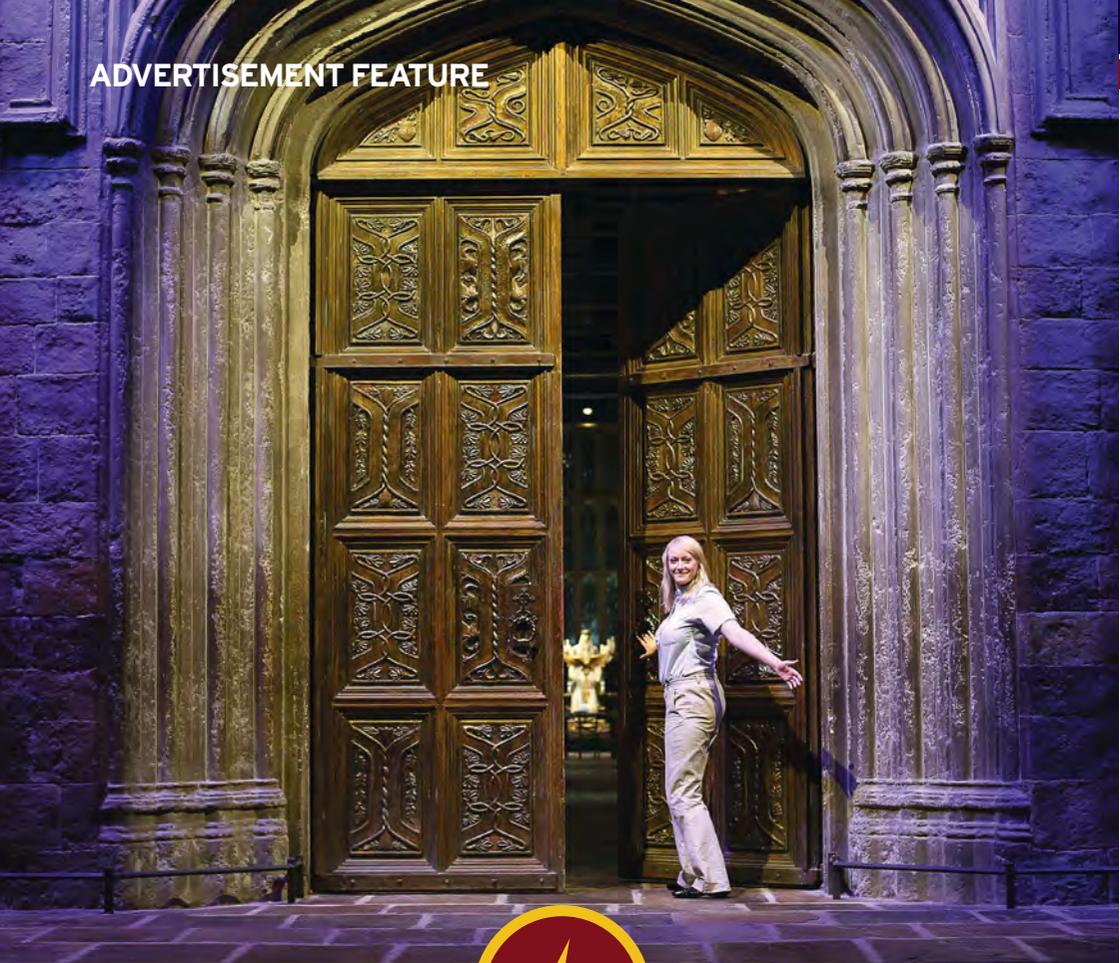
Muppets: Most Wanted.

Palace of Holyrood, Scotland

A tour of the Queen's official residence in Scotland takes in the State Apartments, the gardens and the Queen's Gallery. Until Jan 2017 you can see the exhibition *Fashioning a Reign: 90 Years of Style from the Queen's Wardrobe*.

Seen on screen: Mary, Queen of Scots lived here, but in the Glenda Jackson film of the same name, Alnwick Castle (also used as Harry Potter's Hogwarts) was the stand-in.

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



15 YEARS OF ENCHANTMENT

Step inside the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter as it casts a spell over the film anniversary of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*



It's 15 years since the film *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* brought J.K. Rowling's school for witches and wizards to the big screen. Much has changed since then. Over eight films, *Harry Potter* grew from a wide-eyed boy to a battle-scarred young man. In a new West End play opening in July, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, he becomes a stressed father of three, working at the Ministry of Magic. And *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, an all-new adventure returning us to the wizarding world created by J.K. Rowling, will be released in cinemas on November 18th this year.

But if you want to relive the original magic of the *Harry Potter* films, head to Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter. Hundreds of detailed sets, thousands of elaborate costumes, and tens of thousands of props were hand-made by an army of craftsmen – and the best of them are on display at the Studio Tour, just outside of London.

“Several thousand cast and crew worked on each film,” says Emma Watson, who played Hermione, in a short film that introduces the tour. “The crew were the real wizards of Hogwarts.”



The green-screen experience



The Great Hall



Costumes of the Hogwarts staff

You will soon see what she means. The tour begins when you enter a giant door (pictured left) into the Great Hall, with its long tables, giant fireplace and the authentic costumes of the main characters on display. A temporary addition for the 15th film anniversary of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* is the magical *Sorting Hat*, which hovers over the sorting stool.

Up close, you can appreciate the detail: the hat looks worn and stitched and patched, as befits its age; as for the stool, tiny lions, unicorns and Hippogriffs are carved into the edge of its seat.

As you wander in wonder through the different sets – the *Gryffindor* boys' dormitory, *Dumbledore's* office, the Potions classroom, the *Malfoy* Manor drawing room – you find the same exquisite craftsmanship everywhere. One cabinet of curiosities contains a *Golden Snitch*, with each metal feather a work of art; the golden egg,

opening its three gold-plated petals; and the *Goblet of Fire*, five feet tall and carved from the trunk of an elm. By the end of the *Harry Potter* films, five giant warehouses had been filled with 5,000 pieces of furniture, 12,000 hand-made books, and 40,000 props including 3,000 wands.

Wherever possible, the film-makers used real-world solutions rather than CGI (computer-generated imagery). When you encounter the vast circular door to the *Chamber of Secrets*, note the grooves

By the end of the Harry Potter films, five giant warehouses had been filled with 5,000 pieces of furniture, 12,000 hand-made books, and 40,000 props including 3,000 individual wands

under the seven metal snakes: they would slither along these mechanically. Mad Eye Moody's trunk with seven bewitched, self-opening compartments

was also realised through craft, not computer. Even the broomsticks which the wizarding students sit on to play *Quidditch* are real, though the aerial footage is digitally added.

Try one yourself in the Studio Tour's green-screen experience.

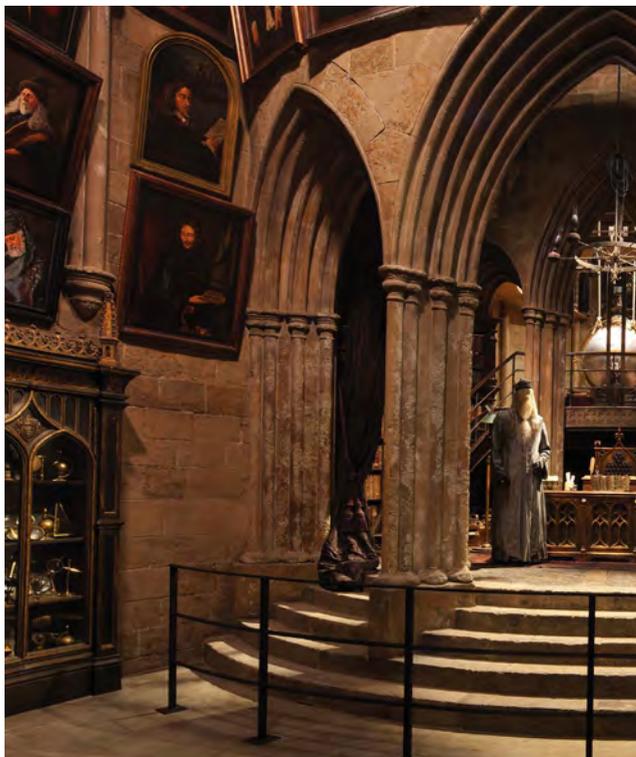
Then there's the *pièce de résistance*, introduced just last year: the thoroughly real 1937

Great Western Railway locomotive, otherwise known as the *Hogwarts Express*, which conveyed Harry to *Hogwarts* in the films. It stands puffing out steam in a 20,000 sq. ft. recreation of *Platform 9¾*, luggage trolleys and all. Visit the compartments in the old-fashioned carriages.

