

On the tracks of 007

Martijn Mulder presents

On the tracks of 007

A field guide to the James Bond filming locations around the world

FULL COLOUR LIMITED EDITION

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In memory of Dirk Kloosterboer

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Authors Martijn Mulder (l) and Dirk Kloosterboer (r) posing with director Guy Hamilton

F O R E W O R D

All Bond directors are indebted to Ian Fleming for having had more than a passing interest in travel (vide THRILLING CITIES, 1959) and allowing us to roam the world filming his stories, always set in exotic locations. All the more exotic because in the 1960's package tours and economy airlines had yet to appear and only a ticket to a Bond movie could take you to these exciting places.

James Bond always travels 1st Class, simply because Bond villains never reside in squalid or sordid settings – no, they inhabit the most exclusive hotels, the largest villa, a castle, yacht, plane. I even wanted a long, thin swimming pool that turned out to be in Mr Big's personal Boeing 747 (Somebody thought that was silly).

Once the general outline of the plot had been agreed, the real hard work begins. To search high and low, far and wide for places and things that can be used in a Bondian way (in other words nobody else would ever think of using it that way) and incorporating these ideas into the script.

Fleming had set much of DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER in Saratoga Springs in New York State which in prewar days had been a very smart centre for the horse racing community, gamblers, thieves and con men but had sadly fallen on hard times and out of fashion.....gambling, gangsters.. now where would you find that today? "Shall we have a look at Las Vegas.?"

Knowing my fondness for jazz, writer Tom Mankiewicz suggested a New Orleans jazz funeral.

"Great..but what else is there in New Orleans?"

"Bayous..how about a motor boat chase in the bayous...it would be even better if the boat could jump the levee... oh, look, there's a crocodile farm."

"How about marooning Bond on that little island and surrounding him with hungry crocs...great, but how does he get off? We'll work that out later..we'll think of something."

Cubby Broccoli and I took a look at Lebanon..., nice Casino but not much else.. Iran: a total washout, dreadful infrastructure, no place for a Bond unit. We moved on to Thailand and discovered Phuket and put that on the tourist map.

I just hope that the ON THE TRACKS OF 007 fans have as much fun as we did in hunting out our locations.. which are now yours.

Guy Hamilton
Mallorca - June 2008

INTRODUCTION

For some reason, I have a thing for historical places. And I'm not just talking about countries with a rich history like Greece or Egypt, but specific sites. For instance the inn where Napoleon spent his nights before entering the battle of Waterloo. Or the motel where Martin Luther King was assassinated. When walking around a place like that, an event from a history book suddenly comes to life and becomes reality. I have the same with filming locations..

As a kid, it must have been early 1985, a tiny story in a newspaper caught my attention. A photo, Roger Moore with Grace Jones, and the accompanying text explaining that filming for the latest James Bond film *A View To A Kill* was currently taking place in a town called Chantilly, near Paris. That must have been the very first filming location I ever knew.

The funny thing was that my parents were about to take me on a four day trip to.. Paris! I had been a James Bond fan since my dad had somehow managed to get his hands on a copy of *Moonraker* on VHS and after seeing my first Bond film in the cinema (it was *Octopussy*) I was hooked. And now I would be so close to actual filming of a Bond film.

It soon turned out my parents didn't share this passion with me and instead of using this unique opportunity, we drove straight to Paris and both on the way to and from this marvellous city I saw the sign pass by like a shooting star: 'Chantilly 15km'. So close yet so far away..

Initially that must have triggered my interest in film locations but it wasn't until I saw an advertisement for a Jamaican James Bond festival in the early 90's before I started doing something with it. Around that time I began reading every book available on the subject of Bond and declared Steven Jay Rubin's *The James Bond Films* my holy bible. I noticed there wasn't very much detailed info on the locations and whatever info was written later often turned out to be wrong. But little did I know at that stage, so I just started compiling a list of locations from these sources, simply assuming the info was correct.

Around the same time Internet became widely available and, intrigued by this new medium, I started building a website with my new found info. You have to keep in mind that in these early days the net consisted only of a few thousand pages and it would take large companies like EON and MGM years to come up with a decent website. *The James Bond Locations Page*, hosted on the German Xodox server, was my website and its popularity grew steadily to a (then) massive 100 visitors a week. I soon received many e-mails from people requesting and sharing information. It was also around that time

I started noticing not all the info was correct. After closer inspection, a Swiss town called *Feldkirsch*, mentioned somewhere as a location in *OHMSS*, turned out not to exist at all, something a website visitor kindly explained to me in a message. I only found an Austrian town called *Feldkirch*, but that was too far away from the other *OHMSS* locations and could not have been used. (In a funny twist of faith, this *Feldkirch* in Austria now is a filming location for *Quantum Of Solace*!)

