

TV Set in Scotland

A VIEWER'S GUIDE TO FILMING LOCATIONS FROM THE SMALL SCREEN



INSIDE

**STEP BACK IN TIME
WITH OUTLANDER**

**DOCTOR WHO HAS
SCOTTISH CONNECTIONS**

**BIG SCOTS ON THE
SMALL SCREEN**

VISITSCOTLAND.COM



WITH THANKS TO JOHN LOGIE BAIRD

(1888-1946)

Born in Helensburgh, the Scottish engineer and inventor was a pioneer of television and the first to show TV pictures to the world. On 26 January 1926, a viable television system was demonstrated for the first time in public.



John Logie Baird (© Archive Pics/Alamy Stock Photo)



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TV Set in Scotland explores some of the many Scottish attractions and locations to have graced the small screen. From *Night Mail* to *Ordeal by Innocence*, delve into the animations, documentaries, dramas, sitcoms and soap operas which have been filmed in or inspired by Scotland over the past 80 years. And this wouldn't be a TV guide without a selection of film highlights to enjoy. For more on Scotland's links to the big screen, see our sister publication **Set in Scotland** at visitscotland.com/film

Looking down to Loch Restil and the A83 road at the Rest and Be Thankful, Argyll – which was the scene of some festive Eastenders drama (see page 23)

Foreword



Gearrannan Blackhouse Village on the Isle of Lewis, Outer Hebrides



Butt of Lewis Lighthouse, Isle of Lewis

I spent nearly six years of my life filming a long-running Gaelic-language TV series (*Machair*, see page 25) on the Isle of Lewis. Those years proved to be among the most challenging of my life – because of the weather.

We were shooting with a single camera, which meant that each scene required several shots – a wide shot and two, three or more close-ups. Each shot could take 10 or 15 minutes to set up. By the time we were shooting the final close-up, a scene which began in brilliant sunshine could end up in pouring rain – and sometimes even snow. Or vice versa.

But the end product never disappointed. It always looked amazing on screen, whatever the weather had been.

“Only Scotland can do the kind of breathtaking scenery that makes it the envy of the world.”

That's Scotland. It simply offers the most dramatic scenery and weather combined of any country in the world. Challenging for the filmmaker, rewarding for the viewer. Ten years earlier I was script editor and story editor on the long-running Scottish soap opera, *Take The High Road*. Although much of it was studio based, the exteriors were shot on Loch Lomond, in and around the village of Luss. Along with the opening and closing title shots, the programme presented a wonderful showcase for classic Scottish highland scenery.

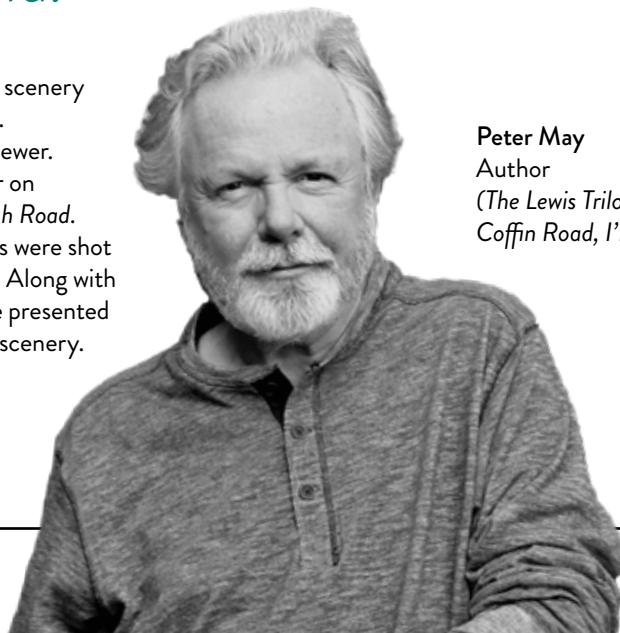
The series sold around the world, offering a unique look at the culture and geography of Scotland, in countries as diverse as Australia and Saudi Arabia, and ran for nearly fifteen years.

Only Scotland can do the kind of breathtaking scenery that makes it the envy of the world. Filmmakers and TV companies from far and wide make the annual pilgrimage to Scotland to fill their viewers' screens with stunning images of snow-peaked mountains, silver beaches and turquoise seas.

Scotland presents a unique landscape and culture for those film and TV companies as settings not only for documentaries, but for top-rated timeless dramas. And Scotland as a whole has provided both inspiration and setting for authors across the centuries – ranging from Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, to contemporary writers like Ian Rankin and Val McDermid. Ann Cleeves's *Shetland* books provided the inspiration for the BBC TV series of the same name, while my own books set in the Outer Hebrides have attracted millions of readers around the world.

Dark psychological tales set among the dramatic land and cityscapes of a cold northern country, make Scotland these days the go-to place for writers and filmmakers everywhere.

Peter May
Author
(*The Lewis Trilogy, Entry Island, Coffin Road, I'll Keep You Safe*)



North

The Highlands & Skye, Orkney, Shetland

The Mackintosh memorial stone at Culloden Battlefield, near Inverness

Isle of Skye

Banan

Lochinver, Sutherland, Highlands

Edie

Attadale, Beasdale and Corrour railway stations

Paul Merton's Secret Stations

Plockton and Kyle of Lochalsh, Highlands

Hamish Macbeth

Glenfinnan Viaduct, Highlands

Coastal Railways with Julie Walters

Inverness, Highlands

Culloden

Loch Ness/Fort Augustus, Highlands

The Family-Ness/South Park/The Loch

Ardverikie House, Loch Laggan, Highlands

The Crown/Monarch of the Glen

Fort William, Highlands

Rockface

Cairngorms National Park

Highlands – Scotland's Wild Heart

Ness of Brodgar and Ring of Brodgar, Orkney

Britain's Ancient Capital: Secrets of Orkney

Fair Isle and Lerwick, Shetland

Shetland



BRITAIN'S ANCIENT CAPITAL: SECRETS OF ORKNEY

Ness of Brodgar and Ring of Brodgar, Orkney

The documentary explores the theory that Orkney was the cultural capital of our ancient world and the origin of the stone circle cult which culminated in Stonehenge. Home to the Ness of Brodgar, an excavation of a massive Neolithic walled enclosure, visitors to Orkney can uncover the secrets of its Neolithic cathedral during dig season. The Ring of Brodgar is an ancient stone circle with links to the nearby Neolithic village of Barnhouse. (2017)



Ring of Brodgar, Orkney



Gaelic drama *Bannan* filming on the Isle of Skye (© Young Films/MG ALBA)

BANNAN

Isle of Skye

BBC ALBA's flagship Gaelic drama is set against the stunning backdrop of the Isle of Skye and the beautiful scenery of the Sleat peninsula. Tarskavaig, semi-finalist in Channel 4's *Village of the Year* (2018), provides the main setting for the fictional village of Camus. The series begins as Mairi MacDonald, played by Debbie MacKay, returns home to the island, which she deserted eight years ago, for the funeral of a family friend. *Bannan* was the first Gaelic drama since Outer Hebrides-set soap opera, *Machair* (see page 25). (2014 -) For more on Gaelic, go to visitscotland.com

SHETLAND

Fair Isle and Lerwick, Shetland

Taking its title from its archipelago setting – which is made up of more than 100 islands (15 of which are inhabited) – crime drama, *Shetland*, stars Douglas Henshall as Detective Inspector Jimmy Perez. Based on the books by Ann Cleeves, filming took place in various locations around the Isles, including Lerwick, the capital of Shetland, the Lodberries area and on the Fair Isle (which lies 24 miles from the Shetland mainland). Culturally, Shetland is closer to Scandinavia than mainland Scotland. Indeed, the islands were under Norse control until the 15th Century when Shetland and Orkney were annexed to James III of Scotland following his marriage to the King of Norway's daughter. The spectacular Up Helly Aa festival is a vivid reminder of the region's Viking past and Scandinavian heritage. (2013 -)



Douglas Henshall as Detective Inspector Jimmy Perez at the Fair Isle North Lighthouse, Shetland (© Philip Volkers/Shutterstock)

PAUL MERTON'S SECRET STATIONS

Attadale, Beasdale and Corrour railway stations

Comedian and presenter Paul Merton tours some of Britain's many railway request stations, telling their story and meeting the people who use them. Scottish locations which feature include: Attadale (a remote railway station on the Kyle of Lochalsh Line); Beasdale (a railway station serving Glen Beasdale); Corrour (the highest railway station in the UK). The Station House at Corrour is accessible only by train or a twenty-mile walk. (2016)

THE FAMILY-NESS

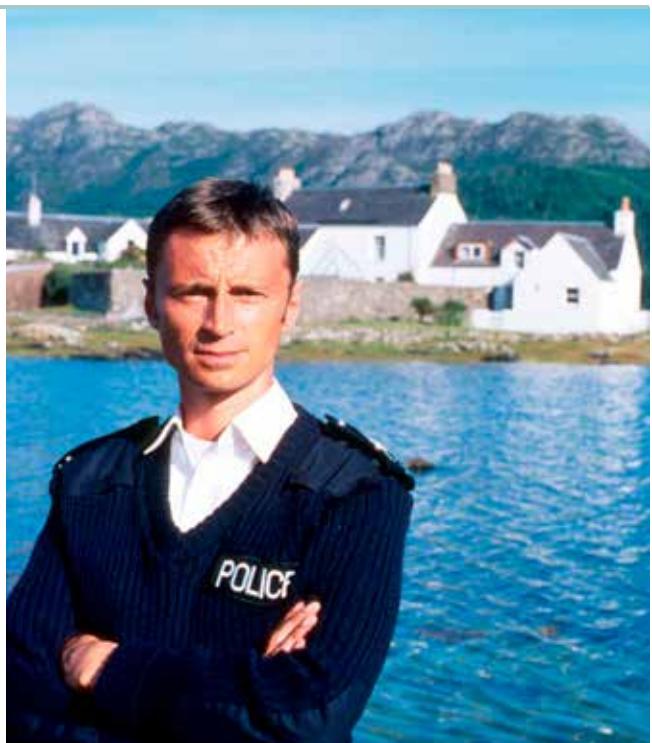
Loch Ness

Many years before *South Park*, the Loch Ness monster and its family were already making a name for themselves in animated form in *The Family-Ness*. The children's cartoon follows the adventures of siblings Elspeth and Angus MacTout, who summon a family of Loch Ness monsters with their 'thistle whistles'. The programme also features the unforgettable end theme 'earworm', *You'll Never Find a Nessie in a Zoo*. (1984-1985)

HAMISH MACBETH

Plockton and Kyle of Lochalsh, Highlands

Before his star performance as psychopath Francis Begbie in the film version of *Trainspotting*, Robert Carlyle was making a name for himself on the small screen in this BBC Scotland comedy-cum-mystery drama series. Loosely based on the novels by M. C. Beaton, the series revolves around Constable Hamish Macbeth (Carlyle), a local police officer of the fictitious town of Lochdubh on the west coast of Scotland, and his trusty four-legged friend, Jock. Filming took place in the villages of Plockton and Kyle of Lochalsh and the surrounding area. (1995-1997)



Robert Carlyle (as Hamish Macbeth) at the village of Plockton (Copyright © BBC)

ROCKFACE

Fort William, Highlands

Rockface follows the exploits of a Scottish mountain rescue team – based on the real-life Lochaber Mountain Rescue Service – set in the fictitious town of Glenntannoch. The drama series was shot in and around Fort William and Lochaber. (2002-2003)

