



## Lights, camera, action

Visit the actual locations  
where many famous  
films were shot



**This publication has been produced by the City of London** – a uniquely diverse organisation with three main aims: to support and promote the City as the world leader in international finance and business services; to provide high quality local services and policing for the Square Mile; and to provide valued services to London and the nation as a whole. The City Corporation strongly supports the film industry and works with the London Film Commission to make location filming in London as simple as possible without disrupting business or residents. Location requests are co-ordinated through the City of London's film team – which liaises with the City Police, environmental health, parking and other services on the filmmaker's behalf. The team coordinates filming in the City and in more than 10,000 acres of open space that it owns in and around London.

[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/film](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/film)  
[www.visitthecity.co.uk](http://www.visitthecity.co.uk)



**While you are taking this walk you'll be close to some of the City's major visitor attractions – provided or supported by the City Corporation – be sure to take advantage and drop in while you're passing.**

### **I Museum of London**

Step inside the Museum of London for an unforgettable journey through the capital's turbulent past. Discover prehistoric, Roman and medieval London, stroll in recreated 18th century pleasure gardens, marvel at the Lord Mayor's Coach and explore the issues of 21st century Londoners.  
Daily 10am-6pm FREE entry  
0870 444 3850  
[info@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:info@museumoflondon.org.uk)  
[www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)

### **II Barbican Centre**

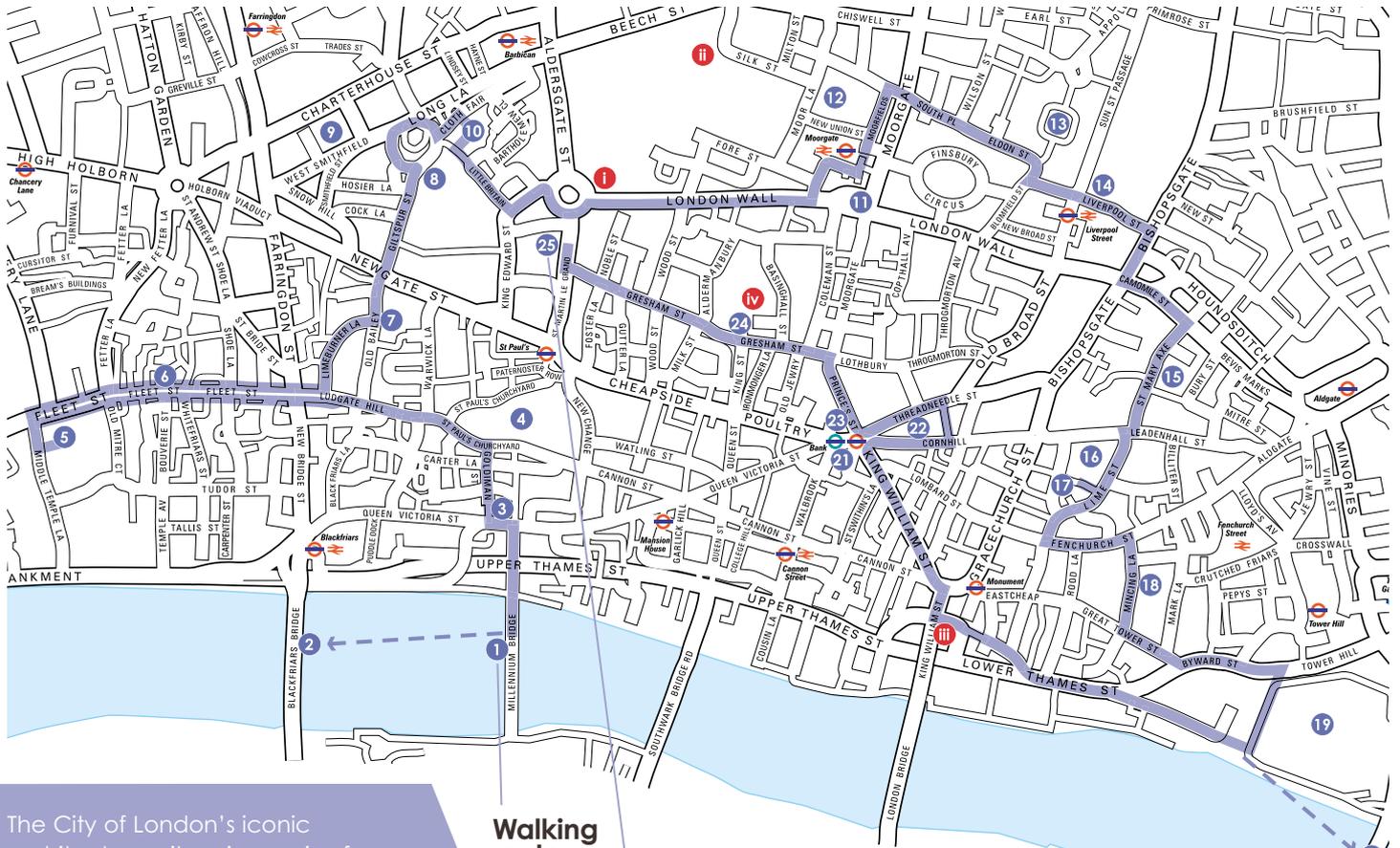
Europe's largest multi-arts and conference venue, presenting a diverse range of art, music, theatre, dance, film and education events.  
9am-11pm Mon-Sat  
12noon-11pm Sun and bank holidays  
020 7638 4141  
[tickets@barbican.org.uk](mailto:tickets@barbican.org.uk)  
[www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk)