All this, and you're only halfway through the tour! There's still *Creature Effects*, a walk down *Diagon Alley*, and, as a grand finale, a vast 1:24 scale model of *Hogwarts* castle. *Harry Potter* fans will be in wizarding heaven. The whole tour is an eye-opening lesson in how films are made, and the unsung heroes who make it all possible.

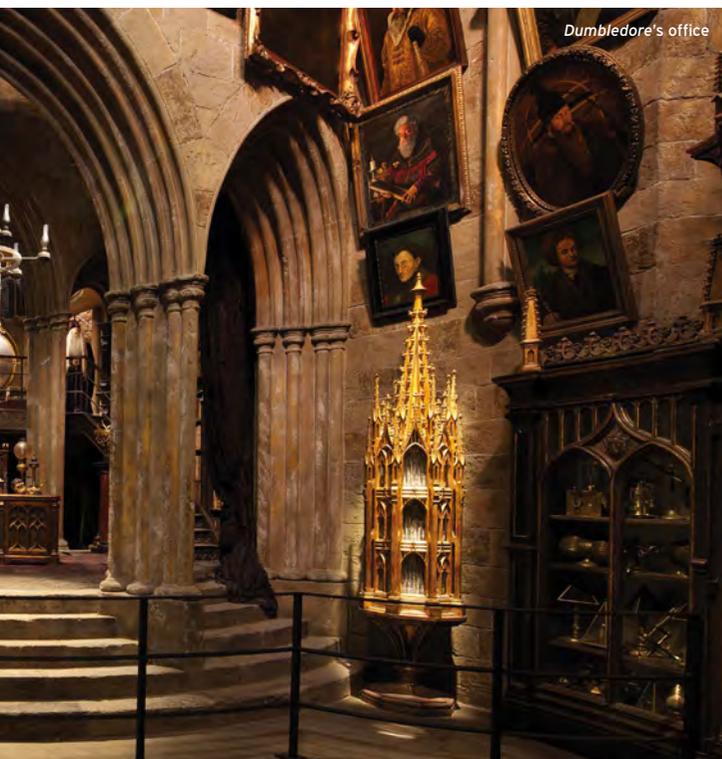
See www.ubstudiotour.co.uk

Animatronic *Hagrid* head





Model of Hogwarts castle



Dumbledore's office



15th ANNIVERSARY - SPECIALS -

JULY 22-SEPT 5:

Finding the *Philosopher's Stone* will show all the challenges *Harry Potter* and friends went through to secure the magical jewel. See the self-playing harp that lulls Fluffy the three-headed dog to sleep, discover how giant chess pieces were made to move by the special effects team, and learn how to create Fluffy saliva, troll snot and unicorn blood!

OCT 15-NOV 4:

Celebrations for the 15th anniversary of the film combine the best of the special features, with the *Great Hall* dressed for a Hallowe'en feast.



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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



The Legend Of Tarzan



WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

The Legend of Tarzan may look like it was filmed in Africa but, like many recent blockbusters, it was shot in and around London's Warner Bros. Studios Leavesden



Anyone who visited Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of *Harry Potter* earlier this year got closer than they realised to a brand-new piece of movie history. The tour stands right next to Warner Bros. Studios Leavesden, which after the *Harry Potter* film series wrapped was transformed into a suitable home for making films and TV series on British soil. And in those studios the next chapter in J.K. Rowling's wizarding world was unfolding: *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*.

"There were *Harry Potter* superfans who would visit the tour aware that *Fantastic Beasts* was filming next door, which made for an exciting visit," says Emily Stillman, the studio vice-president. "The film has now wrapped and is in post production, but whilst shooting they occupied approximately one third of the studio, working on five stages at once."

Massive as the studio is, it never seems to be quite big enough: it's a testimony to the health of film production in Britain that it's busy until the end of the year.

Three new stages have recently been built, one of them 50 feet high, as well as an office block that is 22,000 sq. ft.; work has just started on 70,000 sq. ft. of workshop space, further enhancing the studio's capacity. When I visited, craftsmen were sculpting huge "marble" statues

out of Styrofoam; another workshop was filled with the merry hammering and drilling of an army of carpenters. "Busy" doesn't begin to describe it.

Emily reels off a list of the major films shot here recently: there's the new Jason Bourne movie; *The Golden Circle*, Matthew Vaughn's sequel to *Kingsman*; and further back *Edge of Tomorrow*; *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation*; *Heart of the Sea*; and the forthcoming *King Arthur: Knights of the Round Table*, as well as TV ads including the famous Christmas specials

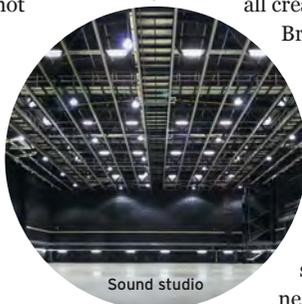
for John Lewis and M&S.

One of the most surprising is *The Legend of Tarzan*, which opens in UK cinemas on July 8th. It may look like it was filmed in Africa, but it was

all created on Warner Bros. Studios

Leavesden's gigantic stages and in its water tank (one of Europe's biggest), with a few exterior scenes shot nearby. Sue Quinn,

the veteran location manager who worked on the film, says: "For *Tarzan*, we recreated Africa all within the M25! We put a beautiful boat on Virginia Water and made Ashridge Estate look like Africa."



Sound studio

Out of Africa and into Warner Bros. Studios Leavesden





SCENE STEALERS

The ultimate UK locations guide, from Spielberg's *BFG* on the Isle of Skye to *Poldark* in Cornwall



- WEST -

Antony House, Cornwall

After Tim Burton's *Alice in Wonderland* came out in 2010, visitor numbers at Antony House surged from 25,000 to 100,000. Admire the formal garden with its wonderful flowers and modern sculptures, and the splendid portraits in the house.

Bristol

Full of grand old buildings and, thanks to a strong student population (as seen in the C4 TV series *Skins*), trendy clubs and bars, Bristol was recently set aflutter by the presence on its streets of Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin



Freeman, shooting the *Abominable Bride* episode of *Sherlock*. Striking locations included the cellars of Colston Hall and Arnos Vale Cemetery, while Sir Eustace's grand house is six miles to the west at Tyntesfield House.

Dartmoor, Devon

Steven Spielberg, who directed *War Horse*, said: "I have never before been gifted with such an abundance of natural beauty as I experienced on Dartmoor." Find the rustic settings around

Combestone Tor, Haytor and Ringmoor Down; you can visit but not enter the farm near Meavy at Ditsworthy Warren House.