SOUTH PARK

Loch Ness Monster

Nessie is famously known as the camera-shy inhabitant of Loch Ness – Scotland's second biggest loch – but few would consider the creature to be a 'moocher'. However, that is precisely how *South Park* creators depict the monster in 'The Succubus', an early episode of the hit US animated TV show. Chef's parents tell Kenny, Stan and Kyle of the time they met the Scottish monster whilst on a boat "about seven or eight years ago" and how it continues to hound them, in various disguises, for a sum of "tree fiddy" (\$3.50). For a sum of slightly more than tree fiddy, you can explore 500 million years of history of Loch Ness and the legend of the monster at The Loch Ness Centre and Exhibition at Drumnadrochit. For those determined to capture this elusive creature on camera, there is no better vantage point than the stunning ruins of Urquhart Castle – which offers fantastic views over the loch and a fascinating glimpse into medieval life. (1999)



The baronial mansion house of Ardverikie

CULLODEN

Inverness, Highlands

On 16 April 1746, on the fields of Culloden near Inverness, the Jacobite Rising came to an abrupt end. Jacobite supporters, seeking to restore the Stuart monarchy to the British throne, had gathered to fight the Duke of Cumberland's government troops on the battlefield, but within an hour around 1,500 men were dead – more than 1,000 of them Jacobites. It was to be the last pitched battle on British soil. The bloody and brutal battle was depicted in a 1964 innovative docudrama commissioned by the BBC. Simply called *Culloden*, the documentary was filmed near Inverness and recreated the events of that fateful day using modern day war correspondence techniques, as if the battle was being reported on live for a newsreel. (1964)

MONARCH OF THE GLEN

Ardverikie House, Loch Laggan, Highlands

Monarch of the Glen tells the story of young restaurateur, Archie MacDonald (Alastair Mackenzie) who is summoned home to try and restore his family's Highland estate. The series also stars Richard Briers (*The Good Life*) and Dawn Steele (*River City*). The fictional MacDonald family estate, Glen Bogle Castle, is actually Ardverikie House, a private estate, on the shores of Loch Laggan, south west of Newtonmore. Other locations include Laggan, Newtonmore, and Broomhill Station at Nethy Bridge which became Glenbogle station. Ardverikie House had a Royal makeover in Netflix drama *The Crown* – representing the Balmoral Estate. For more on *The Crown*, see page 11. (2000-2005)

HIGHLANDS – SCOTLAND'S WILD HEART

Cairngorms National Park

Film star Ewan McGregor (*Trainspotting*, *Star Wars*) narrates a dramatic portrait of his homeland's wildlife in this four-part documentary. The spectacular footage captured for the series spans right across the Highlands, to the north of the Highland Boundary Faultline from Arran, and eastwards through the Cairngorms. For those feeling adventurous, the Cairngorms National Park is the UK's largest national park and contains five of the UK's six highest mountains, with a total of 55 Munros (mountains over 3,000ft). (2016)



The view from the Devil's Elbow at the Spittal of Glenshee, Cairngorms



The Caledonian Canal at Fort Augustus where it joins Loch Ness

COASTAL RAILWAYS WITH JULIE WALTERS

Glenfinnan Viaduct, Highlands

Known among 'Muggles' as Molly Weasley, mother to the red-headed wizarding family in the *Harry Potter* films, award-winning actress Julie Walters takes a journey on the West Highland Line over the Glenfinnan Viaduct to the Isle of Skye. The viaduct famously made its own appearance in the *Harry Potter* films as part of the railway that carries wizarding pupils to the magical school of Hogwarts. (2017)



The Jacobite steam train passing over the Glenfinnan Viaduct

THE LOCH

Fort Augustus, Loch Ness

The centuries-old mystery of the Loch Ness monster takes a backseat to a mystery of the murderous kind in this ITV crime drama. Laura Fraser (*Breaking Bad*) plays Annie Redford, a local detective sergeant, who is struggling to make sense of a series of murders in her idyllic community. Siobhan Finneran (*Downton Abbey*) plays DCI Lauren Quigley who is sent in from Glasgow to lead the investigation. The pretty hamlet of Fort Augustus doubles for the fictional village of Lochnafoy with filming also taking place around the loch. (2017)

FILM HIGHLIGHT

EDIE

Directed by Simon Hunter, *Edie* stars English actress Sheila Hancock as an 83-year-old widow who decides to climb the 731m tall mountain, Suilven, in Sutherland – a feat which was carried out for real by the actress herself during filming. The film co-stars Kevin Guthrie as Johnny, a reluctant local guide who joins Edie on her journey to the summit. Filming took place in and around Lochinver, Sutherland, and during the shoot the entire crew scaled the mountain, camping out over a number of nights. (2018)



East



Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire, Moray, Dundee & Angus, Perthshire, The Kingdom of Fife

Craigievar Castle in Aberdeenshire, which is said to have inspired Walt Disney

Aberdeen Harbour

Night Mail

Aberdeenshire

Roughnecks

Macduff, Aberdeenshire

Stonemouth

Portsoy Harbour and Pennan, Aberdeenshire

Whisky Galore

Slains Castle and Cruden Bay, Aberdeenshire

The Crown

Buckie, Moray

Tutti Frutti

Bell Rock Lighthouse, Angus

Seven Wonders of the Industrial World

Broughty Ferry, Dundee

Bob Servant Independent

Dundee

Jute City

Blair Castle, Perthshire

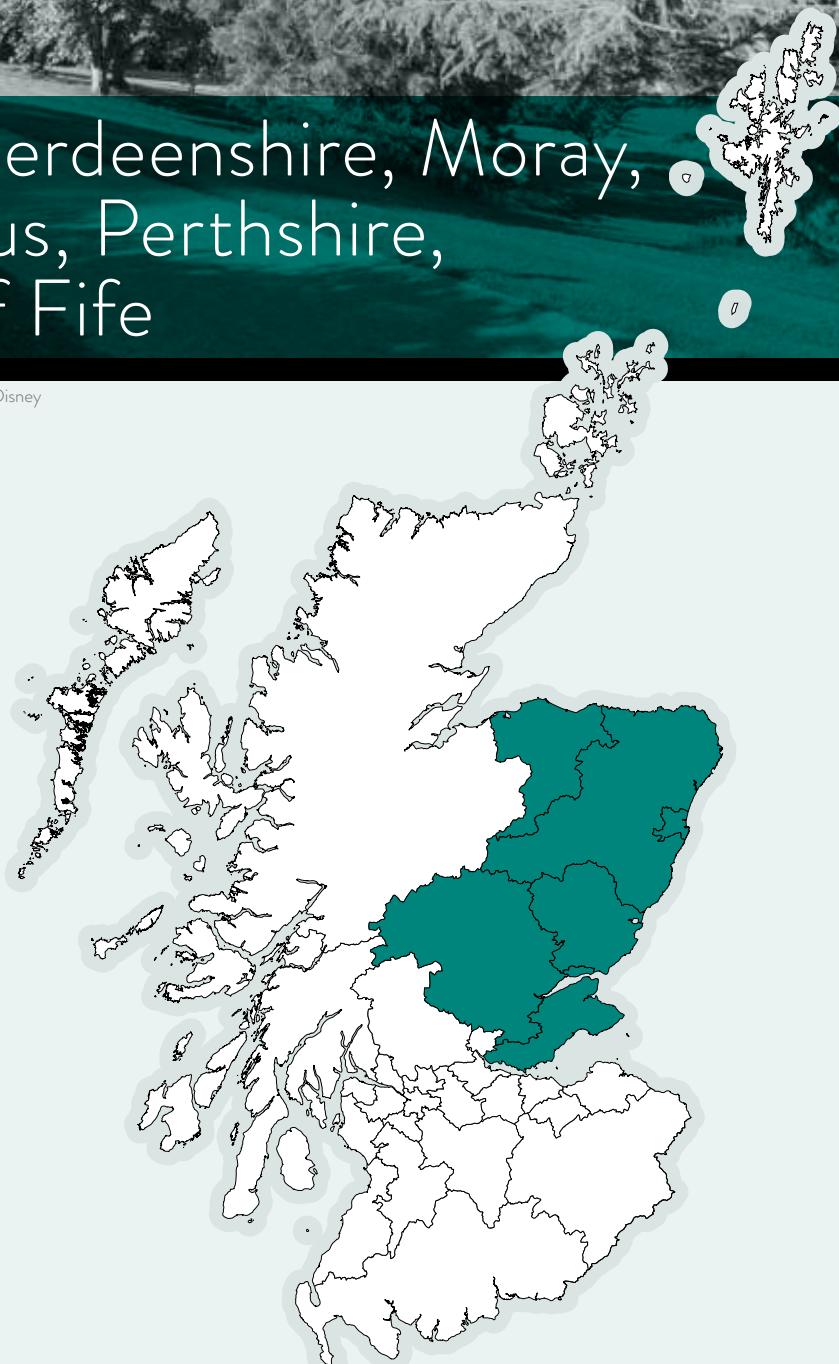
Victoria

Callander, Perthshire

Doctor Finlay's Casebook

Dysart Harbour, Fife

Outlander



TUTTI FRUTTI

Buckie, Moray

The six-part series follows the wild misadventures of legendary Scots rock ‘n’ roll band, The Majestics, on their fateful final tour of Scotland. Written by Scots playwright, John Byrne, it stars a host of famous faces including Robbie Coltrane (known to younger viewers as Hagrid in the *Harry Potter* films), Emma Thompson (also *Harry Potter*) and Richard Wilson (*One Foot in the Grave*). The band take in several locations across Scotland including the Moray coastal town of Buckie. Wild adventures also lie in wait for those who wish to explore the Moray Firth. Due to its resident population of dolphins – experts estimate that around 130 bottlenose dolphins live in its waters – it is considered one of the best places in Europe to spot the creatures in the wild. Staying inland and just to the north east of Buckie is the stunning Bow Fiddle Rock near Portknockie. (1987)



Bow Fiddle Rock, Moray



Victoria recreated the Queen's stay at Blair Castle using the real location
(© ITV/Shutterstock)

ROUGHNECKS

Aberdeenshire

This drama follows the lives of workers on the fictional oil rig ‘The Osprey Explorer’ in the North Sea. Offshore filming was undertaken on an out-of-use oil rig, while onshore scenes took place in and around Aberdeen. The Granite City, the nickname given to Aberdeen because of the locally quarried grey granite used in its buildings, is home to several gems including 13th century crossing, Brig o’ Balgownie (which features in Byron’s poem *Don Juan*) and the beguiling St Machar’s Cathedral. (1994-1995)

VICTORIA

Blair Castle, Perthshire

Starring Jenna Coleman (*Doctor Who*), ITV series *Victoria* focuses on the early years of the Queen’s reign, during which time she visited Highland Perthshire on a number of occasions. Filming took place at Blair Castle to tell the story of one of those visits, with two of the estate’s native Highland ponies used as Victoria and Prince Albert’s own ponies. Several Atholl Highlanders, the regiment which Queen Victoria herself founded, also feature in the episode. Blair Castle has been the home of the Atholl family for more than seven centuries and visitors can discover its history against a backdrop of fine 18th century interiors and Scottish baronial architecture. (2017)