### **III Monument**

Monument is the tallest isolated stone column in the world, with a total of 345 steps. It was built between 1671 and 1677 to commemorate the Great Fire of London and stands at 61 metres high.  
Daily 9.30am-5.30pm  
020 7626 2717  
[enquiries@towerbridge.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@towerbridge.org.uk)  
[www.themonument.info](http://www.themonument.info)

### **IV Guildhall Art Gallery**

The gallery houses well-known Victorian paintings and sculpture and London subjects, past and present. The collection spans 400 years and ranges from portraits of kings and queens to the work of contemporary London artists.  
10am-5pm Mon-Sat  
noon-4pm Sun  
020 7332 3700  
[guildhall.artgallery@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:guildhall.artgallery@cityoflondon.gov.uk)  
[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)



The City of London's iconic architecture – its unique mix of ancient and modern – makes it an ideal location for movie makers. It is home to some of London's most famous and most filmed landmarks, including St Paul's Cathedral and Tower Bridge (on the City's border).

Movies can showcase the City at its best and encourage people from all over the world to visit and see where their favourite scenes were shot.

This route covers just some of the many areas in the City captured on screen. From start to finish it will take you around two hours at an average walking pace. You can also dip in and out of sections of the route as most of the points of interest are grouped closely together.

**Walking route Start**

**Walking route Finish**



**Millennium Bridge 1**  
**Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince** begins with a bang with a stunning visual effects sequence showing the destruction of the Millennium Bridge by magic bolts. It can also be seen, intact, in a 'bridging scene' in **Love Actually**. From this bridge look west to view Blackfriars Bridge.

Millennium Bridge





**Blackfriars Bridge** <sup>2</sup>  
**The Imaginarium of Dr Parnassus** has become famous as the last film of actor Heath Ledger before his death. Our first sight of Tony (Ledger) is when he is discovered hanging beneath this bridge. It can also be seen in

the distance as a backdrop for a heartfelt chat between father and son in **Love Actually** (above) in a scene filmed on the Southbank but looking out at the City skyline.



**College of Arms** – open 10am-4pm Mon-Fri

**The College of Arms** <sup>3</sup>  
 The College is the official repository for heraldic, genealogical and ceremonial records covering the past 500 years. It is here that George Lazenby comes in his one outing as James Bond 007 to research

arch-villain Blofeld's ancestry that may prove his weak spot. The film, **On Her Majesty's Secret Service**, was intended to include a lengthy chase scene around this area but this was only partly filmed and then cut for time considerations.

**St Paul's Cathedral** <sup>4</sup>

The Cathedral steps are the location for the triumphant finale of **The Madness of King George**. This is also where Pip arrives in London in David Lean's 1946 film of Charles Dickens's **Great Expectations**.

The director returned to St Paul's in 1962 to film acquaintances of TE Lawrence offering a chorus of opinions on his life after his memorial service at the beginning of **Lawrence of Arabia**. The Cathedral was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and built between 1675 and 1710, after its predecessor was destroyed in the Great Fire of London,



**St Paul's Cathedral** – open 8.30am-4pm Mon-Sat



**Temple Church** <sup>5</sup>  
 This church was consecrated in 1185 and was in reality the headquarters of the Knights Templar, the order of soldier monks founded to protect pilgrims travelling to and from the Holy Land. As such it played a major part in the worldwide bestselling

**Temple Church** – open but only at specific times check [www.templechurch.com](http://www.templechurch.com) for details



book **The Da Vinci Code** (above) and the film version. In the film Tom Hanks and Audrey Tatou (as Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu) search amongst effigies for the tomb of a knight. Like all Templar churches, it follows the circular design of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem, supposedly raised over the site where Jesus was buried.



**Fleet Street** <sup>6</sup>  
 The dramatic opening sequence of the futuristic thriller **Children of Men** (left) is set here. Our hero (Clive Owen) leaves a café and is barely outside before it explodes. The filming was close to some prominent financial

buildings so it took place on a Sunday and Fleet Street was closed for the duration.