Felicity Jones and
Eddie Redmayne in *The
Theory of Everything*,
filmed in Cambridge

Blackpool Mill Cottage, Devon

Fancy a night in Tom Hiddleston's bed? The 15th-century Devon cottage he briefly took up residence in in the BBC spy thriller *The Night Manager* is available to rent, as part of the estate of Hartland Abbey. It also featured as Barton Cottage in Andrew Davies's TV adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility*. It's right on the South West coastal footpath, perfect for romantic seaside walks – with or without Tom.

Wells, Somerset

Edgar Wright and Simon Pegg's cult comedy *Hot Fuzz* takes place in the sleepy town of Wells in Somerset, with Wells Cathedral digitally erased. You can book into the Swan Hotel, where super-cop Nic Angel stayed. Mystical Glastonbury Tor is only a few miles away.

Montacute Hall, Somerset

The most spectacular of many locations in the BBC's historical drama *Wolf Hall*, Montacute Hall stands in for Henry VIII's Greenwich Palace. It's open to visitors, and you can even stay in its Odcombe Lodge or South Lodge. Barrington Court, also in Somerset, provided interiors for Cardinal Wolsey's home.

Bath, Somerset

This historic town is home to huge and well preserved Roman baths, a very modern spa and some beautiful Georgian homes including the famous Royal Crescent. It's hosted dozens of film and TV productions over

the past decade, of which Keira Knightley's period drama *The Duchess* was one of the most sumptuous.

Stonehenge, Wiltshire

The prehistoric stone circle has witnessed few stranger sights than actor Erik Selvig naked but for his shoes and socks when filming *Thor: The Dark World*.



Stonehenge

Except, perhaps, for Matt Smith as Doctor Who addressing a fleet of alien spaceships from atop its ancient stones. *Spinal Tap* fans also cherish the moment a tiny Stonehenge is lowered on to the stage due to a mix-up over feet and inches.

West Bay, Dorset

The writer of *Broadchurch* describes it as “a love letter to

the Jurassic Coast”. Fans of the ITV series are as enamoured of the towering cliffs and sandy beaches as of the plot's twists and turns. Beach scenes and some exteriors were filmed in the very real town of West Bay. The Bull Hotel is where the cast stayed. The cliff-top murder hut is at Eype, a mile west.

Mapperton House, Dorset

Charlotte Bruus Christensen, cinematographer of the recent *Far from the Madding Crowd*, says of Devon: “We worked with the scenery as a character just as much as Bathsheba or Gabriel Oak.” The house that Bathsheba (Carey Mulligan) inherits is Mapperton. The Jacobean manor is open until

PREVIOUS PAGES: ANTHONY HOUSE © NATIONAL TRUST IMAGES, JOHN MILLAR; THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING © UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

★★★ HERE BE DRAGONS ★★★

No other TV series in recent years has aroused the fevered devotion of *Game of Thrones*. Celebrity fans include Ed Sheeran, who has begged for a cameo; Beyoncé, who was given a dragon egg by Jay Z; Elijah Wood, who took a pic of himself on the Iron Throne; Madonna, who dressed up as Daenerys; and President Obama, perhaps the only person in the world to be sent episodes in advance.

Mere mortals can't visit the Belfast set, so nearby Castle Ward, better known as Winterfell, has become the key attraction. The Clearsky Adventure Centre there offers archery lessons – in *Thrones* costume, of course; and if you book ahead you can meet the real “Direwolves”, Odin and Thor. In the Cuan guesthouse in nearby Strangford Village, you can stay in rooms where the first-season cast slept, choose from a Winterfell-themed menu, and admire the intricately carved “Door of Thrones” made to celebrate Season 6.



But it's Northern Ireland's natural wonders that make *Game of Thrones* look so good. To the south is Tollymore Forest Park, which features in several episodes, and the Mourne Mountains which form the entrance to Vaes Dothrak. To the north, the Ballygally Castle Hotel offers a *Game of Thrones* tea; it's a good base to explore the rugged Causeway Coast.

Don't miss the Dark Hedges, an avenue of gnarled and twisted 18th-century beech trees, which is the Kings Road. You will find the Iron Islands at Ballintoy Harbour and Murlough Bay, while the Cushenden Caves and Larrybane Headland stand in for the Stormlands. Further west is Binevenagh Mountain, to which Daenerys escapes on the back of a dragon at the end of Season 5.

Fans will have been left reeling by the climactic battle of season 6: that was shot at Saintfield, which was the site of the first bloody conflict of the Irish Rebellion in 1798.



© SKY ATLANTIC

Oct daily except Fri and Sat, and its romantic gardens daily except Sat.

- SOUTH/EAST -

Norwich, Norfolk

Norwich is synonymous with its most famous fictional resident: hapless radio DJ Alan Partridge. The TV comedy was not actually filmed on location, but the feature film *Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa* has a memorable climax on Cromer Pier.

Returning to Norwich, said Partridge at the premiere, was “like sitting in a warm bath whilst having a cup of cocoa and peanut butter on toast whilst watching *Air Crash Investigation* on a TV... it feels

good.” Norwich Cathedral was also used in *Jack the Giant Slayer*.

The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent

This hugely popular attraction features as Poplar Dock in *Call the Midwife*; fans can take a dedicated location tour twice a month.

Suffragette was partly shot here, as were *Vanity Fair*, *Les Misérables*, *The Mummy* and *Downton Abbey*. It's unrecognisable in *The Man from UNCLE*, which turned it into the Berlin Wall, and in *Mr*

Holmes, in which it became Hiroshima. Chatham includes three historic warships, as well as hundreds of Victorian and Georgian buildings.

Portsmouth, Hampshire

The astonishing opening to *Les Misérables*, in which Hugh Jackman and his fellow convicts band together to pull a

vast ship through storm-lashed waves, was filmed at No 9 Dock at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard; Nelson's ship, HMS Victory, which is its chief attraction, is glimpsed in the scene.



Portsmouth Dockyard



Northern Ireland is where much of *Game of Thrones* was shot



Alice in Wonderland: Through the Looking Glass was shot mostly in the studio, but also at Gloucester Docks

Petworth House, West Sussex

Mr Turner star Timothy Spall said: “To be in the very room where Turner painted was an astounding privilege.” The 17th-century mansion contains the National Trust’s finest collection of paintings.

Bourne Wood, Surrey

The pretty woodland with its walking and cycling trails is where Thor reduced a rock giant to rubble, and the frenetic opening battle in *Avengers: Age of Ultron* was filmed. It’s also where Russell Crowe “unleashed hell” in *Gladiator* and attacked a castle in *Robin Hood*, and it appeared in *Snow White and the Huntsman* and *War Horse*.



Petworth House

Wickham Manor, East Sussex

In *Mr Holmes*, an elderly Sherlock (Ian McKellen) retires to this 16th-century house. It’s run as a B&B, so you can make it your home from Holmes. It

has real Tudor beams inside, and the beautiful garden in which, in the film, Holmes keeps bees, but not the dramatic cliffs of the film: those were filmed at Seaford Head, which is 35 miles away.

- CENTRAL -

Bletchley Park, Buckinghamshire

Discover the full story of the cracking of the Nazis’ Enigma

Code at Bletchley Park, which is now a museum. The place may look a little different than you remember it from Benedict Cumberbatch’s *The Imitation Game*: filming really took place in Joyce Grove in Nettlebed, Oxfordshire (not open); Chesham’s Church St stood in for the village of Bletchley.

Windsor Great Park, West Berkshire

The ancient forest depicted in the dark fairytale musical *Into the Woods* can be found, amazingly, just outside the M25. “We felt very spoiled,” says star Anna Kendrick. “It’s some of the most gorgeous location work in the film.” The 5,000 acres of Windsor Great Park, which include a deer park and oaks 800 years old, attract 2.5 million visitors a year. Other locations include Ashridge Estate near Berkhamsted (the *Giants in the Sky* song), pretty Hambleton in Oxfordshire (the baker’s village) and Dover Castle (Cinderella’s wedding).

Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucestershire

The cloisters double as the corridors of Hogwarts in three *Harry Potter* films, and the cathedral has also been seen in *Wolf Hall* and *Doctor Who*. Gloucester Docks was also the main non-studio location used in Tim Burton’s recent *Alice in Wonderland: Through the Looking Glass*.

Letchworth/Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

Edgar Wright and Simon Pegg’s

comedy *The World's End* revolves around a literally apocalyptic pub crawl. Fancy recreating it? "Newton Haven" is actually Letchworth and Welwyn Garden City and, luckily for your liver, only some of the 12 pubs featured are real (though names were changed). They are: the Pear Tree Inn on Hollybush Lane; Doctor's Tonic on Church Road; The Two Willows on Howardsgate; the Parkway Bar on Parkway; The Three Magnets on Leys Avenue; the Colonnade on Station Road; the Arena Tavern on Arena Parade; and The Gardener's Arms on Wilbury Hills Road.

Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

Eddie Redmayne captured the hearts of movie-goers in *The Theory of Everything*, and so did the historic university town of Cambridge. The spectacular May Ball was shot in beautiful

St John's College, and other locations include Trinity Lane and the Arts School lecture theatre. More recently, *The Man Who Knew Infinity*, starring Dev Patel in the true-life story of a maths prodigy who comes to Cambridge from Madras, was shot on location in Trinity College. Ely Cathedral, 15 miles north, stood in for Westminster Abbey in *The King's Speech*.

The Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire

The ancient Forest of Dean contains the gnarled and twisty Puzzlewood, where *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* was filmed, as was *Jack the Giant Slayer*, *Da Vinci's Demons*, *Merlin* and

Atlantis. Clearwell Caves were used in *Doctor Who*, and Symonds Yat Rock viewpoint was in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire

Just north of Oxford in Woodstock, the vast former home of war-time Prime Minister Winston Churchill inspired the palace in

Cinderella as well as

furnishing the actual gardens. The ornate clock that counts down to midnight, however, is taken from Cliveden House in Buckinghamshire. The Liz Hurley-starring TV series *The Royals* was also filmed here, and more recently it provided the spectacular setting for a

"Winston Churchill's former home inspired the palace in *Cinderella*"

Gloucester Cathedral



charity ball in *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation*, and doubled for Rome's Palazzo Cadenza in the most recent James Bond movie, *SPECTRE*.

Wallingford, Oxfordshire

The very British rural detective drama *Midsomer Murders* is still going strong after 18 years. The town of Causton is filmed mostly in the pretty, riverside Wallingford – where *Miss Marple* creator Agatha Christie also lived and worked. Other locations include Ewelme

village, Dorchester Abbey's museum, Mapledurham House, Warborough, Lewknor, Brightwell Baldwin, Nettlebed, Rotherfield and the Haseleys.

Oxford, Oxfordshire

The dreaming spires of Oxford have been seen in countless films including fantasy blockbuster *The Golden Compass*, the *Harry Potter* series and *The Riot Club*, as well as the classic detective series *Inspector Morse*. Hugh Grant made his feature debut,

while still at New College, in the Oxford-set *Privileged*, stripped to the waist and carrying a deer over his shoulders.

Hatfield House, Hertfordshire

The childhood home of Queen Elizabeth I features in period dramas such as *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, and was home to Michael Keaton's *Batman* and Angelina Jolie's *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*. This year it featured in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* as Rosings Park.

Highclere Castle, Berkshire

Julian Fellowes, a family friend of the resident Carnarvons, had this very place in mind when writing ITV hit *Downton Abbey*. Sadly it's so popular with fans that pre-booked tickets for this year are sold out; a certain amount are available on the day. It's possible to stay at the London Lodge, at the entrance to Highclere Park, but that too gets booked up; instead try the former coach house, now The Carnarvon Arms Hotel.

Black Country Living Museum, West Midlands

Important buildings from the industrial 'Black Country' have been relocated and preserved across 26 acres in Dudley, showing what life was like between 1850 and 1950. It's been a popular location for TV series, including *Land Girls* and *Dancing on the Edge*, and currently hosts the popular 1920s gangland drama *Peaky Blinders* starring blue-eyed heartthrob Cillian Murphy.



The dreaming spires of Oxford

★★★ THE COAST IS CLEAR ★★★

The BBC's *Poldark*, shot in Cornwall

The BBC's historical drama series *Poldark* may boast a particularly attractive cast, but even they are outshone by the Cornish landscape. In fact, during filming skies were *too* blue, and clouds had to be digitally added. The *Poldark* Effect is strong: many local businesses have reported a doubling in visitor numbers since the first series was broadcast in 2015.

The dramatic shipwreck scene was shot at Church Cove, Gunwalloe. Porthgwarra Cove near Land's End, where *Poldark* goes skinny-dipping, provides crystal-clear waters, a dramatic tunnel cut through the rock and terrific views from the South West Coast Path. Levant Mine, which is unique in still retaining the original steam-powered bream engine on-site, stood in for Tressiders Rolling Mill, while the dramatic clifftop Owls and Crowns mines of Botallack became the



Levant Mine

family mine *Poldark* tries to resurrect. More engine houses perch atop the cliffs at St Agnes Head, used as Nampara Valley in the drama.

North and inland, make sure to visit wild Bodmin Moor, with its standing stones and medieval farms, which made a spectacular backdrop for *Poldark*'s cottage and numerous riding scenes. Truro, however, has become too modern to be a suitable location; Corsham in Wiltshire stood in instead.

Last autumn, locals spotted Aidan Turner as *Poldark* during filming of the second series striding around Penberth Cove, floating near the Tall Ships of Charlestown Harbour, galloping on horseback at Holywell Bay, and sharing a kiss with co-star Eleanor Tomlinson at Porthcurno beach. Season two will be broadcast later this year.

- NORTH -

Castle Howard, Yorkshire

The vast Castle Howard will forever be synonymous with *Brideshead Revisited*: it was used both in the iconic 1981 TV series with Jeremy Irons and the 2008 film with Ben Whishaw. Adults will enjoy the history and the 1,000 acres of grounds; kids can take a land train to the adventure playground by the lake.

Calder Valley, Yorkshire

The gripping police series *Happy Valley* was filmed in Calder Valley, with the rolling Pennine Hills as a backdrop. Policewoman Catherine Cawood's house is in Hangingroyd Lane, Hebden Bridge, while The White Lion pub in nearby Heptonstall is where the creepy Frances Drummond stayed.

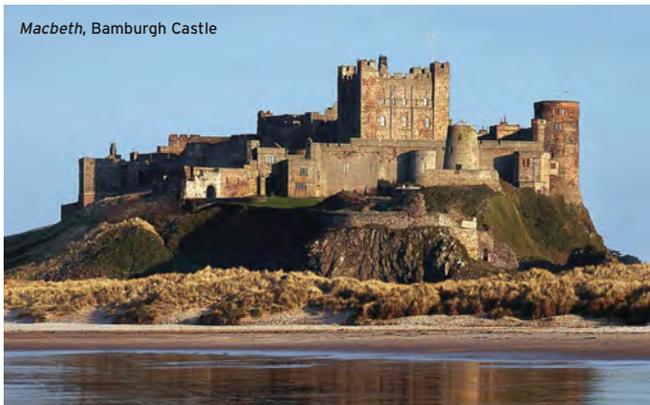
Haddon Hall, Derbyshire

Arguably the finest fortified medieval manor house in England, this has a crenelated entrance with gargoyles, and a 14th-century Banqueting Hall. It was Thornfield both in the 2011 *Jane Eyre* with Michael Fassbender and Franco Zeffirelli's 1996 version; but to fans of *The Princess Bride*, it is Humperdinck's castle.