DOCTOR FINLAY'S CASEBOOK

Callander, Perthshire

The drama follows the life of a general medical practice in the fictional Scottish town of Tannochbrae during the late 1920s. Based on A. J. Cronin’s novella entitled *Country Doctor*, some footage was shot in Milngavie, northwest of Glasgow (see page 20 for more) with the majority of on-location filming taking place in the Perthshire town of Callander. The fictional Arden House, home of Doctors Finlay and Cameron and their housekeeper, Janet, is now a Bed and Breakfast and can be found in Bracklinn Road, with the idyllic Bracklinn Falls just a short walk away. The town is also the perfect base to explore Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park and ‘Rob Roy Country’, so-named after the legendary Scottish ‘rogue’ who was immortalised in works by Daniel Defoe and Sir Walter Scott. Rob Roy’s birthplace can be found to the east of the town at Loch Katrine while to the north his grave is located in the grounds of Balquhidder Kirk. (1962-1971)

BOB SERVANT INDEPENDENT



Bob Servant Independent (Brian Cox) and his burger van at Broughty Ferry
(Copyright © BBC)

Broughty Ferry, Dundee

Hollywood star Brian Cox returned to his hometown of Dundee to play the title character in this TV comedy, which originated from a hit BBC Radio Scotland series. The sudden death of a sitting MP sees a burger van man – and self-proclaimed “man of the people” – run as an Independent candidate in the by-election that follows. Filming took place in the city’s suburbs and former fishing village of Broughty Ferry, which features the striking Broughty Castle and Museum. Built in the 15th century to protect the estuary, its four floors now house local history exhibits. (2013-2014)

SEVEN WONDERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD

Bell Rock Lighthouse, Angus

This docudrama series examines seven engineering feats that have occurred since the Industrial Revolution. Among them is the Bell Rock Lighthouse, the world’s oldest surviving sea-washed lighthouse, which remains off the coast of Angus. While filming for the series didn’t take place on location, the documentary gives a fascinating insight into the construction of the early 19th century offshore lighthouse on the ‘Bell Rock’ by Scottish engineer Robert Stevenson (grandfather of author Robert Louis Stevenson). An exhibition on the lighthouse can be found in the Arbroath Signal Tower Museum. The Signal Tower was built in 1813 to serve the Bell Rock Lighthouse until it was decommissioned in 1955 and became a museum in 1974. (2003)



The Bell Rock Lighthouse off the coast of Angus (© Ian Cewe/Alamy Stock Photo)

THE CROWN

Slains Castle and Cruden Bay, Aberdeenshire

The Netflix drama about the early reign of Queen Elizabeth II not only stars Claire Foy and Matt Smith but also several locations in Aberdeenshire. Cruden Bay acts as Castle of Mey’s beach in episode eight, while Slains Castle doubles as Castle of Mey, The Queen Mother’s Home in Caithness. The real 16th century Castle of Mey, with its jutting tower, corbelled turrets and stunning gardens, is now a five-star visitor attraction. Aberdeenshire’s most famous Royal residency is Balmoral Estate. Queen Victoria lovingly described Balmoral as her “dear paradise in the Highlands” and it remains a private home of the Royal Family. When not in residence, visitors can enjoy exhibitions in the Castle Ballroom, the largest room in the castle, and wander through its gardens and grounds. Castle baggers are spoilt for choice in Aberdeenshire, with more than 300 castles, stately homes and ruins dotting its landscape. Among them include the dramatic clifftop Dunnottar Castle (which featured in the Mel Gibson-starring *Hamlet*) and fairytale Craigievar Castle (thought to have been the inspiration behind Walt Disney’s designs of fairytale castles). For more on *The Crown*, see page 6. (2016)



Cruden Bay acts as Castle of Mey’s beach in *The Crown*

OUTLANDER

Dysart Harbour, Fife

Outlander, the romantic time-travelling adventures of English nurse Claire Randall (Caitriona Balfe) and Highlander Jamie Fraser (Sam Heughan), features many Scottish locations standing in for both Scottish and international places. In Season Two the picturesque harbour of Dysart with the Harbourmaster's House was transformed to portray the French port of Le Havre in the 1740s where Jamie and Claire land when they escape to France. It is also where the St. Germain's Warehouse is based. Situated right on the Fife Coastal Path, Dysart Harbour near Kirkcaldy is part of a conservation area retaining many original buildings. For more on *Outlander*, see pages 16 and 17. (2014 -)



Dysart Harbour was transformed into the French port of Le Havre
(© 2016 Sony Pictures Television Inc.)

STONEMOUTH

Macduff, Aberdeenshire

This two-part adaptation of Iain Banks's novel of the same name, was filmed across Scotland, with small coastal town Macduff playing the role of Stonemouth. The drama delves into love, loyalty and vengeance and focuses on Stewart Gilmour, played by Christian Cooke (*The Promise, Magic City*), who returns to the fictional village for his best friend's funeral, and finds himself caught up in the mystery surrounding his death. *Stonemouth* was the first TV adaptation of the acclaimed author's work since his death in 2013. The Forth Bridge also features on-screen, taken from Port Edgar near South Queensferry. (2015)

JUTE CITY

Dundee

Dundee was famous at the end of the Victorian era for its three Js – Jute, Jam and Journalism – and has since become the UK's first UNESCO City of Design and the location of the V&A Dundee. Home of comic strip creations *The Broons*, *Dennis the Menace* and *Desperate Dan*, the city is the setting for this environmental thriller. With music by David Stewart of Eighties duo, Eurythmics, the gangster series about a conspiracy involving the dumping of toxic waste stars, among others, Peter Mullan (*Sunshine On Leith*) and Douglas Henshall (*Shetland*, see page 5). (1991)

FILM HIGHLIGHT

WHISKY GALORE

The real life story of the SS Politician, which ran aground off the coast of the island of Eriskay in the Outer Hebrides with a cargo of 264,000 bottles of malt whisky during wartime rationing, has inspired not one but two versions of the tale. Alexander Mackendrick's 1949 comedy, based on the 1947 novel by Compton Mackenzie, was shot almost entirely on location in the Outer Hebrides. The 2016 version by director Gillies MacKinnon was filmed across Scotland, including Portsoy Harbour, Aberdeenshire; Mill Beach and New Aberdour Beach, Pennan; St Monan's Parish Church, Fife; and St Abb's Head in the Scottish Borders. (2016)



Edinburgh & The Lothians



Hopetoun House plays both Lady Blackwood's residence and Greenwich Park in *The Secret Agent* (© Angus Bremer)

Edinburgh

Rebus/Murder Rooms

Atholl Crescent and St Bernard's Crescent, Edinburgh

Murder

Old College, South Bridge and Bakehouse Close, Edinburgh

Garrow's Law/Outlander

Loretto School and Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh

Teacup Travels

Ross Bandstand, Edinburgh

Low Winter Sun

Calton Hill and New Town, Edinburgh

North and South

Salisbury Crags, Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh

T2 Trainspotting

Edinburgh and Hopetoun House

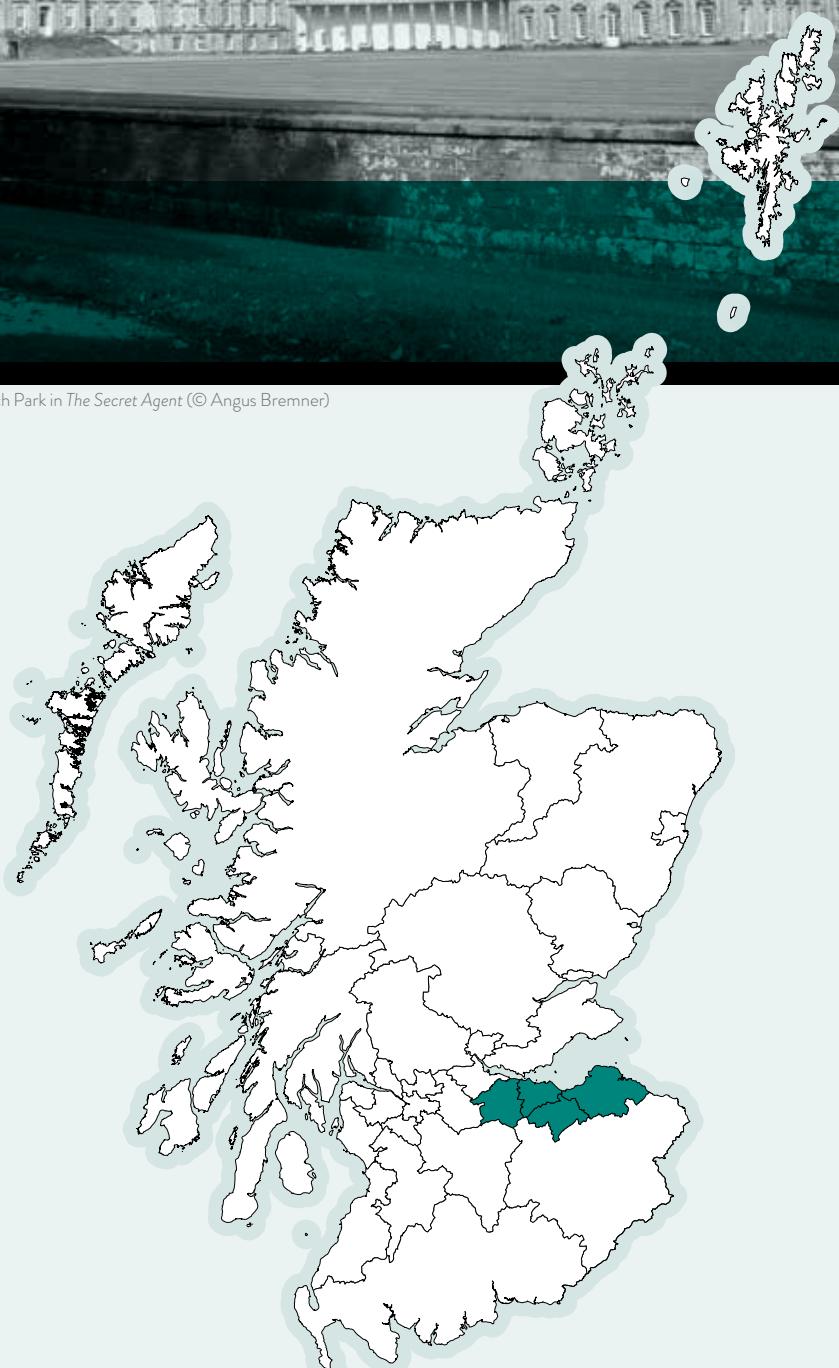
The Secret Agent

Edinburgh and Dunbar, East Lothian

The Escape Artist

Edinburgh and East Lothian

Case Histories



NORTH AND SOUTH

Calton Hill and New Town, Edinburgh

The title of Elizabeth Gaskell's classic could be a reflection of the production of this TV adaptation, which used several central and southern Scottish locations to represent Victorian England's industrial north. The story follows the fortunes of Margaret Hale (played by Daniela Denby-Ashe), a privileged, middle class southerner who is forced to settle in the northern town of Milton. There she meets handsome and charismatic cotton mill owner John Thornton (Richard Armitage) whom she believes epitomises everything she dislikes about the North. The majority of the exterior Milton scenes were shot in the city with views over the town filmed from Calton Hill – with the magic of CGI creating smoking chimneys and horse-drawn carriages on North Bridge. St Stephen's Place, in the New Town, featured the home of the Hales, while the nearby church became the Lyceum, where Hale gives evening classes and the union members meet. Filming also took place in the Scottish Borders' see page 29. (2004)



John Thornton (Richard Armitage) and Margaret Hale (Daniela Denby-Ashe) in St Stephen's Place, which starred as the Hales' residence (Copyright © BBC)