**Old Bailey** (London's Central Criminal Court) <sup>7</sup>  
 Although not filmed here, the interiors of the famous criminal court were faithfully



recreated for Billy Wilder's film of Agatha Christie's **Witness for the Prosecution**. Interiors scenes have featured in the UK television series **Law & Order** while the famous Statue of Justice appeared in **V for Vendetta**.

London's Central Criminal Court, universally known as the Old



Bailey, has been the capital's principal criminal court for centuries and perhaps the most famous in the world. Famous trials held here include those of Oscar Wilde, Dr Crippen, William Joyce ('Lord Haw Haw') and the Yorkshire Ripper. The original Old Bailey courthouse was built in 1539 but the history of the court goes back much further. The site had been occupied by the notorious Newgate Prison from medieval times and over hundreds of years the building has been periodically remodelled and rebuilt.



**Barts Hospital** <sup>8</sup>

In **Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason** our heroine (left and below) arrives looking her best to meet her boyfriend at the Royal



Courts only to get soaked by a passing taxi. In reality this was filmed not at the Royal Courts of Justice but outside the Henry VIII gates at St Bartholomew's Hospital. Luckily for Renée Zellweger she had a body double for the rehearsals scenes so she didn't have to endure too many drenchings.

**Smithfield Market**



**Smithfield Market** <sup>9</sup>

London-born Michael Caine and Bob Hoskins can be seen here in the film adaptation of Graham Swift's book **Last Orders**. Caine is a butcher and Hoskins his best friend. The market's beautiful exterior also allowed it to double as King's Cross Station in the adaptation of **Dorian Gray** starring Ben Barnes and recent Oscar-winner Colin Firth.

**St Bartholomew the Great** – open 9am-5pm Mon-Sun, 9am-4pm in winter.



**The Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great** <sup>10</sup>

In director Guy Ritchie's **Sherlock Holmes** the nave at St Bartholomew's Church is where Lord Blackwood prepares his human sacrifice before being interrupted by Holmes (Robert Downey Jr) and Watson (Jude Law). This church has starred in many films, including **Four Weddings and a Funeral**, **Elizabeth: The Golden Age**, **Shakespeare in Love** and **Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves**.



Citypoint

**Moorgate** <sup>11</sup>

The junction with London Wall can be seen briefly in **Ocean's 13** as Matt Damon talks on the phone to the gang. This was shot at the same time as **The Bourne Ultimatum**, also starring Matt Damon, which included filming on the nearby Golden Lane Estate.

**Citypoint** <sup>12</sup>

Woody Allen and Scarlett Johansson spy on Hugh Jackman here on the forecourt of Citypoint in **Scoop** (left). In **Batman Begins** the forecourt of Citypoint is the exterior of the



restaurant where Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale) bumps into his childhood sweetheart Rachel Dawes (Katie Holmes). This also doubled as the quarantine area on the Isle of Dogs in **28 Weeks Later**.

**Broadgate Circle** <sup>13</sup>

This was a backdrop to **Spiceworld** – the Spice Girls movie filmed when they were at the height of their popularity – and is actually doubling for a venue in Milan at which the girls are supposed to be performing.



**Liverpool Street Station** <sup>14</sup>

**Mission Impossible** (below), the film version of the popular 1970s television show, had hero Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) making a tense telephone call to his agency controller here before meeting Jim

Phelps (Jon Voight) on the concourse. The exterior is also featured in the aftermath of an explosion in Clint Eastwood's film **Hereafter**.



### 30 St Mary Axe (the Gherkin) <sup>15</sup>

It seems appropriate for **Basic Instinct 2** (below), the sequel to the sensuous original, to film in a building dubbed 'the erotic gherkin'. Here police psychoanalyst Dr Michael Glass (David Morrissey) has his office and tries to analyse author and possible murderer Catherine Trammel (Sharon Stone). In Ridley Scott's comedy **A Good Year** Russell Crowe works here as an unscrupulous market trader; as does Chris Wilton (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) in Woody Allen's **Matchpoint**.



### The Lloyd's Building <sup>16</sup>

This features as the interior of the US embassy in Hong Kong in Tony Scott's **Spy Game**. Hostage negotiator Russell Crowe reports to insurers here in Taylor Hackford's **Proof of Life** and for **Entrapment**, featuring Sean Connery and Catherine Zeta-Jones, palm trees were wheeled in and the base of the building was transformed into a Malaysian location.

### Leadenhall Market <sup>17</sup>

An ever-popular location for filming, this City Corporation-owned, listed Victorian market has provided backdrops for such films as **Proof of Life** (when Pizza Express became the Saigon Times and hostage negotiator Russell Crowe was given a new assignment); in **Tomb Raider** Lara Croft (Angelina Jolie) speeds through on her motorbike; and in **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone** the empty shop in Bull's Head Passage becomes The Leaky Cauldron pub and the entrance to Diagon Alley. More recently Clint Eastwood directed scenes here for his film **Hereafter**.