Liverpool, Merseyside

Liverpool is still best known for

Macbeth, Bamburgh Castle



the Beatles. *Nowhere Boy*, about John Lennon's early life, used Sacred Heart Catholic College for school scenes, though Lennon's real home on Menlove Avenue, which is open to visit, was not practical for filming. Liverpool is the UK's most filmed city after London. Recent shoots include the forthcoming J.K. Rowling movie, *Fantastic Beasts*, the Meryl Streep-starrer *Florence Foster Jenkins*, and TV dramas *Close to the Enemy* and *Houdini & Doyle*.

Manchester, Greater Manchester

With the BBC having relocated to Manchester (see p42), expect many more dramas set there to rival the cult time-travel police series *Life on Mars*. The Canal Street area, the premier LGBT centre outside London, was made famous by TV's *Queer as Folk* and *Cucumber*. Manchester

often stands in for other global cities, most recently 1920s New York in *Genius*, starring Colin Firth as F Scott Fitzgerald's and Hemingway's literary editor.

Wollaton Hall, Nottinghamshire

After Wayne Manor burned down in *Batman Begins*, the *Dark Knight* films relocated the rebuilt manor from Mentmore Towers to the similar-looking Wollaton Hall, which is now a Natural History Museum. (See London section for the Osterley Park House interiors.) On 28 Aug, as part of four nights of outdoor film screenings, you can watch *The Dark Knight Rises* in the grounds.

Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland

This huge, brooding castle has featured in *Harry Potter*, *Blackadder* and Polanski's *Macbeth*, as well as Michael Fassbender's recent *Macbeth*. The latter's location manager recommended it to Steven Spielberg, so it will also appear in his big-budget adaptation of



Haddon Hall

Roald Dahl's *The BFG*.

Alnwick Castle, Northumberland

This imposing castle doubled as Hogwarts in the first two *Harry Potter* films, and featured in the 2014 Christmas special of *Downton Abbey*. It is still hosting an exhibition of photography, costumes and props from the *Downton* shoot.

Hill Top, Cumbria

Renée Zellweger's *Miss Potter* showed how the author of Peter Rabbit was influenced by the beauty of her native Lake District. Visit her home at Hill Top, now a Potter museum; Yew Tree Farm, which stood in for Hill Top in the film, now a B&B and tea room; the Beatrix

Potter Gallery in Hawkshead; and the World of Beatrix Potter Attraction in Bowness-on-Windermere. Outdoor locations include Keswick and Deerwater, Coniston and Tarn Hows, Loughrigg, and Loweswater.

- SCOTLAND -

Glenfinnan Viaduct

To fully recreate Harry Potter's trips to Hogwarts, take the Jacobite steam train along the West Highland line. Starting near Ben Nevis and finishing in Mallaig Bay, it crosses the 21-arch Glenfinnan Viaduct made famous by the film series.

Glencoe

The penultimate James Bond

movie, *Skyfall*, climaxes in beautiful Glencoe. The stunning scenery in the driving sequence is of the peaks of Buachaille Etive Mor and Buachaille Etive Beag, seen from the A82. The Highlands' rugged beauty has graced many a film, most memorably Mel Gibson's *Braveheart*.

Rowchoish bothy

The unsettling sci-fi film *Under the Skin* may not be a great ad for Glasgow, but the rural scenes are breathtaking. The beach where Scarlett Johansson attacks a young swimmer is in Auchmithie, and the ruined castle she visits is Tantallon. Rowchoish bothy, the hut in the

★★★ **BOLLY GOOD SHOW** ★★★

Darling, sweetie, sweetie-darling! The Bolly-swilling Edina and Patsy are back in *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie*, and still age gracefully.

The much-loved BBC sitcom starring Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley gets its first big-screen outing this summer; and though much of the film takes place in France, to which the hapless duo flee after Edina commits the ultimate fashion faux-pas – killing Kate Moss – London outshines even the 60 celebrity cameos.

In the trailer, Edina has thrown over her once beloved Harvey Nicks restaurant for a new love: "Right, darling," she says over the phone, "I'm working from Nobu this week." One Canada Square, a lavish restaurant in the heart of Canary Wharf, is also featured. But it's the night-time

Thames into which Kate Moss is tipped – you can see the police boats searching for her right outside the Tower of London – that looks most glorious. A

nocturnal boat ride with City Cruises, with all the buildings lit in blues and reds and purples, is one of London's must-dos. In real life Joanna

Lumley is also making waves: the plan she proposed in 1998 for a Garden Bridge has now been approved, designed by Thomas Heatherwick.

Finally, *AbFab* fans know it's all about the fashion, darling. Airheaded assistant Bubble is being dressed by avant-garde label Vin + Omi (www.vinandomi.com), Edina is

resplendent in Vivienne Westwood purple (flagship on King's Road), Patsy teeters on fabulous red and black boots by Balenciaga (Mount St), and there are bags by Anya Hindmarch (flagships on Sloane St and Bond St).



- WALES -

Henrhyd Falls, Brecon Beacons

There has been such a surge of visitors on the Nant Llech Trail to Henrhyd Falls that a series of steps and a 40-metre boardwalk have had to be added. That's because the 90-foot wall of water, which, thrillingly, you really can walk behind, marks the entrance to the Batcave in *The Dark Knight Rises*.

Cardiff, south Wales

Russell T. Davies, the Welsh-born writer/producer who rebooted *Doctor Who* in 2005, insisted on it being filmed in Cardiff. Visit the recently regenerated *Doctor Who* Experience, which offers an Interactive Experience and an Exhibition Hall with the world's largest collection of Whovian memorabilia; in March an exhibition devoted to all 13 episodes of Series Nine was added. The city, with its

spectacular Millennium Centre and busy waterfront, also hosted *Torchwood* and *Sherlock*. Geek heaven!

Other Welsh locations

New Quay was seen in the Dylan Thomas film *The Edge of Love*, and inspired his poem *Under Milkwood*; Margam Park in Neath Port Talbot is in US TV series *Da*



Doctor Who Experience, Cardiff

woods where she sleeps, is part of a network of shelters for walkers, and is situated off the eastern shore of Loch Lomond.

Isle of Skye

VisitScotland Chairman Mike Cantlay says "Skye possesses an ethereal, out-of-this-world quality", so it was no surprise to see it as an alien landscape in *Prometheus*, as well as a land of the giants in Spielberg's latest film *The BFG*. Most striking is the huge monolith dubbed the Old Man of Storr.

Edinburgh

Picturesque Edinburgh is closely associated with Danny Boyle's early films *Shallow Grave* and *Trainspotting*, and provided spectacular panoramic shots in 2011 romance *One Day*, which ends with Anne Hathaway high above the city on Arthur's

Seat. It's actually an extinct volcano, and an hour's hike to the top. More recently, the sci-fi film *Cloud Atlas* filmed at the Scott Monument, the City Chambers on the Royal Mile, Victoria Terrace and in India Buildings.

Doone Castle

Doone Castle, near Stirling, features in the time-travel romance *Outlander*, but will forever be known for John Cleese taunting "Your mother was a hamster and your father smelled of elderberries" in *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Ex-Python Terry Jones has voiced a hilarious audio guide, and the gift shop is full of Python stuff.