Bakehouse Close features in the 18th century legal drama

GARROW'S LAW

Old College, South Bridge and Bakehouse Close, Edinburgh

This legal drama was inspired by the life of pioneering 18th century English barrister William Garrow, played by Andrew Buchan, whose determination to take on controversial and challenging cases helped to liberalise the legal system. Filming locations include the University of Edinburgh's 18th century Old College, designed by Robert Adam, which plays the Old Bailey, South Bridge vaults – a series of windowless arches which originally housed taverns, cobblers and tradespeople – plays the POW prison, and Bakehouse Close, one of the Old Town's best-preserved medieval closes off the Royal Mile, was transformed into the marketplace. The close also makes an appearance in the third series of *Outlander*. As the setting for Jamie's Print Shop, it was transformed into busy 18th century Edinburgh for exterior shots in the romantic drama (for more on *Outlander*, see pages 16 and 17). (2009-2011)

THE SECRET AGENT

Edinburgh and Hopetoun House

Edinburgh's UNESCO World Heritage Status makes it an attractive destination for filmmakers looking for a period location. One such production to take advantage of its well-preserved historical architecture was this adaption of Joseph Conrad's classic novel. The three-part series is set in the heart of Soho in 1886, but in reality, the majority of it was filmed in the Scottish capital. The gripping drama follows the life of Verloc (Toby Jones), a seedy sex shop owner and Russian spy who is given a mission to orchestrate a bombing to provoke a British crackdown on the anarchist threat sweeping Europe. On the outskirts of the city, the sumptuous stately home, Hopetoun House, near South Queenferry, plays both Lady Blackwood's residence and Greenwich Park. Hopetoun House is often referred to as Scotland's finest stately home with its architectural magnificence dating from the 17th century. Other locations seen in *The Secret Agent* include Thistle Street Lane which was transformed to create the Soho street where Verloc has his shop, and Bakehouse Close, where Winnie's mother Jessie takes a house. (2016)



Thistle Street Lane in Edinburgh was transformed into a Soho street
(© World Productions)

TEACUP TRAVELS

Loretto School and Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh

Younger viewers of the CBeebies show – featuring the adventures of siblings Charlotte and Elliot – will recognise the Head Gardener's Cottage in Princes Street Gardens as the home of Great Aunt Lizzie. The Gardens, created in the 18th and 19th century, are famous for being the focal point of the city's Hogmanay celebrations with bands performing on the Ross Bandstand (which features in the 2006 crime thriller, *Low Winter Sun*). Each episode of *Teacup Travels* sees Great Aunt Lizzie, played by Bafta-nominated actress Gemma Jones, regale tales of her life as an adventurous archaeologist, with each story tied to a different teacup in her collection. The siblings imagine themselves on these adventures, which were filmed in Musselburgh on sets created in Scotland's oldest boarding school, Loretto. (2015-2017)



The Head Gardener's Cottage in Princes Street Gardens starred as the home of Great Aunt Lizzie

MURDER

Atholl Crescent and St Bernard's Crescent, Edinburgh

This anthology series looks at the complexities of a murder case, told through the eyes of the protagonists who engage in monologues to camera in each episode. 'The Lost Weekend' is set in Belgravia London but was filmed on location in Atholl Crescent and St Bernard's Crescent in Edinburgh. Episode three, 'The Big Bang', attempts to uncover which one of three armed robbers killed an off-duty policeman in cold blood ten years earlier. An old school was used for the set, while Wester Hailes and Edinburgh Sheriff Court also feature. The Scottish Borders also makes an appearance in an episode. See page 28 for more. (2016)

MURDER ROOMS

Edinburgh

This crime drama reveals the story behind Sherlock Holmes and the University of Edinburgh tutor, Dr Joseph Bell (played by Ian Richardson), who was the inspiration for author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to create the world famous sleuth. Its full title is *Murder Rooms: Mysteries of the Real Sherlock Holmes*. Filming took place across Edinburgh including George Heriot's School, the 17th century home of Sir Archibald Acheson in the Old Town and Moray Place in the New Town. (2000-2001)

THE ESCAPE ARTIST

Edinburgh and Dunbar, East Lothian

David Tennant plays Will Burton, a highly talented barrister nicknamed 'The Escape Artist' due to his ability to get defendants out of tight legal corners. When his skills manage to acquit the prime suspect in a vicious murder case, it comes back to haunt him with chilling results. While the first two episodes are set in England, the third episode sees Will come home to Scotland. Scenes take place in Edinburgh city centre, including the Royal Mile, Victoria Terrace and North Bridge. Other locations include the railway station in Dunbar, East Lothian – the hometown of 19th century explorer, naturalist and conservationist, John Muir. A statue stands in the High Street in recognition of Muir, considered to be the father of National Parks in the USA. The East Lothian coastal town is also the starting point of the John Muir Way walking route, which stretches 134 miles (215km) across Scotland's heartland to Helensburgh. (2013)



The rocky coastline of Dunbar – home to father of National Parks, John Muir

REBUS

Edinburgh

When it comes to Glasgow-set literary crime fiction, there are few characters better known than that of Inspector Jack Laidlaw (the creation of writer William McIlvanney). For Edinburgh, it is the world-weary Detective Inspector John Rebus. The Scottish capital plays an integral role in the STV adaptation of Ian Rankin's popular novels with Calton Hill, Edinburgh Castle, Port Edgar Marina and the Water of Leith among the many landmarks which make an appearance in the four series. Rebus himself was first portrayed by John Hannah from 1999 to 2001 and then by Ken Stott between 2006 and 2007. Notable locations used included Nobles Café Bar and Restaurant in Leith's Constitution Street as the grizzled detective's favourite haunt, The Oxford Bar; the arts hub Out of the Blue Drill Hall on Dalmeny Street as his police station; while his flat is found near The Meadows, nestled between Edinburgh's Old Town and Marchmont. (1999-2007)



Detective Inspector John Rebus (Ken Stott) at South Queensferry (© STV Productions)

FILM HIGHLIGHT

T2 TRAINSPOTTING

The big-screen adaptation of Irvine Welsh's *Trainspotting* burst onto the screens with Renton (Ewan McGregor) and Spud (Ewen Bremner) escaping from shop security staff by running down Princes Street, to the sound of Iggy Pop's *Lust for Life*. Directed by Danny Boyle, the 1996 cultural phenomenon was set in the Scottish capital but the majority of filming took place in Glasgow. The sequel, set 20 years later, saw cast and crew return to Scotland but this time location shooting stuck mainly to Edinburgh. Those locales include Holyrood Park where, in contrast to the first film's opening, Renton and Spud go running for recreation – before relaxing at the top of Arthur's Seat and admiring the Edinburgh cityscape in all its sun-kissed glory. (2017)

Salisbury Crags on Arthur's Seat



Outlander

SCOTLAND IS THE HOME OF MANY STORIES, BOTH REAL AND IMAGINARY. THERE IS ONE, HOWEVER, THAT HAS CAPTURED THE HEARTS OF VISITORS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE AS A TV SERIES – AND IT CAME FROM THE MIND OF AN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR, WITH AN EXPERTISE IN SCIENTIFIC COMPUTATION.

ITS NAME IS OUTLANDER.



Jamie (Sam Heughan) and Claire (Caitriona Balfe) on horseback (© 2014 Sony Pictures Television Inc.)

Outlander is a fascinating world of standing stones, romantic castles and sweeping scenery.

The fictional time-hopping romance follows the story of Claire Randall, a married English combat nurse from 1945 who, while on a second honeymoon in Inverness, is mysteriously swept back in time to the 18th century Scottish Highlands. There she meets Jamie, a chivalrous young warrior, with whom she becomes romantically entwined.

The hit TV series, based on the books by Diana Gabaldon, was adapted for the screen and developed by producer Ron Moore (*Star Trek: The Next Generation*, the reimagined *Battlestar Galactica*) and stars Caitriona Balfe as the aforementioned Claire Randall and Scottish actor Sam Heughan as Jamie.

Scotland is its own character in the series. Not only as the original setting, but as the majority of filming takes place here, including at a specially-built studio in Cumbernauld, North Lanarkshire. Indeed, many locations in Scotland also stand in for places in the USA, France and even the Caribbean.

Outlander wasn't author Gabaldon's first brush with Scottish 'history', having written comic strips for Disney's Scrooge McDuck, and she took inspiration from an unusual source (see page 30).

To watch *Outlander*, check local listings.

A selection of locations used in the TV series can be found on the opposite page. For more locations, go to visitscotland.com/outlander

GLEN COE

Season 1 – Opening Credits

One of the highlights of any trip to Scotland, the spectacular Glen Coe is a world-famous Scottish landmark and features in *Outlander*'s opening credits. The wonderful world of Glen Coe, located by the 'Outdoor Capital of the UK', Fort William, charms with its high mountain peaks, ridges, rushing rivers and waterfalls. Not far away, just past Fort William, is the legendary Glenfinnan Monument where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard and started the Jacobite Rising of 1745.



Glen Coe

BLACKNESS CASTLE

Season 1 and 2

Standing looking out over the Firth of Forth near Edinburgh is the impressive Blackness Castle, often referred to as 'the ship that never sailed' due to its ship-like shape. This 15th century fortress provides the setting for the Fort William headquarters of Black Jack Randall, as well as featuring in the heart-wrenching scene of Jamie's incarceration.



Claire (Caitriona Balfe) at Drummond Castle Gardens (© 2016 Sony Pictures Television Inc.)

DRUMMOND CASTLE GARDENS

Season 2

Standing in for the ornate park and orchard of the Palace of Versailles in France, the stunning Drummond Gardens near Crieff are one of Europe's finest examples of a formal garden. Designed in the Italian parterre style, the gardens are approached by a mile-long driveway of beech trees that leads to the imposing walls of Drummond Castle. Look out for the peacocks which lend an aristocratic air to the garden's scenery! Note: the castle isn't open to the public.



Glen Coe

SIGNET LIBRARY

Season 3

The stunning interior of the Signet Library in the centre of Edinburgh's Old Town was transformed into the Governor's Mansion in Jamaica. The library is home to the prestigious Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet (also known as the WS Society) which dates to the 15th century. The 'writers' of documents sealed them with 'the Signet', the private seal of the Scottish kings. Why not enjoy afternoon tea in the Colonnades and relax in the elegant surroundings?

KELVINGROVE PARK

Season 3

The beautiful Kelvingrove Park in Glasgow doubles for the Boston park where Claire frequently takes walks. Visit the park with its many statues, monuments and varied wildlife and the nearby Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.



