

## From 'A Quiet Place' to 'War of the Worlds,' where to visit iconic movie and TV scenes

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Do you love film and television? Do you watch a scene in a great movie or your favorite series and want to stand *exactly* where that scene was filmed? Maybe you always wanted to go to Scotland because you love "Outlander" or New Zealand because "The Lord of the Rings" is your favorite movie.

Well, the Hudson Valley has become such a popular filming location that you don't even need to leave the area to enjoy traveling to some of your favorite movie and television scenes. Just don't forget your phone or camera.

"The whole Hudson Valley is growing in popularity for filming," said Lisa Berger, director of Tourism for Ulster County. "We're such a short distance away from Manhattan where there's so much talent and post production going on and yet they can come up here to film and access production facilities that are much cheaper than they are in New York City, thanks to an attractive tax credit."

### Spend some time in 'A Quiet Place'

It's not set in the Hudson Valley, but the blockbuster film "A Quiet Place" with real-life couple Emily Blunt and John Krasinski, has taken advantage of many great filming locations in the Hudson Valley, including the Springtown Truss Bridge on the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail.

"That bridge is iconic and was the poster for the movie," said Berger. "It's accessible by bike or by foot, less than a mile and a half outside of New Paltz. You can walk down that bridge if you want to have your own experience."

A farmhouse in Pawling also plays a prominent role in "A Quiet Place," and its upcoming sequel, "A Quiet Place 2," due out this summer.

The property was used in the filming as creepy refuge for the film's family, framed by the farmhouse, rows of standing corn and a silo.

Moviegoers will be reintroduced to the property when "A Quiet Place Part II" opens in theaters later this year.

### This will be your 'Undoing'



Hugh Grant and Nicole Kidman star in “The Undoing,” an HBO psychological thriller miniseries that also uses another extremely recognizable bridge in Ulster County.

“The entire last scene takes place at the Rondout Creek Bridge and they do go past a few other spots in the Kingston area that aren’t quite as well known,” said Berger. “They also stop at a vista that overlooks the entire Rondout Valley and it’s absolutely gorgeous. The moment I saw that on the show, I knew exactly where they were.”

## Ben Stiller at the diner

Ben Stiller, of “Zoolander,” “Dodgeball” and “Meet the Fockers” fame, is currently producing a new television show for AppleTV called “Severance.”

“Ben took over the Phoenicia Diner in mid-March for almost a week and renamed it Pops or Pops Place. It’s a great place to stop at any time, but even better knowing that they filmed there,” said Berger, who confessed that as a film buff, the first time she went to Los Angeles years ago she had to stop at Pat & Lorraine’s Coffee Shop, the diner that was featured in Quentin Tarantino’s “Reservoir Dogs.”

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You should also stop in at the family owned and operated Van Loan’s Discount Beverages in Port Ewen. It was the location of one of the main character’s jobs in the 2019 drama film “Crypto” starring Kurt Russell.

## We ‘Know This Much is True’

Mark Ruffalo has won multiple awards for his dual performances in HBO’s “I Know This Much is True,” but the filming all started in Dutchess County.

If you want to see exactly where, visit Delafield Street in Poughkeepsie to see the house where Ruffalo’s character’s family lives. Other key scenes were filmed at the Mid-Hudson Bridge, and Pleasant Valley Estates in Pleasant Valley where Ruffalo’s character lives as an adult. Filming also took place at the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail bridge and at Awosting Falls in Minnewaska State Park.

“The Hudson Valley area has always been very attractive in terms of locations, so that still holds true,” said Lau-

rent Rejto of the Hudson Valley Film Commission.

“Every now and then we’ll choose a location and we’ll talk about a production and how it ended up being in that area. During the pandemic, we started promoting over 200 films that you can click on and watch that were filmed in the area.”

## Don’t miss that ‘Flight’

“Filming in Westchester County is big business and an ongoing driver for us, about \$45 million of economic impact to the county and its local municipalities,” said Natasha Caputo, who heads the county film office.

“We draw a diverse amount of productions, the majority tend to be episodic, because we fall within the film zone out of New York City and have the small town scenes to the rural landscapes to the urban industrial settings.”

“Our county parks are also very popular,” said Caputo.

“Most recently, we had NBC’s ‘Manifest’ filming at Cranberry Lake Preserve in West Harrison. Showtime’s ‘Ray Donovan’ shot at Croton Point Park and NBC’s ‘The Blacklist’ has been at Tibbetts Brook Park in Yonkers. We also had a Jonas Brothers music video filming at Playland in Rye,” Caputo said.

For example, if you couldn’t get enough of Kaley Cuoco in the HBO Max series “The Flight Attendant,” take a road trip to The Motel 6 in Elmsford, The Galleria in White Plains, or Buckout Road in West Harrison, all of which are recognizable from the series.

If you enjoyed the Amazon drama, “Hunters,” starring Al Pacino, scenes from that show were filmed at Untermyer Gardens in Yonkers and in the Village of Ossining, which stood in for Paraguay for an opening scene.

“The Gilded Age” 10-episode historical drama from Julian Fellowes, the creator of “Downton Abbey,” is due to premiere later this year on HBO. It’s set in America’s “Gilded” age. Filming took place at Sleepy Hollow Country Club. You can also catch a glimpse of the club, built as a private home for an heir to the

Vanderbilt fortune, in "The Greatest Showman."

## Can you tell me how to get to 'Sesame Street'?

Want to get your kids involved in film travel?

Let them know that Elmo and the "Sesame Street" gang filmed at the Harvest Moon Farm & Orchard in North Salem during the pandemic. Of course, you can visit the farm, but let them know ahead of time that Elmo isn't going to be there when they visit, but they can walk where their faves filmed.

Another Emily Blunt feature mystery film, "The Girl on the Train" was filmed in and around White Plains. The houses of the main characters Tom, Anna, and Megan are right on White Plains' Macy Avenue.

## 'The O.C.'

During the pandemic Amanda Dana, director of tourism and film in Orange County, said the film industry did well, and the production companies saw how easy it was to film here.

"The New York State Film tax credit also helps them with their expenses to film outside of the zone," she said. "Now that it's been recognized as a real great economic stimulator, there have been investments made to expand our inventory of sound stages so that we can house these productions and keep them here in the Hudson Valley."

She said that Newburgh and Warwick are two popular filming locations.

"People like to hear about 'The Irishman' because there were so many locations from Orange County in that film, including Weir's Ice Cream in Salisbury Mills," said Dana.

The production also filmed scene at the Orange Top Diner in Tuxedo, Ralph's Motor Repairs in Washingtonville and the Callahan-Nannini Shale Quarry in Blooming Grove.

In Warwick, "Madam Secretary" filmed at Warwick Airport and "Sneaky Pete" filmed throughout the town.

## Tom Cruise was here!

A 'don't miss' on your film location trip according to Rejto, should be the Greene County city of Athens. "The most famous scene, by far, is in the little town of Athens is in 'War of the Worlds' with Tom Cruise where everybody was kind of funneled down Main Street. It was a long time ago, but it's still very popular."

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**Evelyn (Emily Blunt), Regan (Millicent Simmonds) and Marcus (Noah Jupe) in "A Quiet Place Part II."**

JONNY COURNOYER/COURTESY PHOTO





Emily Blunt and John Krasinski in “A Quiet Place” from Paramount Pictures. JONNY COURNOYER/COURTESY PHOTO