

"It's irreplaceable that landscape, it was idyllic to be there"

Tom Sturridge
(Sergeant Troy)

Far from the Madding Crowd

On location in Dorset

DORSET'S rustic setting forms the backdrop for director Thomas Vinterberg's adaptation of Thomas Hardy's fourth novel and first major literary success, **FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD**.

This is the landscape that Thomas Hardy used time and time again as a backdrop for his tales of love and tragedy. Much of the wide, sweeping scenery that inspired the famous writer has remained unchanged to this day, which is exactly why Vinterberg chose to base most of his filming on location right here in Hardy's Wessex.

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD is the story of independent, beautiful and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene (Carey Mulligan), who attracts three very different suitors: Gabriel Oak (Matthias Schoenaerts), a sheep farmer, captivated by her fetching wilfulness; Frank Troy (Tom Sturridge), a handsome and reckless Sergeant; and William Boldwood (Michael Sheen), a prosperous and mature bachelor. This timeless story of Bathsheba's choices and passions explores the nature of relationships and love – as well as the human ability to overcome hardships through resilience and perseverance.



"I can't imagine us filming it anywhere else apart from Dorset"

Carey Mulligan (Bathsheba Everdene)

"Another day's filming finished as the sun sets over the Madding Crowd flock. What a beautiful place to film"

Andrew Macdonald, Producer

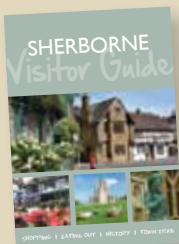


Filming locations...

1 SHERBORNE



Film locations in Sherborne included Sherborne Abbey, Sherborne Castle, Castleton Church (St Mary Magdalen), St John's Almshouse and Abbey Close, the streets of which were transformed into a 1870s market square located in the town of Casterbridge.



Pick up the Sherborne Visitor Guide to discover this mellow stoned, picturesque town for yourself.

2 FORDE ABBEY



Forde Abbey's Great Hall features as the Corn Exchange in the pivotal scene where Bathsheba Everdene first meets William Boldwood. The stunning former monastery has been sympathetically converted over the centuries from its monastic origins in 1141 to its present day use as a family home. Forde Abbey and its beautiful gardens make an ideal day out.

"One day we were shooting on a cliff so we had these insanely beautiful views. That was my favourite place"

Matthias Schoenarts (*Gabriel Oak*)

"To film it was almost distracting because it was so beautiful. We all just felt like we were in this sort of perfect portrait landscape of Hardy"

Carey Mulligan (*Bathsheba Everdene*)

3 The Jurassic Coast of WEST BAY, EYPE and DURDLÉ DOOR



The wild, rugged beauty of Dorset's Jurassic Coast is a popular location with film and TV producers. Many will recognise parts of this iconic stretch of World Heritage coastline from the ITV drama 'BROADCHURCH'. Come and explore, the striking, scenic views of Dorset's Jurassic Coast are sure to inspire you too.

4 MAPPERTON HOUSE



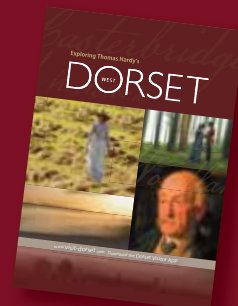
The beautiful 17th Century Manor house of Mapperton and its surrounding estate were transformed into 'Everdene Farm' for the movie and many primary scenes were filmed here. It's clear to see why Vinterberg instantly fell in love with Mapperton; a glorious harmony of golden sandstone standing in a romantic and unspoiled Dorsetcombe. Visitors today can enjoy the beautiful house & gardens and revel in its superb cinematic setting.



Thomas Hardy

DISCOVER HARDY'S WESSEX

Uncover the parts of Dorset which inspired Thomas Hardy throughout his lifetime with the 'Exploring Thomas Hardy's West Dorset' leaflet. The leaflet includes a trail which links together where he lived, the towns and villages he wrote about and the church where his heart is buried. Stop for an ale in Tess of the D'Urbervilles' 'Sow & Acorn' (The Acorn Inn at Evershot), visit the sophisticated Victorian townhouse of his own design in Dorchester and look upon his recreated study at the Dorset County Museum, which displays the world's largest collection of his personal possessions.



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Download the **Dorset Visitor App**



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