Blackness Castle

Greater Glasgow & The Clyde Valley



A view of the Glasgow skyline from The Lighthouse

Glasgow

The Field of Blood/Taggart

Finnieston Crane, Glasgow

Night Mail

Argyle Street, Glasgow

Rab C Nesbitt

George Square, Glasgow

World War Z

City Chambers, Glasgow

The Secret Agent

Merchant City, Glasgow

The Replacement

Glasgow and Inverclyde

Still Game/Ordeal by Innocence

Greenock, Inverclyde

Waterloo Road

Milngavie, East Dunbartonshire

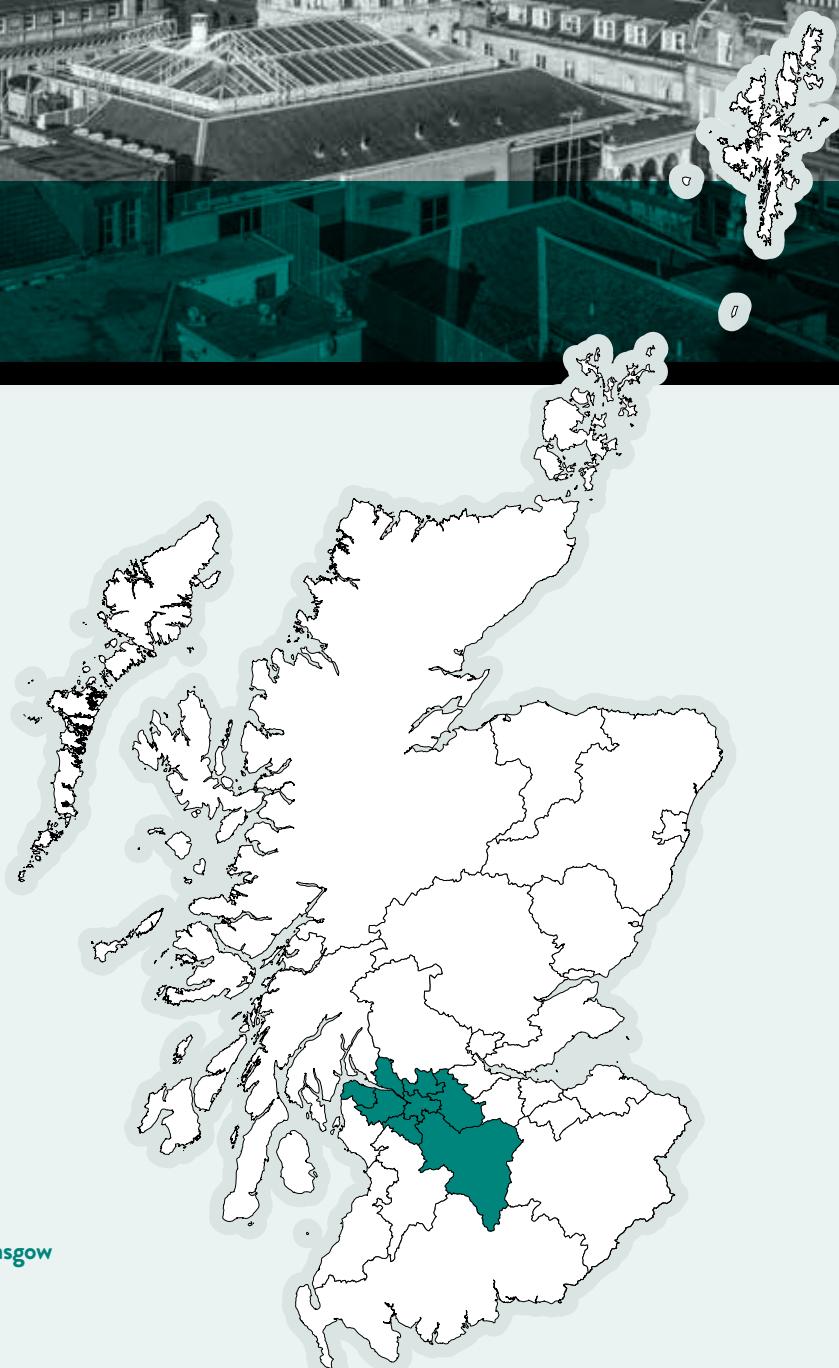
Doctor Finlay's Casebook

Dumbarton, West Dunbartonshire

River City

East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire and Maryhill, Glasgow

Gary: Tank Commander



NIGHT MAIL

Finnieston Crane, Glasgow

One of the most critically acclaimed films within the British documentary film movement, *Night Mail*, produced by the GPO (General Post Office) Film Unit, follows a London, Midland and Scottish Railway (LMS) Royal Scot mail train from London to Glasgow and then on to Edinburgh and Aberdeen. An iconic monument to Glasgow's shipping heritage, the Finnieston Crane features in the last segment of the film. Erected in 1931, the crane was mainly used to load heavy locomotives for export but it was also used to fit ships' engines for yards which lacked their own fitting out dock. The crane is just a stone's throw from indoor arena, the SSE Hydro, which regularly plays host to major sporting, musical and theatrical events. For more on *Night Mail*, see page 11. (1936)



The Finnieston Crane beside the SSE Hydro arena



Dumbarton Castle sits to the south of the River City studios and the town

WATERLOO ROAD

Greenock, Inverclyde

The trials and tribulations of the staff and pupils at the fictional *Waterloo Road* school ran for seven series in Rochdale, Greater Manchester, before relocating to the former Greenock Academy school near Glasgow for the drama's final three series. The move was made by the BBC as part of a plan to boost television production across the home nations. (2013-2015)

RIVER CITY

Dumbarton, West Dunbartonshire

You won't find the suburb of Shieldinch – home to an array of eccentric and colourful characters – on your usual map of Glasgow. While based on places in and around the west end of Scotland's largest city, such as Whiteinch and Partick, the fictional setting of this long-running Scottish soap opera is actually filmed at a specially built set located at BBC Scotland studios in Dumbarton. The set contains four tenement blocks, a pub, shops and a boatyard. Soap opera fans can walk in the footsteps of their favourite characters during the summer months when the studio holds tours of the set. (2002 -)

RAB C NESBITT

Argyle Street, Glasgow

The loveable drunken street philosopher (played by Gregor Fisher), known for his string-vested attire, began life as a skit on sketch series *Naked Video*. He broke out of the sketch show in 1990 with his own Govan-set sitcom following the fortunes of Rab and his long-suffering friends and family including wife Mary Doll (played by Elaine C Smith) and longtime friend Jamesie (Tony Roper). Exterior shots of The Two Ways pub, which features in the show, were of a real Glasgow pub. However, unlike the show's portrayal, it wasn't located in Govan but Finnieston at the end of Argyle Street. Hugely popular in his home country, *Rab C Nesbitt* can count Hollywood royalty amongst his international fanbase. Actor Johnny Depp (*Pirates of the Caribbean*) revealed he perfected his Glaswegian accent for his role as the Mad Hatter, in Tim Burton's big-screen adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*, by watching old episodes of *Rab C Nesbitt*. It is said the American star was given tapes of the BBC Scotland comedy series to watch by his voice coach and quickly became a fan. (1988-2014)

TAGGART

Glasgow

Fondly remembered for its catchphrase “There’s been a murder”, the UK’s longest-running TV crime drama began life as a 1983 mini-series called *Killer*. The name was changed to *Taggart* when a full series was commissioned in 1985. The series revolves around a group of detectives operating out of the fictional John Street police station in Maryhill led by Detective Chief Inspector Jim Taggart (played by Mark McManus until his untimely death in 1994). Filming took place across Glasgow with the original title card of the show using a panoramic shot taken from the summit of the Cathkin Braes to the south of the city. In later years, a shot of the city centre was taken from The Lighthouse – Scotland’s national centre for design and architecture – on Mitchell Lane. (1983-2010)



The detectives were regularly seen at locations across the Glasgow area (© STV Productions)



Jayd Johnson stars as Paddy, a reporter trying to make it in the fictional Daily News of 1980s Glasgow (© Slate North)

THE SECRET AGENT

City Chambers, Glasgow

An adaption of Joseph Conrad’s classic novel, this three-part thriller set in the heart of Soho in 1886 was in reality shot largely in Edinburgh (see page 14 for more). The gripping drama follows the life of Verloc (Toby Jones), a seedy sex shop owner and Russian spy who is given a mission to orchestrate a bombing to provoke a British crackdown on the anarchist threat sweeping Europe. Locations include Glasgow’s City Chambers, which features as the Russian Embassy. (2016)



Glasgow’s City Chambers features as the Russian Embassy (© World Productions)

THE REPLACEMENT

Merchant City, Glasgow

This three-part psychological thriller about Ellen Rooney (Morven Christie), who goes on maternity leave only to become increasingly paranoid about the motives of her temporary replacement, features many well-known locations across the city. The former Glasgow 2014 headquarters at Commonwealth House on Albion Street in the Merchant City portrays the fictitious offices of Ellen's workplace, Gillies Warnock Architects. Ellen and her husband Ian (Richard Rankin) stay in a pretty mews cottage on a cobbled lane within the west end's historic Park District. (2017)



Merchant City is home to the fictional workplace of Ellen (Morven Christie) in *The Replacement*

GARY: TANK COMMANDER

East Kilbride, South Lanarkshire and Maryhill, Glasgow

Greg McHugh writes and stars as the eponymous character, Gary McLintoch (the tank commander), a corporal in the fictional 104th Royal Tank Regiment of the British Army, in this award-winning Scottish sitcom. Filming locations include East Kilbride's Territorial Army Centre and Walcheren Barracks in Maryhill. (2008-2012)

STILL GAME

Glasgow and Inverclyde

The Scottish sitcom following the misadventures of Jack (Ford Kiernan) and Victor (Greg Hemphill) is set in the fictional Craiglang area of Glasgow, however the Maryhill district of the city is one of the most common filming locations. The early part of the first episode 'Flittin' was filmed in the South Nitshill area of Glasgow, where Jack lived before he moved into the flat next-door to Victor at Osprey Heights. The block of flats which were used to film Osprey Heights can be found at Collina Street in Maryhill with the shops found in Townhead. Ardgowan Estate, a late eighteenth-century mansion at Inverkip, Inverclyde, was used as the setting for Blairstunnoch in the episode 'Fly Society'. The estate also makes an appearance in the 2018 BBC adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Ordeal by Innocence*. (1999 -)

FILM HIGHLIGHT

WORLD WAR Z

It may come as a surprise to many, but the crowd scenes in Brad Pitt flick *World War Z* (directed by Marc Foster) weren't filmed in the USA but in the west of Scotland. Those familiar with Glasgow's historic George Square couldn't miss the location as the camera sweeps over the amazing Victorian architecture and hordes of the undead. The adaptation of Max Brook's novel of the same name brought the city to a standstill as 1,200 cast and crew transformed it into zombie-ravaged Philadelphia. (2013)



West

Argyll & The Isles, Ayrshire & Arran, The Outer Hebrides

The sandy beach at Luss on the shore of Loch Lomond

Tobermory, Isle of Mull

Balamory

Tarbert, Loch Fyne, Argyll

The Crow Road

Inveraray, Argyll

The Mackinnons

Inveraray Castle, Argyll

Downton Abbey

The Rest and Be Thankful, Argyll

Eastenders

Luss, Loch Lomond

Take the High Road (High Road)