Doone Castle

Vinci's Demons; Aberystwyth is home to Welsh detective drama *Hinterland* (or *Y Gwyll*); Freshwater West beach in Pembrokeshire is where Shell Cottage was built for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*; and the Italianate folly hotel-village of Portmeirion in Snowdonia is forever synonymous with cult 1960s TV thriller *The Prisoner*. Hugely popular with visitors, Portmeirion also hosts the boutique music festival No 6 in early September.

- NORTHERN IRELAND -

Bangor Castle Walled Garden, County Down

High-Rise, Ben Wheatley's super-stylish dystopian thriller starring Tom Hiddleston, was filmed at Bangor's old leisure centre, the Co-Op building, and the lovely Walled Garden. Designed in the 1840s, it has only been open as a visitor attraction since 2009.

The Giant's Causeway

Extraordinary volcanic basalt columns with hexagonal stones make this place look like nothing on Earth. It stood in for Transylvania in the 2014 film *Dracula Untold* as Broken Tooth Mountain, where Vlad enters to become a vampire (with the Italianate garden at Mount Stewart playing the grounds of Dracula's castle, and more filming locations including Divis and the Black Mountains). It was also seen in the comic fantasy film *Your Highness*.

★★★ **FEEL THE FORCE** ★★★

That galaxy far, far away may just be nearer than you thought. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* was shot mostly at Pinewood Studios, but many of the supposedly alien environments were filmed in British landscapes.

Want to stand where X-Wings battled it out with TIE Fighters in a thrilling dog-fight? Head to Cumbria, and the beautiful lakes of Thirlmere and Derwentwater. "I didn't know there was so much green in the whole galaxy," says Rey in the film, when she arrives in the Lake District environment.

Want to roam the ancient forest where our heroes clash with Kylo Ren? That'll be Puzzlewood in Gloucestershire's Forest of Dean. A maze of paths, secret caves,

unusual rock formations and twisted trees, it supposedly inspired Tolkien's depiction of the forests of Middle Earth, and has also been seen in *Merlin*, *Doctor Who*, *Jack the Giant Killer* and *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1*.

And if you're really adventurous, make your own pilgrimage to the remote place where Rey finally tracks down Luke. The striking pathway up a mountain rising steeply from the sea is on Skellig Michael, an island off the south-west corner of Southern Ireland that was named a World Heritage Site in 1996. It makes a suitably spiritual retreat for a retired Jedi Knight: a Catholic monastery was founded there between the sixth and eighth centuries, whose ruins still survive.



X-Wings and TIE Fighters battle it out over the Lake District



LONDON CRAWLING

From *Ripper Street* to *Penny Dreadful*, Victorian Gothic
London is back - with a vengeance



If there's one film genre Britain excels at, it's horror. After all, Britain invented it. Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto* in 1764 was the granddaddy of Gothic Horror, followed in the 19th century by Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. Real life proved even more disturbing than fiction when Jack the Ripper stalked the streets of East London in 1888 – the mystery of his identity has still never been solved.

The cobbled and fog-bound streets of Victorian Gothic London have proved fertile ground for TV series of late. *Ripper Street*, set six months after the notorious murders, began on the BBC in 2012 before getting a new lease of life as an Amazon Original series. The ongoing



Penny Dreadful goes one better, throwing a whole crypt of Gothic Horror characters together: Helsing and Dracula, Frankenstein and his monster, Dorian Gray and Dr Jekyll all appear. *Dracula* with Jonathan Rhys Meyers and ITV's *Jekyll and Hyde* fared less well, both being cancelled after one season; but *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell*, a 2015 BBC series in which London magicians attempt to use their powers in the war against France, was nominated for four BAFTA awards. You might think that the modern capital could not compete, but the subterranean maze of the Tube has provided rick pickings. The seminal *Quatermass and the Pit*, a 1950s TV series that was made into a Hammer Horror film in the 1960s, begins

with demonic artefacts dug up during an extension to the Central Line. *Death Line* in 1972, featuring a tribe of Tube-dwelling cannibals, has become a cult favourite.

Creep, in 2004, features a woman stuck overnight in the Tube who is stalked by a subterranean killer. The Tube also provided perhaps the most chilling scene in John Landis's horror-comedy classic, *An American Werewolf in London*.

But the pick of all modern

London-set horror films must be Danny Boyle's zombie reboot, *28 Days*. To those used to the capital's crowds, there is nothing more eerie

than seeing Westminster Bridge and

Piccadilly Circus devoid of any living soul apart from a dazed and disoriented Cillian Murphy stumbling through the wreckage.

Yes, London is the world capital of horror, as you will find if you venture into The London Bridge Experience. Enjoy it – if you dare.



Penny Dreadful

Cast of Penny Dreadful



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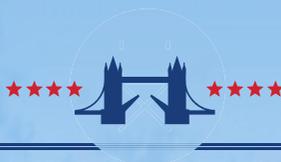


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- CENTRAL -

Coca-Cola London Eye

The Fantastic Four (2007) stopped the London Eye falling into a whirlpool, but it was later

smashed by a giant robot in *The Day the Earth Stopped* (2008) and blown up in *GI Joe: Retaliation* (2013). Luckily for

the 3.5 million visitors a year that make it the UK's leading

paid tourist attraction, it's still standing strong!

James Smith & Sons

It's impossible to mention all the London locations in the spy thriller *Spooks: The Greater*



Doctor Who's Tardis frequently drops in on London

Good, but one stands out: the splendid 186-year-old specialist umbrella shop James Smith & Sons, near The British Museum, has bizarrely never been seen on screen before. Spy spoof *Kingsman* also puts some very British shops front and centre: Huntsman on Savile Row is the Kingsman HQ, while Eggsy buys a hat from Lock & Co on St James's Street.

Millennium Bridge

Crossing the Millennium Bridge from Tate Modern to St Paul's, you'll be impressed by its sleek modern beauty. The makers of *Guardians of the Galaxy* found its design so far-out that they superimposed it into an alien city. It was dubbed "the bendy bridge" at launch, when teething troubles caused it to sway; in *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, the Death Eaters twist it like a pretzel until it collapses into the Thames.

The British Museum

The British Museum gave the climax to Hitchcock's *Blackmail* way back in 1929, and featured in the *Mummy* series. More recently it starred in *Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb*, in which exhibits come to life. But although the museum is big on Egyptian artefacts, many elements in the film are invented, from the triceratops skeleton to the nine-headed Chinese snake demon.

Westminster Abbey

The spectacular church in

★★★ GOING TO A GOOD HOLMES ★★★

The public's fascination with Sherlock Holmes shows no sign of dying down: following on from the Robert Downey Jr films and the Benedict Cumberbatch BBC series (see under Bristol for the one-off special, *The Abominable Bride*, which aired early this year), Ian McKellen played the great detective in the twilight of his life in *Mr Holmes*. Key London locations in that film include the arts and lecture venue Conway Hall, where Holmes watches a film about his own exploits; the magnificent Undercroft of the Lincoln's Inn Chapel; and, just outside the city, Hatfield House which stands in for the Diogenes Club.

221b Baker Street famously never really existed, though the Sherlock Holmes Museum now proudly bears that number despite being situated between nos 237 and 241. Set over three floors, it recreates how Holmes's boarding house might have looked in

Victorian times, and you can buy a Harris tweed deerstalker hat in the gift shop next door. On 15 July nearby Madame Tussauds opens live walkthrough adventure the Sherlock Holmes Experience, and the walls of Baker Street Tube are emblazoned with Sherlock's profile. Speedy's Café at 187 North Gower St near Euston Square

Tube doubles as 221b in the BBC series. Fans flock there for a selfie and a slap-up English breakfast.

Strangely, you can also find Sherlock Holmes's study just off Trafalgar Square (which features in the

BBC's *Blind Banker* episode). The Sherlock Holmes pub on Northumberland Street houses the Festival of Britain's Holmes display, unchanged since 1957. Have a drink on the roof terrace – Holmes was fond of whisky and soda and the odd Burgundy – followed by dinner at Simpson's-on-the-Strand, which was Holmes's favourite restaurant.



