

Film, TV and Literature - #3DaysInBucks

Discover the very best of Film, TV and Literature in Buckinghamshire...

Over the past decade, many of Buckinghamshire's idyllic settings have enthralled viewers around the world, the most famous of which are the locations for Midsomer Murders, James Bond, Harry Potter and The Crown.

Enjoy three days discovering all the very best locations and attractions that have been used in Film, TV and Literature.



Nether Winchedon, Buckinghamshire

Day 1: Great Missenden and the Life of Roald Dahl

Great Missenden in Buckinghamshire and the history of Roald Dahl are well intertwined. He is one of the country's best loved writers and he lived in the village for 36 years until his death in 1990.

Much of the inspiration for Roald Dahl's stories comes from the local area. In the village you will find the Roald Dahl Museum, along with many of the places and the history that inspired Roald Dahl to write the stories which are much loved by several generations.

Such was the popularity of the likes of The BFG, Matilda, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and The Giant Peach, and Fantastic Mr Fox, that many have been made into films, and some have become award-winning musicals too.

Roald Dahl Museum

At the museum you will be able to see original scripts from the book *Matilda*, which has since been adapted into a blockbuster film, and see where the inspiration for many other famous films came from. At the museum's cafe, you can treat yourself to a Whizzpopper, a sign of true happiness, just as it was made in *The BFG* film.

Did you know? The Wonka gates from the film *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* that are located at the main entrance of the museum were donated by Warner Brothers. However, the original gates from the 2005 film did not fit, so they designed a custom-made set just for the museum.



Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre, Great Missenden

Along the high street, you will come across many references to the films. At 70 High Street, you will find a timber-framed building which was the inspiration for Sophie's 'norphanlage' in the *BFG*, and Danny's dad's petrol pumps from *Danny Champion of the World*.

Entrance Fee:

Adults £7.00

Children 5-18 £4.70

Children under 5 Free

Concessions £4.70

Roald Dahl's Graveyard

Wouldn't you want to be a part of *The BFG*? Follow the footprints of the BFG and take a 5-minute walk from the museum to the local graveyard to pay tribute to the man behind many iconic stories. Along the way, you will hear the birds singing while walking through the historic town, enjoying the beauty of nature around you.

Take a walk through the Angling Spring Wood to enjoy more of the Chiltern's nature and countryside. It is said to have provided the inspiration behind the *Fantastic Mr Fox* book and for the settings of the film. (The Roald Dahl Museum, 2019)

Fancy a cool fact? You can use your museum tickets to visit as many times as you want within one year.

After your day in Great Missenden, head to the beautiful market town of Old Amersham where you can stay and eat at The Crown, a 4* Coaching Inn which was used for Four Weddings and A Funeral.



The Crown, Amersham

Day 2: Bekonscot Model Village and Railway, and Black Park

Bekonscot Model Village and Railway, Beaconsfield

Day 2, and we are off to Bekonscot Model Village and Railway, the world's oldest and original model village with just under a century's worth of history behind it. Since 1929, this historic model village has been featured in the hit TV series *Midsomer Murders*, cinema newsreels, and many advertisements such as for Talk Talk.

With over 5.5 million visitors including the royal family, everyone will love its miniature and moving exhibits. Train enthusiasts will be impressed with the model rail network snaking its way around the site, stopping at tiny stations.

Entrance Fee:

Adults £10

Children £5

Family (2 adults, 2 children) £28

Beaconsfield

Bekonscot is sat on the outskirts of Beaconsfield, a market town situated in the Chiltern Hills. It is surrounded by beautiful countryside, attractive Chiltern villages, farmhouses and grand country houses.



Bekonscot Model Village, Beaconsfield

Since 1921, film companies have taken up residence in this outstanding town which includes the award-winning National Film and Television School (NFTS).

Famous alumni include Oscar-winning cinematographer Roger Deakins, Oscar winning animator Nick Park, creator of Wallace & Gromit, and David Yates (the Harry Potter series, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them).

Beaconsfield was also the birth-place of Terry Pratchett and the final resting place of renowned children's author Enid Blyton. Blyton lived in a house called Green Hedges in Beaconsfield from 1938 until her death in 1968. Noddy, the Secret Seven and Famous Five series were all written there. Unfortunately, her house was demolished in 1973 to make way for a new development, thoughtfully now called Blyton Close.

G. K. Chesterton and Alison Uttley also lived in Beaconsfield and for a short time, the American Poet Robert Frost lived there too.