### Minster Court <sup>18</sup>

This vast, Gothic looking building has split opinion on its design but its striking features were perfect as Cruella de Vil's headquarters in **101 Dalmatians** (above). Notice the poetic license: the exterior of her building may be Minster Court but this still shows her office overlooking St Paul's Cathedral!



**Tower of London** –  
open 9am-4pm  
Tue-Sat; 10am-4pm  
Sun-Mon (Nov-Feb)  
9am-5pm Tue-Sat;  
10am-5pm Sun-Mon  
(Mar-Oct)

### Tower of London <sup>19</sup>

This historic building has featured in many television series such as **Doctor Who**, **The Bill**, **Coast**, **The Death of Anne Boleyn** and **Kings and Queens of England**. The Tower, founded by William the Conqueror in 1066-7, is one of the world's most famous fortresses, and one of Britain's most visited historic sites. Despite a grim reputation as a place of torture and death, there are many fascinating stories to be told about the Tower. The building is a powerful and enduring symbol of the Norman Conquest and has been enjoyed as a royal palace, served as an armoury, a medieval fortress, a prison, the Royal Mint and, of course, as home to the Crown Jewels.

### Tower Bridge <sup>20</sup>

This was the venue for the infamous unplanned and unapproved leap across the half-opened Bridge in the John Wayne film **Brannigan**. This historic bridge has been the backdrop for numerous well-known films – Bridget Jones (Renée Zellweger) walks across in rush hour in **Bridget Jones's Diary**; actor John Hannah drives a double decker bus over it in **The Mummy Returns**;

Tower Bridge – open  
10am-5.30pm daily  
(Apr-Sept) and  
9.30am-5pm daily  
(Oct-Mar)





Lara Croft (Angelina Jolie) rides over on her motorbike in **Tomb Raider** (previous page); and Thunderbird 2 flies through the open bridge in **Thunderbirds**. It was also digitally recreated for the gripping finale of **Sherlock Holmes** and the fight between Holmes and Blackwood.

Built by the Victorians over 100 years ago, Tower Bridge has become one of the world's most famous bridges and one of London's most recognised landmarks. Offering spectacular views of London from the bridge's high-level walkways, the Tower Bridge Exhibition is a must see attraction for any visitor to London. The bridge is lifted over 900 times a year to let tall ships, cruise liners and other large craft pass through.



**Mansion House** – tours every Tuesday at 2pm (not August or following public holidays)

**Mansion House** <sup>21</sup>

James Ivory and Ismail Merchant and their crew were on location for four days in the Lord Mayor's working home. It seemed only appropriate therefore to give him and the Lady Mayoress parts as extras in the sumptuous dance scene set in the Salon for **The Golden Bowl**.

**Cornhill** <sup>22</sup>

In **Bridget Jones's Diary** (below), Renée Zellweger runs out, in her underwear, into the snow in pursuit of Mark Darcy. She finds him purchasing her a new diary and they end up in a passionate clinch on the corner of Cornhill and Royal Exchange Buildings. A vast stretch of Cornhill was drenched in falling snow and Christmas decorations twinkled in the backdrop – hard to imagine that this was filmed over two nights in April. Smoke machines were used to create the chilly winter haze which on the night triggered the smoke alarms on some of the nearby buildings – temporarily delaying the filming.



**Bank Junction** <sup>23</sup>

Bank Junction was deserted for Danny Boyle's zombie movie **28 Days Later** whereas in **National Treasure II** vehicles were smashing into each other at high speed during an exciting chase sequence in and around this area.

**Guildhall** <sup>24</sup>

The entrance to Guildhall was redecorated to appear as a Parisian Hotel lobby for



**Bean 2** starring Rowan Atkinson. The Great Hall was used for a sumptuous banquet scene in **RKO218** (left), the story behind the making of all-time classic film **Citizen Kane**.

The City of London has been governed from the area occupied by Guildhall for more than 800 years. Today Guildhall is home to the City of London Corporation. This Grade 1 listed building is a rare example of medieval civic architecture. The present Guildhall was built between 1411 and 1430. Local government developed here and its pattern has served as a model for many cities and towns.



**Guildhall** – the Great Hall is open to the public when not in use for events. To check call 020 7606 3030 or visit [www.cityoflondon.org.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.org.uk) or [touristguides.com](http://touristguides.com)

**Postman's Park** <sup>25</sup>

In this hidden treasure of the City, tucked behind walls and situated alongside the church of St Botolph-without-Aldersgate, is a wall of ceramic tiles commemorating heroic deeds of ordinary people who gave their lives trying to save others. This is where Dan (Jude Law) and Alice (Natalie Portman) meet in **Closer** (below) where, true to life, the Alice Ayres memorial does actually exist.