The BBC's *Sherlock*



which monarchs are crowned is still better known by some from *The Da Vinci Code*: they will seek out Isaac Newton's tomb, and the octagonal Chapter House where the climax plays out. The film actually used Lincoln Cathedral as Abbey authorities deemed the book "theologically unsound". It did, however, feature the real Temple Church, which was the historic home of the Knights Templar.

Victoria and Albert Museum

This ornate, 51,000-square-metre museum has been used in dance comedy *Cuban Fury*

and Danny Boyle's thriller *Trance*, but most impressively its Cast Courts gallery doubled for Paris in Martin Scorsese's *Hugo*, starring Jude Law.

Train stations

The best-known train station in cinema must be King's Cross, where you will now find a *Harry Potter* shop at Platform 9^{3/4}: buy T-shirts, jewellery, toys, even wands.

Paddington Station gave its name to a little lost bear found there, in the highest-grossing non-Hollywood family film ever, and he has his own shop in

the station as well. Waterloo Station featured in *The Bourne Ultimatum*.

Natural History Museum

The interiors are spectacular enough to be an intergalactic space palace in *Jupiter Ascending*, which used the Zoology basement corridor and the Old General Herbarium, and had Channing Tatum roller-skating into the main Hintze Hall. Paddington was also nearly killed and stuffed here by a villainous employee, played by Nicole Kidman.

St Bartholomew the Great

To recreate Asgard for Thor's dream sequence, *The Avengers: Age of Ultron* turned to the ancient stone pillars of this priory church, London's oldest. Founded as a monastery in 1123,



it has some of the finest Romanesque architecture in the capital – and a rather nice café in the cloisters.

Selfridges

Selfridges has moved on since 100 years ago, when the ITV and PBS series *Mr. Selfridge* is set, so the interior of the great department store he founded was recreated on set in north London, with exteriors filmed in Chatham Historic Dockyard in Kent (see South-East). You will, nevertheless, still want to visit this magnificent store, which has the world’s biggest denim department, a huge shoe shop, a food hall and the first cinema in a department store.

The Shard

Although it’s the tallest building in the European Union, giving visitors spectacular views of the capital, The Shard has done little more than loom in the background of Hollywood movies to date. Perhaps it’s because Matt Smith’s Doctor Who has given everyone else a pretty tough act to follow: zooming up the outside on an antigravity motorbike.

Tower of London

Despite being one of London’s

biggest tourist attractions, the Tower of London has hosted surprisingly few productions: even the *Sherlock* episode where Moriarty breaks into the Crown

Jewels was not actually shot there. Tom

Cruise did film there in *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation*, though the restaurant

featured outside it does not exist in reality, and whatever remarkable sights the

Tower of London has witnessed within its imposing stone walls over a thousand years and

“Matt Smith as Doctor Who zoomed up The Shard on an antigravity motorbike”

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more, none surely can top Miss Piggy's wedding in *Muppets: Most Wanted*.

Borough Market

Loved for its delicious food, Borough Market by London Bridge is also the home of Bridget Jones – her flat is above The Globe pub – and Renée Zellweger was spotted running through the market while filming the forthcoming *Bridget Jones's Baby* last October. *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* was filmed here, too, though you wouldn't recognise the place now.

Trafalgar Square

Have a drink up in the Vista rooftop bar at The Trafalgar

hotel: it will give you the same kind of view that Matt Smith's Doctor Who had when he landed the TARDIS next to Nelson's Column, and Tom Cruise when he touched down in a helicopter in *Edge of Tomorrow*. Trafalgar Square

has also featured in a large number of Bollywood films, including a spectacular dance number in *Salaam-e-Ishq* (2007).

St Paul's Cathedral

The Geometric Staircase of Wren's architectural masterpiece doubled as the Divination Stairwell in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, and hosted a chase in Robert Downey Jr's *Sherlock Holmes*.

The rival Sherlock, Benedict Cumberbatch, obviously took offence: St Paul's is clearly visible when he blows up future London in *Star Trek: Into Darkness*. In *Doctor Who*, the marvellous dome opens up and spews out flying Cybermen.

Houses of Parliament

The tower of Big Ben has been seen in countless films; the Peter Capaldi incarnation of Doctor Who even found an irate dinosaur pacing up and down in front of it. For the climax of *V for Vendetta* (2008), two tanks, 400 masked protestors and 200 'police' massed outside for three nights. *Suffragette*, starring Carey Mulligan and Meryl Streep, was the first film ever to be granted permission to shoot inside the Houses of Parliament. Tours are available most Saturdays, plus weekdays during recesses.



Geometric Staircase,
St Paul's Cathedral

Renée Zellweger in *Bridget Jones's Baby*. Bridget's flat is above Borough Market



- GREATER LONDON -

Greenwich

With the National Maritime Museum, Royal Observatory and Cutty Sark, Greenwich is a must-visit. The old Royal Naval College has been dubbed the world's most popular filming location by *Empire* magazine, doubling for Paris in *Les Misérables*, Cinderella's palace in the Disney film, and of course featuring in *Pirates of the Caribbean*. It also hosted the climactic smackdown in *Thor: The Dark World*. Just don't try to follow Thor's Tube journey: Greenwich is NOT three stops from Charing Cross!



Kenwood House

Kenwood House

In *Notting Hill*, this is where Julia Roberts films a Henry James adaptation. It should have starred in *Belle* – the real 'Belle' lived in Kenwood House, and the portrait that inspired the film

hangs on the wall – but it was shut for restoration. Now that it's open again, you can visit the Robert Adam-designed villa with its magnificent views over Hampstead Heath for free.

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Tom Hardy in *Legend*, filmed in Rivoli Ballroom

Rivoli Ballroom

The beautiful Rivoli Ballroom is London's last surviving 1950s ballroom, and is thus much in demand for period films. It provides 1940s flashback scenes in *The Avengers: Age of Ultron*, and in the Tom Hardy film *Legend* it stands in for Esmeralda's Barn, the Knightsbridge club bought by the notorious Kray twins. Once a month, you can go to Jive Party, and Jacky's Jukebox.

Syon Park

This great west London house designed by Robert Adam, with its 200 acres of parks and its Great Conservatory, hosted *Gosford Park*, *Poirot*, *Emma*, *Downton Abbey*, *24* and, more recently, *Belle*. Except for the planes passing overhead to

Heathrow, it's hard to believe you're in London... or the 21st century, for that matter!

Crystal Palace

A key race scene in *Rush* was filmed here in south London: James Hunt actually raced here, though the track had to be recreated.

The athletics track also witnessed Michael Caine's classic line, "You were only supposed to blow the bloody doors off!", in *The Italian Job*. Crystal Palace Park has surreal dinosaur sculptures – made in 1854, they are oddly shaped – that were filmed in an adaptation of Martin Amis's

London Fields that sadly now seems unlikely to get a release.

Osterley Park and House

Could there be a more perfect choice for Wayne Manor's interiors in *The Dark Knight Rises*? Not only is Osterley

supremely elegant,

frozen in time since the 1780s, but the grounds are inhabited by bats, and there is a real secret passage behind a bookcase, through which

Batman and Alfred enter the bat cave. Other shoots include the recent BBC *Great Expectations*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *The Young Victoria*, *Edge of Love* and *Miss Potter*.



★★★ 007 HEAVEN ★★★

There's no stronger evidence of the new power films have to drive tourism than the fact that the Mexican government paid the makers of the new James Bond movie, *SPECTRE* (inset), \$20 million to portray their country in a flattering light. London, however, gets its Bond boost for free.