Given its proximity to Pinewood studios, the town has been used in several TV series and films including Les Miserables, Midsomer Murders and Inspector Morse spin off, Lewis.

Stop for a spot of lunch in the Royal Saracens Head, a stunning 18th Century coaching inn, itself a film location in the James Bond movie, Thunderball.

Black Park

After lunch, head to Black Park, one of the UK's largest local country parks, situated in Wexham, Buckinghamshire, a 20-minute car journey from Beaconsfield. The park is complete with a wonderful lake and over 10 miles of flat surfaced pathways.

The famous studio situated beside Black Park is a big reason why Buckinghamshire is such a magnet for those seeking film locations. Pinewood Studios has been using Black Park as an outdoor location for many of their films.



Black Park Country Park, Wexham

It has played host to Captain America, several James Bond films, Cinderella, the Harry Potter film series, Robin Hood, The Cybermen, Snow White, Scrooge, Dark Shadows and Star Wars.

In the James Bond film Goldfinger, Black Park was used for a night car chase scene and the backdrop to Hagrid's cabin and Forbidden Forest in four of the Harry Potter films.

San Remo Park Cafe is a beautiful cafe situated by a lake in Black Park. The cafe is open from 10am to 4pm and serves a range of hot and cold food.

Unfortunately, Pinewood Studios is not open to the public.

Head to the beautiful Danesfield House Hotel and Spa which sits just outside the town of Marlow. Steeped in history and used as a film location for Midsomer Murders, the hotel makes for a luxury overnight stay for film buffs to enjoy. You never know, you might be rubbing shoulders with some of the cast and crew of Midsomer Murders.

Day 3: Turville Village, Hambleden Valley and Marlow

Marlow

After a leisurely breakfast at Danesfield House Hotel, head into the centre of Marlow which is without a doubt one of the loveliest locations on the River Thames. Set in the rich meadows of the river valley alongside the woodlands of the Chilterns Hills, the vibrant Georgian market town is made up of historic streets and an abundance of boutique shops, restaurants, cafes and bistros that all add to the town's unique charm.



River Thames, Marlow

Residents of Marlow have included Thomas Love Peacock, who also encouraged Mary Shelley to move to Albion House in the town where she finished her gothic masterpiece *Frankenstein*. Jerome K. Jerome wrote part of *Three Men in a Boat* at a local pub, *The Two Brewers*, which you can still visit today.

Like many of Buckinghamshire's towns and villages, Marlow has been a film location for one of TV's most popular shows, *Midsomer Murders*, watched by millions around the world. The King's Crystal Marlow church and street were used as filming locations.

To discover more, we recommend taking Marlow's *Midsomer Murders* location trail through the Hambleden Valley which is a self-guided trail that can be done on foot, by car, by bike or on horseback! Covering only 17 miles, you will very quickly find yourself immersed in scenes from *Midsomer Murders*.

Following the trail, you can taste wine, sample local beer and sausages, enjoy afternoon tea in a filming location and walk the Chiltern Hills of *Midsomer*. You will start and end the tour in Marlow with a variety of beautiful villages in between to experience the history of where *Midsomer Murders* moments were filmed.

This [self-guided tour](#) is the perfect opportunity to immerse yourself in Midsomer Murders and the beautiful Buckinghamshire countryside.

Turville Village

Turville is a popular film location. As well as Midsomer Murders, The Vicar of Dibley, the feature film Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, with the iconic windmill shot, and 101 Dalmatians have all been filmed here. More recently, Turville has been used as the location for the award-winning TV series Killing Eve.

In the well-known Vicar of Dibley series, the village plays the wonderful fictional village of Dibley. Also, St Mary the Virgin church, called St Barnabus in the show, has a tiny cottage which is filmed as the vicar's home. There are many wonderful walking trails where visitors can explore the village and see the scenic setting where many film crews have come and gone. Admire the views even more by following the footpath from the 10th Century church and the fence up the hill to the Cobblestone Windmill.

Feeling a little hungry? Visit the Bull and Butcher Inn, built in 1550, where many actors have entered for a break between film takes.



Hambleton Valley, Buckinghamshire

This is just a snippet of what can be found in Buckinghamshire when it comes to Film, TV and Literature. There is plenty more to discover in the second most filmed county in the UK.

Head to our website at <http://www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/> for more ideas and inspiration on what to see and do in Buckinghamshire and The Chilterns.