

Drive-in Theaters Are Experiencing a Major Comeback. Here's Where to Go



by [Ashley Mateo](#)

Summer 2020's blockbuster season isn't canceled—it just might look a little different than you're used to. Instead of seeking popcorn and AC in 17-screen movie theaters (many of which are still closed due to COVID-19 restrictions), people are venturing outside to old-fashioned drive-in theaters.

In the 1950s, there were about 4,000 drive-in theaters scattered throughout the United States. Now, that number has dropped to around 305, according to the [United Drive-In Theatre Owners Association](#). But this summer, those remaining drive-in theaters are seeing a surge in popularity. With ticketing and concession sales largely relegated to online, screens under the stars, and plenty of space for socially distanced parking, drive-ins provide a safe way to get out of the house and be entertained when we need it most.

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Drive-ins are also getting creative about providing movie-goers with more than just what's on the screen, from partnerships with local eateries and signature snacks to live music and comedy nights. If you're looking for a way to get out of the house this summer, head to one of these drive-in theaters.

3. Rustic Drive-In

Rhode Island

The Rustic Drive-In, tucked into Rhode Island's Blackstone Valley just 15 minutes north of Providence, dates back to the '50s—and remains the state's only drive-in theater. From socially distanced parking spots, you can watch movies the likes of *Sonic the Hedgehog*, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (both playing now), as well as *Mulan* and *A Quiet Place Part II* (coming soon) on the site's three screens. If you've got a mask, you can even set up chairs outside your car or watch from a truck bed.

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