Spectacular locations include the Norman Foster-designed City Hall, by Tower Bridge, whose spiral-staircase interior stands in for the fictional Centre for National Security. You can visit this real-life seat of London government Mon-Fri, and in summer its outdoor amphitheatre is used for free performances and film screenings.

The water tunnel to the underground bunker from which MI6 now operates (the battleship-like Terry Farrell building by Vauxhall Bridge having been "blown up" in *Skyfall*) is, strangely enough, at Camden Lock. A thronged market is not the most obvious place to run a secret organisation, but it does make it easy for visitors to do their shopping and spy-hunting at once.



As to the speed-boats in which Bond zips along the Thames, you can recreate the experience in a City Cruises Thamesjet, which accelerates to 40mph with the tightest twists and turns on the river.

More sedate *SPECTRE* hunting can be done in tourist hot spot Covent Garden.

Freemasons' Hall provided some interiors for the new National Security building. Itself once a shadowy secret organisation, the Freemasons now open their building to the public, with five tours a day. You can also have a very Fiennes meal at Rules on Maiden Lane: this 218-year-old restaurant, reckoned to be London's oldest, is where Moneypenny and Q attempt to win over M. And be sure not to miss the spectacular *Bond in Motion* exhibition at the London Film Museum on Wellington St. This collection of original Bond vehicles through the ages now includes *SPECTRE* cars such as Bond's Aston Martin DB10, Hinx's Stunt Jaguar C-X75 and Oberhauser's Rolls-Royce Wraith.



Film star lookalikes gathered for the launch of the City Cruises Thamesjet



The BFG

July-Dec

★★★★ 2016 ★★★★★

FILM CALENDAR

★★ THE BEST UK FESTIVALS AND RELEASES ★★

- JULY -

Absolutely Fabulous:

The Movie, 1 July. Crack open a bottle of Bolly: the BBC comedy duo Eddie and Pats are back to wreak fashion-related mayhem on the big screen.

The BFG, 22 July. Look out for magical dream jars across London to celebrate Roald Dahl 100 and the release of the new Spielberg adaptation. (see visitlondon.com/bfg)

Loch Ness Film Festival,

24-26 July. Grassroots festival of international features and shorts against the stunning background of Loch Ness in Scotland.

- AUGUST -

David Brent: Life on the

Road, 19 Aug. Ricky Gervais returns to his *The Office* roots as the hapless, deluded David Brent, leaving Slough behind for a last shot at rock stardom.

Swallows and Amazons,

19 Aug. Set in the beautiful Lake District, Arthur Ransome's beloved 1930 book about kids messing about in boats is given the big-screen treatment.

FrightFest, 25-29 Aug.

Founded in 2000, the UK's premier international genre festival takes over the Vue Leicester Square for a five-day multi-screen extravaganza. Be afraid. Be very afraid.

- SEPTEMBER -

Portobello Film Festival, 1-16 Sep. Celebrating its 21st birthday, this free festival in west London champions indie films.

Deep Fried Film Festival, 7-10 Sep. Indie festival in venues across Scotland. This year, it will screen the best movies from the festival's 10-year history.

Bridget Jones's Baby, 16 Sep. Twelve years on, Renée Zellweger is back as the bumbling but loveable Bridget, now pregnant and again torn between two men – one of whom is the father. But which of them is it?

Encounters Short Film & Animation Festival, 20-25 Sep. Aardman, the creator of *Shaun the Sheep* and *Wallace & Gromit*, is based in Bristol, so it's no surprise to find a key animation festival in the city.

Raindance Film Festival, 21 Sep-2 Oct. Now in its 24th year, this is the UK's leading indie festival: it discovered *Memento* and *The Blair Witch Project*. It also includes Web Fest (23-25 Sep) about digital storytelling.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, 30 Sep. Tim Burton's latest fantasy, based on the cult photo book, is ostensibly set on a Welsh island, though most filming took place in Pinewood and Cornwall.

- OCTOBER -

BFI London Film Festival, 5-16 Oct. This is the 60th anniversary of Britain's biggest film festival. Last year 164,000 people attended 568 screenings in 16 London venues.

Cambridge Film Festival, 20-27 Oct. Venerable festival, now in its 36th year – in 1996 it selected a student short by one Christopher Nolan.

Doctor Strange, 28 Oct. As with many Marvel films, this was shot partly in England, and stars one of Britain's hottest actors: Benedict Cumberbatch.

- NOVEMBER -

The International Film Festival of Wales, 12-13 Nov. Held in Newport, this celebrates indie film-making from around the world.

Leeds International Film Festival, 3-17 Nov. A range of features, shorts, documentaries and animation in venues across the city. Now in its 30th year.

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, 18 Nov. This all-new adventure returns us to the wizarding world created by J.K. Rowling. It's set in the 1920s and stars Eddie Redmayne.

UK Film Festival, 23-27 Nov. International shorts and features. Two of last year's winners went on to win Oscars.

- DECEMBER -

Star Wars: Rogue One, 16 Dec. Young British director Gareth Edwards gets his hands on cinema's biggest franchise, with *The Theory of Everything's* Felicity Jones and Diego Luna starring.



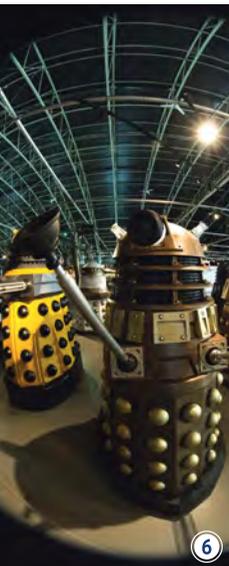
Who's the daddy?
Bridget Jones's Baby



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★★ MUSEUMS & ATTRACTIONS ★★

1 National Media Museum

This seven-storey Bradford museum houses permanent exhibitions on film and TV plus three screens, including an IMAX. With an animation gallery and a Magic Factory, it's great for kids, too.

2 London Film Museum

The *Bond in Motion* exhibition of 007 cars, helicopters and even subs has been bolstered by vehicles from *SPECTRE*.

3 The Cinema Museum

Open to pre-booked visits only, this historic building in Kennington, south London, houses a million pieces of memorabilia, posters and lobby cards, and 17 million feet of film.

4 Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter

Enjoy a truly magical collection of props, sets and memorabilia from the eight *Harry Potter* films, including the actual train from Platform 9^{3/4}. See feature, page 12.

5 Shrek's Adventure

The Kingdom of Far Far Away is recreated on London's South Bank. *Madagascar*, *Kung Fu Panda* and *How to Train Your Dragon* also feature.

6 Doctor Who Experience

Marvel at every Doctor's costume from 1963 onwards, three TARDIS sets, and numerous monsters; plus travel through time on an interactive adventure. *Who* heaven in Cardiff.

7 BBC Tours

Take the tour, walk in the footsteps of the nation's biggest stars and find out what happens behind the scenes at the world's most iconic broadcasting company, at BBC MediaCityUK in Salford, Manchester (plus tours of other BBC buildings across the UK).

8 Emmerdale Tour

The Leeds set of the popular soap is newly opened to the public on selected weekends until October.



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BBC TOURS
 MEDIA/CITY UK
 MANCHESTER

THE DARK KNIGHT RISES



JANE EYRE



NOTTINGHAM

The THEORY of EVERYTHING



The IMITATION GAME

LONDON

OXFORD



Downton Abbey

DOCTOR WHO



STONEHENGE



WAR HORSE

Call the Midwife



Mr Turner

PORTSMOUTH



BROADCHURCH



Poldark

WHAT'S ON IN 2016

FINDING THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE™

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