Ayr to Isle of Skye

Great British Railway Journeys

Dunure Castle and Harbour, Ayrshire

Outlander

Culzean Castle, Ayrshire

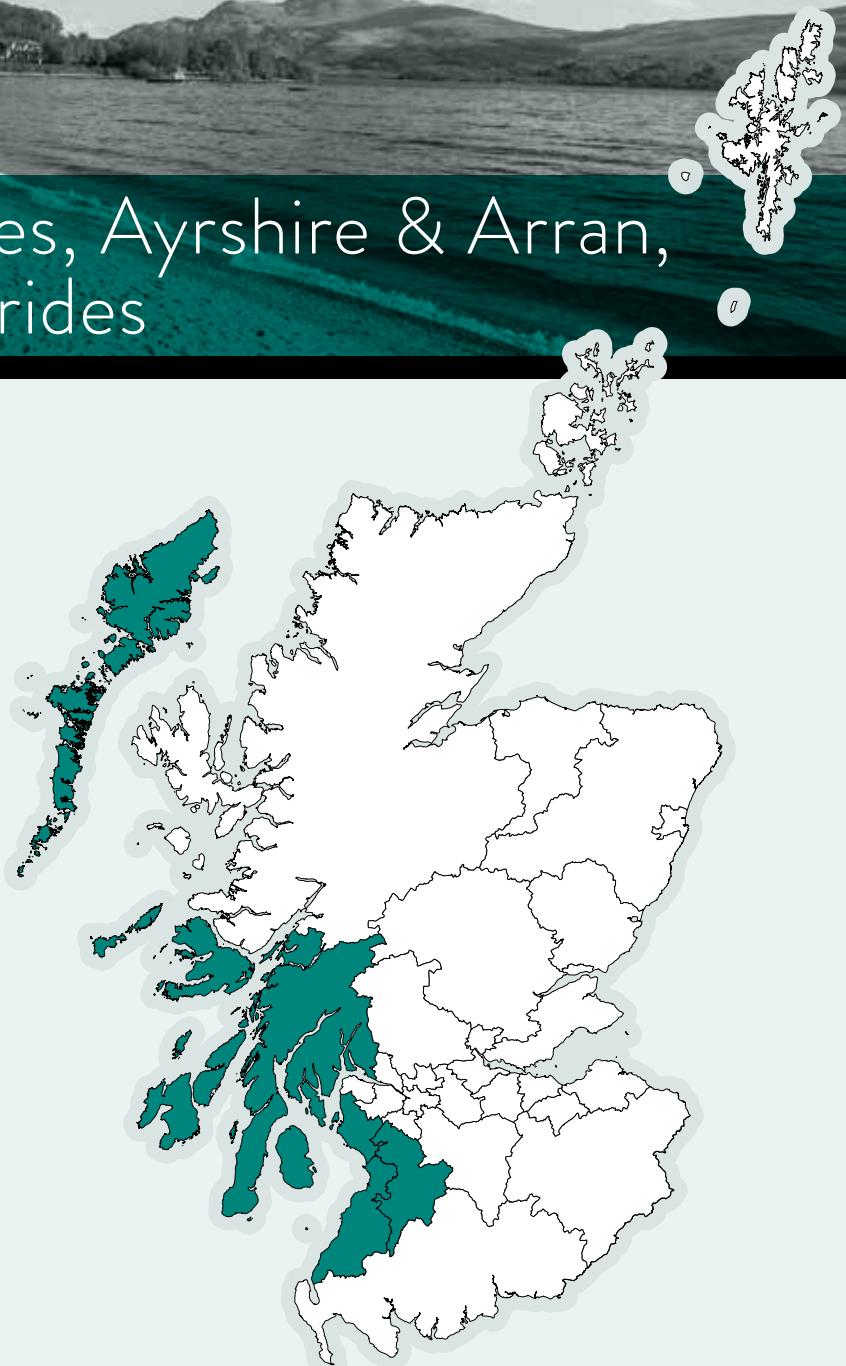
The Queen

Inner and Outer Hebrides

Hebrides - Islands on the Edge/
Alan Cumming's Edge of Scotland

Coll and Isle of Lewis, Hebrides

Machair/Katie Morag



BALAMORY

Tobermory, Isle of Mull

What's the story in *Balamory*? So begins the title song for the BBC Scotland award-winning children's show. The Isle of Mull's colourful capital, Tobermory, with its iconic, brightly painted houses will be familiar to younger viewers as the setting of *Balamory* and the home of such eccentric characters as Miss Hoolie, Josie Jump, PC Plum and Archie the Inventor. The majority of filming took place on the island with the exception of scenes at Archie's castle filmed at Fenton Tower in North Berwick. (2002-2005)



The famous coloured houses of Tobermory on the Isle of Mull



Tarbert on Loch Fyne plays a starring role in *The Crow Road*

DOWNTON ABBEY

Inveraray Castle, Argyll

The historical period drama television series, created by Julian Fellowes, depicts the lives of the aristocratic Crawley family and their domestic servants during the post-Edwardian era at their Yorkshire country house, Downton Abbey. For the 2012 Christmas special, the Crawley family head north to Duneagle Castle. The fictional home of the Marquess and Marchioness of Flintshire was filmed on location at Inveraray Castle – the real-life home to the Duke of Argyll and his family – where visitors can explore the opulent tapestries and paintings of the interior to the 16 acres of formal lawns, flowerbeds, park and woodland. (2012)



The fictional Crawley family stayed at Duneagle Castle, real-life Inveraray Castle
© Robert Pogson

THE MACKINNONS

Inveraray, Argyll

This Scottish drama series lasted 13 episodes and starred Bill Simpson (1960's TV series, *Dr Finlay's Casebook* – see pages 9 and 20) as head of the Mackinnon family and a veterinary surgeon. The story was set in the fictional village of Inverglen, while the opening shot was actually of Inveraray. The town, on the western shore of Loch Fyne, is also home to Inverary Jail. The 19th century prison and courthouse, which operated as a prison from 1820 to 1889, is now a living museum. (1977)

EASTENDERS

The Rest and Be Thankful, Argyll

The dramatic beauty of The Rest and Be Thankful – the highest point on the A83 which divides Glen Kinglas and Glen Croe – was matched by drama of a different kind when London-set BBC soap opera *Eastenders* journeyed northward. As part of its festive episodes, it was here that the devious Janine Butcher (Charlie Brooks) confessed her emotional manipulation of car salesman Barry Evans (Shaun Williamson), before pushing him over a cliff-edge to his death. A stone commemorates, not Barry's untimely death, but the completion of the old military road in 1750, as seen from the viewpoint. (2004)

OUTLANDER

Dunure Castle and Harbour, Ayrshire

Outlander, the romantic time-travelling adventures of English nurse Claire Randall (Caitriona Balfe) and Highlander Jamie Fraser (Sam Heughan), features many Scottish locations standing in for both Scottish and international places. In Season Three the little harbour in the village of Dunure in Ayrshire stands in for Ayr Harbour as Claire and Jamie leave Scotland in pursuit of Young Ian. Less than a mile away is Dunure Castle which features as Silkie Island. For more on *Outlander*, see pages 16 and 17. (2014 -)



Dunure Castle features as Silkie Island in Season Three of *Outlander*



Luss on the banks of Loch Lomond doubled as the fictional village of Glendarroch
© STV Productions

TAKE THE HIGH ROAD (HIGH ROAD)

Luss, Loch Lomond

For 23 years the real-life village of Luss on the banks of Loch Lomond doubled as the fictional village of Glendarroch in *Take the High Road* (renamed *High Road* from 1994-2003). With its name derived from the Scottish song ‘Loch Lomond’, the daytime soap opera produced by Scottish Television (STV) was home to many familiar faces. Alan Cumming, who made his TV debut in Glendarroch, went on to star as Nightcrawler in *X-Men 2* and in hit US TV show *The Good Wife*, while James Cosmo, who also appeared in the soap, is known to fantasy fans worldwide as Jeor Mormont in acclaimed TV series, *Game of Thrones*. Other notable villagers included Eileen McCallum (*River City*), Joe McFadden (*Holby City*), Natalie J Robb (*Emmerdale*) and Gary Hollywood (*Mrs Brown’s Boys*). Peter May, author of the *Lewis Trilogy*, was a writer, script editor and story editor on the show from 1980 to 1992. (1980-2003)

KATIE MORAG

Coll and Isle of Lewis, Hebrides

Based on the much-loved children’s books written and illustrated by Mairi Hedderwick, the adventures of young *Katie Morag* on the fictional Scottish island of Struay entranced viewers for two series. While the island of Coll in the Inner Hebrides, where Hedderwick lived for several years, is said to have been the inspiration for the literary setting, Struay is actually a confluence of many of the islands. Most of the filming for the TV series took place on the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides with some scenic shots, including the iconic title shot, filmed on Coll itself. Lewis locations include the village of Tolsta Chaolais (the McColl Shop and Post Office), Bhaltos Pier and several of the island’s beautiful beaches including Dal Mor and Shawbost. Those seeking to start their own family-friendly adventure on the archipelago should begin at the Museum nan Eilean, Lews Castle, which brings the Outer Hebrides’ past to life and features, amongst its exhibits, the world-famous Lewis Chessmen. (2013-2014)



Ness Beach on the Isle of Lewis

HEBRIDES - ISLANDS ON THE EDGE

Inner and Outer Hebrides

The first of two documentaries narrated by Scottish actor Ewan McGregor (see also *Highlands – Scotland's Wild Heart*, on page 7), the four-part series, *Hebrides*, paints a portrait of a year in the Inner and Outer Hebrides. Its wild stars include white-tailed eagles – the largest bird of prey in the UK, with an impressive wingspan of more than 8ft – on the Isle of Mull and Isle of Skye, basking sharks, newborn seal pups and battling red deer stags on the Isle of Rum, which is home to about 900 red deer. (2013)



Red deer are best seen to the north of the Isle of Rum

ALAN CUMMING'S EDGE OF SCOTLAND

Outer Hebrides

Film, television and Broadway Scottish star Alan Cumming (*X-Men 2*, *The Good Wife*) fulfilled a lifelong ambition in this one-off documentary by embarking on his own personal journey exploring the Outer Hebrides. Setting off on a scenic journey to discover the spirit of Scotland among the rugged beauty of the Outer Hebrides, Alan travels from Barra in the south to Stornoway, taking in stops at Eriskay and Callanish to visit islanders and local businesses along the way and discovers how they make a living in this beautiful but at times challenging environment. (2017)

GREAT BRITISH RAILWAY JOURNEYS

Ayr to Isle of Skye

The BBC documentary series follows broadcaster and ex-politician, Michael Portillo, as he travels the length and breadth of Britain to understand how the railways changed us – taking with him a copy of George Bradshaw's *Victorian Railway Guidebook*. Series Two sees him take the scenic journey up the west coast of Scotland from Ayr to the Isle of Skye. (2011)

MACHAIR

Isle of Lewis, Outer Hebrides

Co-created and developed by Scottish author and screenwriter Peter May, *Machair* was Scotland's longest-running Gaelic soap opera. The drama was shot entirely on location on the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides, home to stunning pristine beaches and the 5,000-year-old Calanais Standing Stones. May returned to the archipelago in 2011 with his novel, *The Blackhouse*, which would become the first in a trilogy of books (the other two being *The Lewis Man* and *The Chess Men*) set on the Isle of Lewis – now known as the *Lewis Trilogy*. The books feature many real locations and visitors can follow in the footsteps of protagonist Fin Macleod in a literary trail that spans 17 sites on the Isle of Barra, South Uist, North Uist, Harris and Lewis. (1992-1998)

FILM HIGHLIGHT

THE QUEEN

The opulent interior of the 14th century Blairquhan Castle, Maybole in Ayrshire was used to depict the Royal Family residence at Balmoral in the Stephen Frears-directed film. It is here that Her Majesty (Dame Helen Mirren in an Academy Award-winning performance) meets with Prime Minister Tony Blair (Michael Sheen). A short journey westward to the Ayrshire clifftops sits the magnificent Culzean Castle (below) – designed by Scots architect Robert Adam – which also features in *The Queen*, as Her Majesty is seen strolling in its stunning Fountain Court gardens. (2006)



Central and South

Loch Lomond, The Trossachs, Stirling
& Forth Valley, Dumfries & Galloway,
Scottish Borders

Andy Scott's The Kelpies which form part of the Helix Park

Killearn, Stirlingshire

Grandpa's Great Escape

Doune Castle and The Bo'ness & Kinnel Railway

Outlander

Stirling Castle

Colditz

Falkirk Wheel

Jeopardy

Dumfries & Galloway

The Wicker Man

Wanlockhead, Dumfries & Galloway

Hope Springs

Port Logan, Dumfries & Galloway

Two Thousand Acres of Sky

Peebles, Scottish Borders

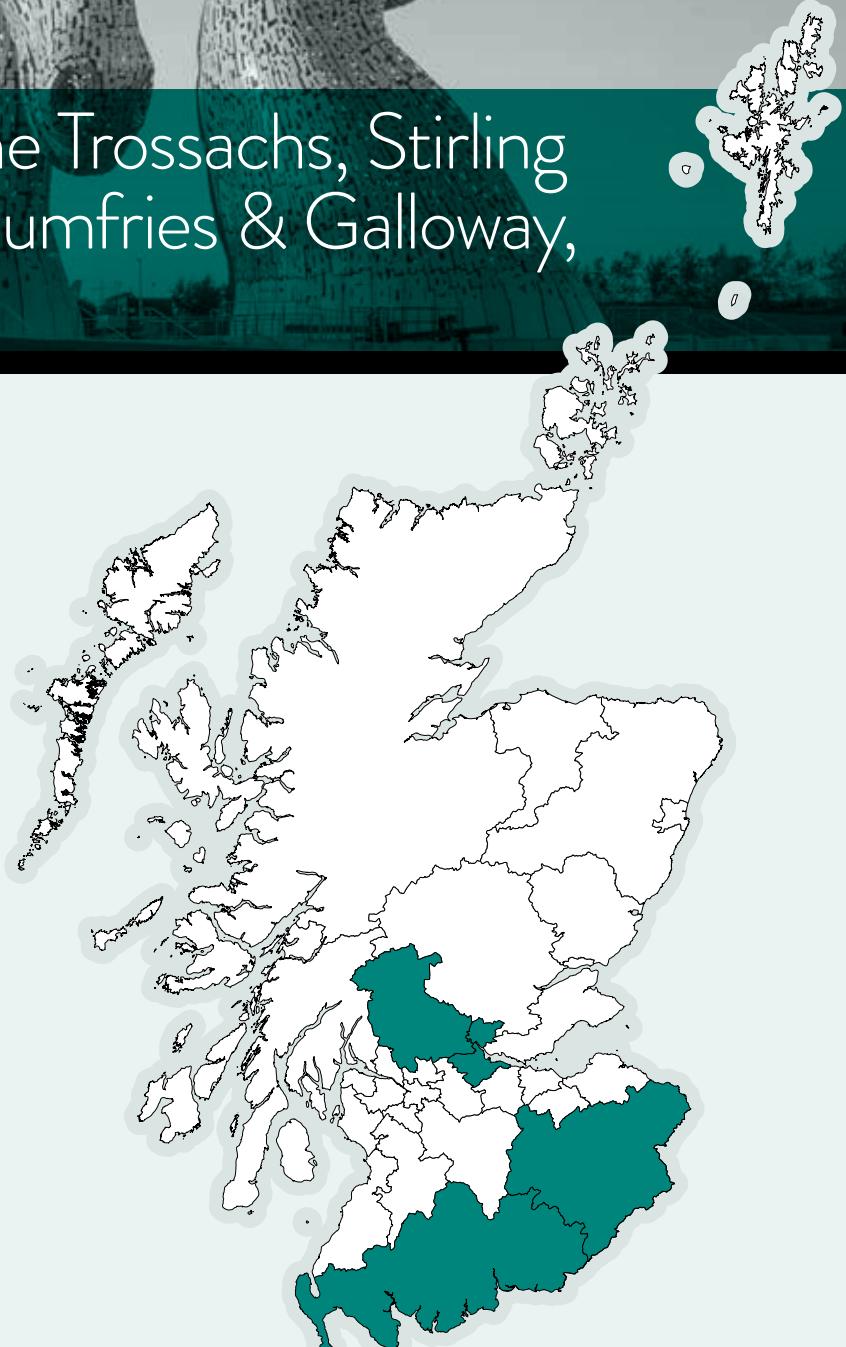
One of Us

Drumelzier, Scottish Borders

Murder

Selkirk, Scottish Borders

North and South



COLDITZ

Stirling Castle

The series deals with Allied prisoners of war imprisoned at the supposedly escape-proof Colditz Castle – a Renaissance castle in the town of Colditz near Leipzig, Dresden – during the Second World War. Due to the similarities between Colditz Castle and Stirling Castle some exterior shots took place at the once favoured residence of Stuart kings and queens. One of Scotland's most famous attractions, the castle originally dates back to the 12th century. It was the scene of multiple sieges, played a significant role in the Battle of Bannockburn, and in 1543 saw Mary Stuart crowned Queen of Scots in the Chapel Royal. Nowadays, visitors can step back in time and take in the grandeur of its famous 'Stirling Heads' and beautiful gardens. (1972-1974)



Stirling Castle, the favoured residence of Stuart kings and queens, doubled as Colditz Castle
© Kenny Lam



The Falkirk Wheel, the world's only rotating boatlift, makes a cameo appearance in Jeopardy

OUTLANDER

Doune Castle and The Bo'ness & Kinnel Railway

Outlander, the romantic time-travelling adventures of English nurse Claire Randall (Caitriona Balfe) and Highlander Jamie Fraser (Sam Heughan), features many Scottish locations standing in for both Scottish and international places. The stunning Doune Castle near Stirling plays a leading role in the show's first season, substituting for the fictional Castle Leoch – home to Colum MacKenzie and his clan in the 18th century. It also features in the 20th century episode when Claire and husband Frank visit the castle in ruins on a day trip. Season One also saw the Bo'ness & Kinnel Railway transformed into a wartime London railway station where Claire and Frank say their goodbyes. Visitors can tour this heritage railway and explore Scotland's largest railway museum, before taking advantage of the chance to board a preserved vintage steam train or diesel-hauled train. For more on *Outlander*, see pages 16 and 17. (2014-)



Doune Castle plays the fictional Castle Leoch © 2014 Sony Pictures Television Inc.

HOPE SPRINGS



Wanlockhead on the Southern Upland Way stars as fictional Highland village, *Hope Springs*

MURDER

Drumelzier, Scottish Borders

This anthology series looks at the complexities of a murder case, told through the eyes of the protagonists who engage in monologues to camera in each episode. In 'The Third Voice', a body is found near the source of the River Tweed. The episode was filmed on location at Drumelzier in the Scottish Borders as well as the court at Peebles, and the cemetery at West Linton. Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh, also makes an appearance in several episodes (see page 14 for more). The River Tweed, where the grisly discovery is made, runs by the home of one of Scotland's greatest writers, Sir Walter Scott. Restored to its former glory in recent years, including the addition of a visitor centre, Abbotsford near Melrose remains one of the most famous houses in the world. The 19th century property houses a treasure trove of intriguing objects and unusual artefacts which inspired Scott's greatest poems and novels. (2016)

Wanlockhead, Dumfries & Galloway

This eight-part drama series sees four friends plan to use £5 million stolen from the gangster husband of one of them to fulfil their dream of living in Barbados – but end up hiding out in a tiny Highland village after their plan goes awry. The former lead mining village of Wanlockhead, near the head of the Mennock Pass, on the Southern Upland Way walking trail, doubled as the aforementioned village, *Hope Springs*, chosen for its beautiful and tranquil scenery. The Southern Upland Way is Britain's first official coast to coast long distance footpath which runs 212 miles (340 km) from Portpatrick on the south west coast of Scotland to Cockburnspath on the eastern seaboard. (2009)



Abbotsford, the former home one of Scotland's greatest writers, Sir Walter Scott



The Scottish Borders and Peebles stepped in for the Highlands in the thriller, *One of Us*
(Copyright © BBC)

ONE OF US

Peebles, Scottish Borders

A horrific double murder rocks the lives of two families living side-by-side in Braeston, a small village in the Highlands, in this four-part thriller from the writers of *The Missing* (Harry and Jack Williams). The drama explores the fallout for the grieving relatives, and the dark consequences that threaten to shatter their lives. Filming took place in Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders, with Peebles stepping in for the Highlands, playing the fictional village and the surrounding farmland. For those looking to explore the surrounding area, the John Buchan Way – named after the well-known literary figure and diplomat – is the perfect place to start. Beginning in Peebles, the 13-mile walking route takes in Cademuir Hill, Stobo Kirk and the John Buchan Centre on its way to Broughton. One of Buchan's most famous works is the spy-thriller, *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, which has been adapted many times on film, including by Alfred Hitchcock. (2016)

TWO THOUSAND ACRES OF SKY

Port Logan, Dumfries & Galloway

Abby Wallace (Michelle Collins), a single mother living in London with her two young children, takes the opportunity to make a new start on the fictional island of Ronansay, after the islanders recruit extra children to prevent the closure of the local primary school. Set off the coast of the Isle of Skye, filming actually took place in the seaside village of Port Logan, just north of the Mull of Galloway – the most southerly point in Scotland. Those with a head for heights can climb the 115 steps to the top of Scotland's most southerly lighthouse at the award-winning Mull of Galloway Experience, while the Rhins of Galloway peninsula is the perfect spot for wildlife watching, particularly along the clifftop walks. (2001-2003)



Kenny (Paul Kaye) at Port Logan, which starred as the fictional island of Ronansay
(Copyright © BBC)

NORTH AND SOUTH

Selkirk, Scottish Borders

The title of Elizabeth Gaskell's classic could have been a reflection of the production of this TV adaptation, which used several Central and Southern Scottish locations to represent Victorian England's industrial north. The story follows the fortunes of Margaret Hale (played by Daniela Denby-Ashe), a privileged, middle class southerner who is forced to settle in the northern town of Milton. There she meets handsome and charismatic cotton mill owner John Thornton (Richard Armitage) whom she believes epitomises everything she dislikes about the North. While the majority of filming took place in Edinburgh, Selkirk played its part with Scott's Close chosen as the exterior of mill worker Higgins's house. For more *North and South* locations see page 13. (2004)

GRANDPA'S GREAT ESCAPE

Killearn, Stirlingshire

Based on an original book by David Walliams (*Little Britain*), *Grandpa's Great Escape* tells the tale of Grandpa, a World War II flying ace who, with the help of his grandson, hatches a plan to escape old people's home, Twilight Towers, to expose its corrupt manager Miss Dandy (played by *Absolutely Fabulous*'s Jennifer Saunders). Filming took place in the Stirlingshire village, with the kirk and former Killearn Hotel among the locations to feature in the drama. Nearby Dumgoyne is home to the most southerly Highland malt whisky distillery, Glengoyne Distillery. (2018)

FILM HIGHLIGHT

THE WICKER MAN

One of the greatest British films ever made and an all-time horror classic, director Robin Hardy shot extensively in the towns and villages of Dumfries & Galloway. This scenic part of Scotland exudes an altogether more menacing quality on screen as Sergeant Neil Howie (Edward Woodward) flies to the fictional Scottish island of Summerisle to solve the mystery of a missing schoolgirl. The climactic and iconic scene of the flaming Wicker Man took place on the clifftops of Burrow Head near the Isle of Whithorn. (1973)



The climactic scene of *The Wicker Man* (© Ronald Grant Archive / TopFoto)

Doctor Wha*?

DOCTOR WHO, THE ECCENTRIC SONIC-SCREWDRIVER CARRYING TIME LORD, MAY BE FROM PLANET GALLIFREY BUT HE HAS STRONG LINKS TO SCOTLAND – AND IT'S NOT JUST DOWN TO SOME OF OUR OTHERWORLDLY LANDSCAPES.



Tooth and Claw (2006) in which the Tenth Doctor (David Tennant) and Rose (Billie Piper) become embroiled with Queen Victoria and a werewolf on the Scottish moors
(Copyright © BBC)

The Doctor has regenerated into not one, not two but three incarnations played by Scottish actors. Sylvester McCoy, who hails from Dunoon, became the Seventh Doctor from 1987 to 1989, with David Tennant and Peter Capaldi taking on the mantel for the Tenth (2005-2010) and Twelfth (2014-2017) Doctors, respectively.

Other notable characters with a Scots acting background include Missy, the female incarnation of The Doctor's nemesis The Master, played by Michelle Gomez and Torchwood's Captain Jack Harkness, played by John Barrowman.

A familiar face to Marvel comic book fans for her portrayal as alien supervillain, Nebula, in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, Inverness-born Karen Gillan's break-out role came as the Eleventh Doctor's companion, Amy Pond.

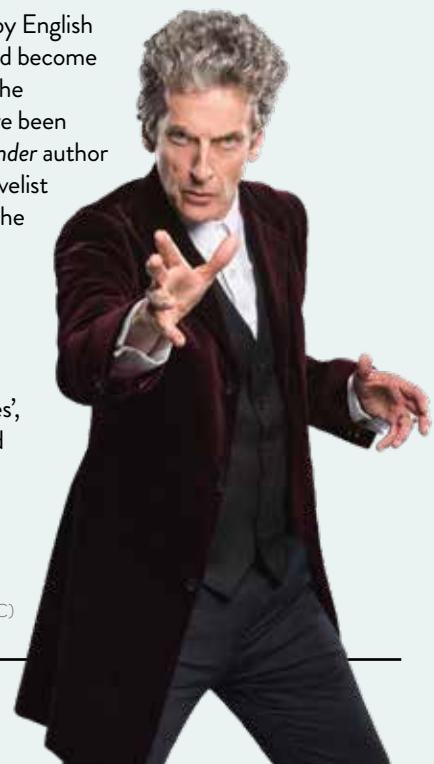
Several episodes of *Doctor Who* have also featured Scotland or mentioned the odd Scottish location. In 'Tooth and Claw' (2006) the Tenth Doctor and Rose become embroiled with Queen Victoria and a werewolf on the Scottish moors – but while set in Scotland, filming took place in Wales.

One of Doctor Who's very first links to Scotland dates back to 1966 when, in the appropriately titled episode 'The Highlanders', the Second Doctor meets Jamie McCrimmon just after the Battle of Culloden.



Jamie McCrimmon (Frazer Hines) who played the Second Doctor's companion
(Copyright © BBC)

The Scots piper, played by English actor Frazer Hines, would become a regular companion to the Doctor and is said to have been the inspiration for *Outlander* author Diana Gabaldon. The novelist dreamed up the idea of the time-hopping romance between Highlander Jamie and English nurse Claire, after watching a rerun of the *Doctor Who* episode, 'The War Games', which featured the kilted Scotsman companion.



Peter Capaldi played the Twelfth Doctor (Copyright © BBC)

Big Scots, Small Screen



Scotty (Doohan) in *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* (© AF archive/Alamy Stock Photo)

(William Shatner), to seek out new life and new civilisations.

Keeping them "boldy going" was Chief Engineer Montgomery 'Scotty' Scott (originally played by James Doohan and most recently Simon Pegg), whose reputed 2022 birthplace is that of West Lothian town, Linlithgow. Dorothy 'DC' Fontana – a writer and story editor on the original TV series – described the character as a "son of Linlithgow" in her 1989 spin-off novel, *Vulcan's Glory*, inspired by visits to the town on her trips to Scotland.

The Captain and P.K. (*Fraggle Rock*)

Fulton Mackay is best known for his role as prison officer Mr Mackay in the 1970s television sitcom *Porridge*. But for adults of a certain age, the Scottish actor will be remembered as The Captain – the British equivalent of Doc – in the UK co-production of Jim Henson's *Fraggle Rock*.

The 1980s children's television show centred on the adventures of a fun-loving group of furry subterranean creatures. For UK viewers, the over ground segments of the episodes were set in a lighthouse, home to the Captain (Mackay) a former sailor, and his trusty canine companion, Sprocket.

MacKay played the role for three series before he sadly passed away in 1987. John Gordon Sinclair – of Scottish film *Gregory's Girl* fame – replaced him as the Captain's nephew P.K.

P.K. (John Gordon Sinclair) with Sprocket (© Moviestore collection Ltd/Alamy Stock Photo)



Scrooge McDuck in *DuckTales*
(© AF archive/Alamy Stock Photo)

Scotty (*Star Trek*)

He was the quintessential 'miracle worker' in the science fiction series *Star Trek* and ten subsequent films. Created by Gene Roddenberry and first broadcast on American television in 1966, *Star Trek* follows the five-year mission of the USS Enterprise, led by Captain James T. Kirk

Scrooge McDuck (*DuckTales*)

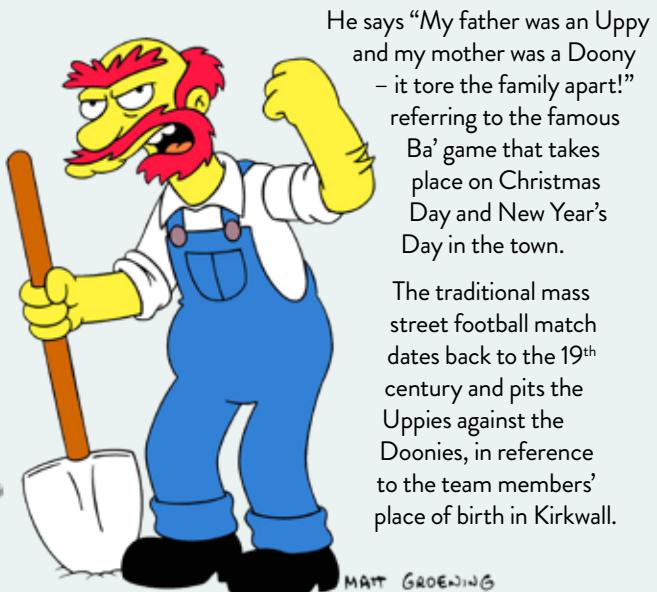
The uncle of Donald Duck and grand-uncle to Huey, Dewey and Louie, Scrooge McDuck made his first appearance as a comic strip in 1947. Based on the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge from Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, the Glasgow-born philanthropist and explorer is best known for his portrayal in the animated series *DuckTales*, voiced most recently by David Tennant (*Doctor Who*).

The comic series, *The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck*, reveals McDuck's ancestral clan home was McDuck Castle in Dismal Downs near Rannoch Moor.

The Great Moor of Rannoch is a beautiful outdoor space stretching far north and west from Rannoch Station along the West Highland Line.

Groundskeeper Willie (*The Simpsons*)

Once voted the person most Americans associated with Scotland, Dr. William 'Willie' MacDougal III is the cantankerous groundskeeper at Springfield Elementary School. His long-disputed birthplace was laid to rest in episode 'The Daughter Also Rises' of the twenty-third season, in which he reveals to Bart he is from Kirkwall in Orkney.

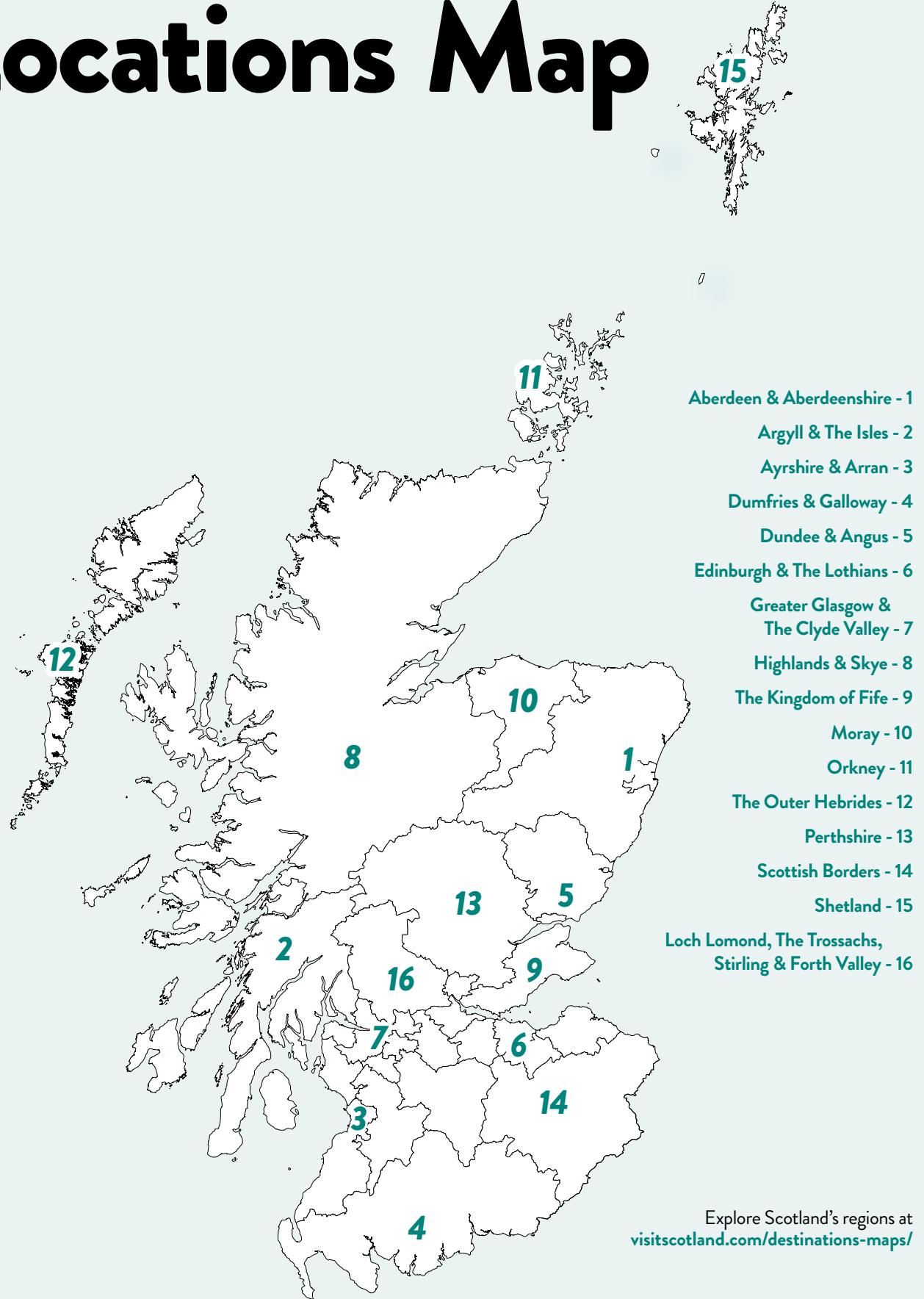


He says "My father was an Uppy and my mother was a Doony – it tore the family apart!" referring to the famous Ba' game that takes place on Christmas Day and New Year's Day in the town.

The traditional mass street football match dates back to the 19th century and pits the Uppies against the Doonies, in reference to the team members' place of birth in Kirkwall.

Groundskeeper Willie (© Everett Collection Inc/Alamy Stock Photo)

Locations Map



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*Ongoing TV series at time of publication



Newspaper articles, online resources and **Set in Scotland**, VisitScotland's guide to film locations, were used while researching **TV Set in Scotland**. Special thanks to Peter May, Scotland's film location offices and those production companies and individuals who also provided assistance. For more information about screen tourism in Scotland, go to visitscotland.com/film. For information about shooting TV programmes in Scotland, go to creativescotland.com

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Front/Back cover image taken at Scott's View, Bemersyde, Scottish Borders
Back cover on-screen image: Jenna Coleman and Tom Hughes star in *Victoria*, which recreated the Queen's stay at Blair Castle, Perthshire, using the real location – see page 9 inside (© ITV/Shutterstock)

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