Another worrying factor was the way people bluntly copied info and used it on their own websites. I still have fun every now and then googling for the word '*Feldkirsch*', the early error that was on my original locations list, only to find it is still floating around as part of other people's 'original' location lists.. Of course one can argue that facts like these are now public record and that I as well once copied it from other sources, but at least one can have the decency of giving it its own shape, in stead of the simple copy/paste routine so often seen back then. This was the main reason all the info and later the travel stories and many photos were stored in a member's section of the website a few years later.

The only way to verify the existing information and to fill in the remaining 90% that was not written about, was to do proper research and to start travelling to all these places. A huge task that would take me more than 10 years and truck loads of money. But it would also bring me to some of the most beautiful places on our planet. EON Productions, under command of the late Albert 'Cubby' Broccoli and Harry Saltzman and from the 90's by Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson, surely spent every penny of their budgets on luxury and elegance, bringing Ian Fleming's secret agent to places we all want to go to.

I teamed up with Bond fan **Dirk Kloosterboer** from Germany in 1998. We shared an interest in the locations, both loved to travel and soon developed big plans. We would take photographs of everything we discovered and meticulously describe our trips and investigations in travel stories, hoping to bring other fans to the James Bond locations one day. And so it happened. A new website was designed and a new name was thought up: *On the tracks of 007*. We would sometimes travel together, but also split up and go on separate holidays, only to achieve more in the same amount of time. And all this worked out pretty good.

Sadly, Dirk passed away in 2004. It soon occurred to me that I could never finish all this work alone and fortunately I found some friends from the Bond

community available to assist in completing our work. Some, like **Brian Cooley**, helped out providing additional photos, while **Anders Frejdh** from Sweden did a huge amount of work finding all the links to the available websites of the filming locations (very useful for the website). **Simon Warner** travelled to India and spent part of his honeymoon finding and photographing the **Octopussy** locations in Udaipur for me while **Jaume Palau Rodriguez** from Spain undertook several journeys around the Mediterranean, providing me with excellent story material and even better photographic evidence.

In 2005 *On the tracks of 007* celebrated its 10 year anniversary with the publication of a limited edition photo book, filled with a fine selection of location photos from every Bond film. It came in a special package with the latest On the tracks-CDROM and was sold out in the blink of an eye. This success strengthened my idea to publish this work as a travel guide that could be taken with you on a field trip and encouraged me to complete this work.

You should realise it is not the definitive book on Bond and does certainly not contain the complete story from *Dr.No* to *Quantum Of Solace*. But it is not your average travel guide either. It has become an interesting mixture of dozens of photos, historical facts, travel information and pieces of Bond history that I wish had been available the moment I started making my initial locations list.

I wish everyone a lot of fun reading the stories and trying to recognise all the photographs of the filming locations from past to present. In case you will be caught by the same virus like me back in 1985, I wish you many safe journeys and happy location hunting!

Martijn Mulder
July 2008

On The
TRACKS
OF
007

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

All the locations and their travel stories are mainly listed in order of appearance and each Bond film is at least represented by one travel story. Since Jamaica first featured in **Dr. No** you will find it in the first part of this guide while, in this case, **Live And Let Die** (which also featured Jamaica) is represented half way by our New Orleans story.

You can find a general index at the beginning of the book, while there is a second at the end, listing all the films in chronological order. Here, for each film you can find a locations list (in order of appearance) with page references, redirecting you to the travel stories they appear in.

The lack of maps in this guide also needs some further explanation. I have estimated it would require an additional 100 pages to show every single location on a map. That would simply mean the book would be too heavy to drag around all day. Another reason is the fact that part of the fun of location hunting is the moment you 'discover' a place. I personally feel it is better to describe how to get there, than exactly show you where it is. Believe me, it is more fun and surely more rewarding if you partly do it yourself.

If you insist on having the locations mapped out, you can simply type the following URL into your web browser:

<http://www.dmd-digital.com/maps>

Here you can download our Google Earth™ map file for free. Opening the file will automatically open Google Earth™. It contains all the James Bond filming locations and selecting one from the menu brings you straight to that location, somewhere on the Google Earth™ globe.

The travel stories themselves were all written with one thing in common: The reader has to be able to see all (or at least most) of these locations in one holiday. Therefore, often a route is suggested with a starting point and a travel direction. When a story deals with a larger area, it is often broken up in four parts (north, south, east and west).

While you are of course free to do things your own way, it is simply written in a way to give you an idea how it might be done.



LUTON H



Great
British
Heritage
Pass 1999



15
DAYS

START DATE
| 1999

15
DAYS

EXPIRY DATE
| 1999



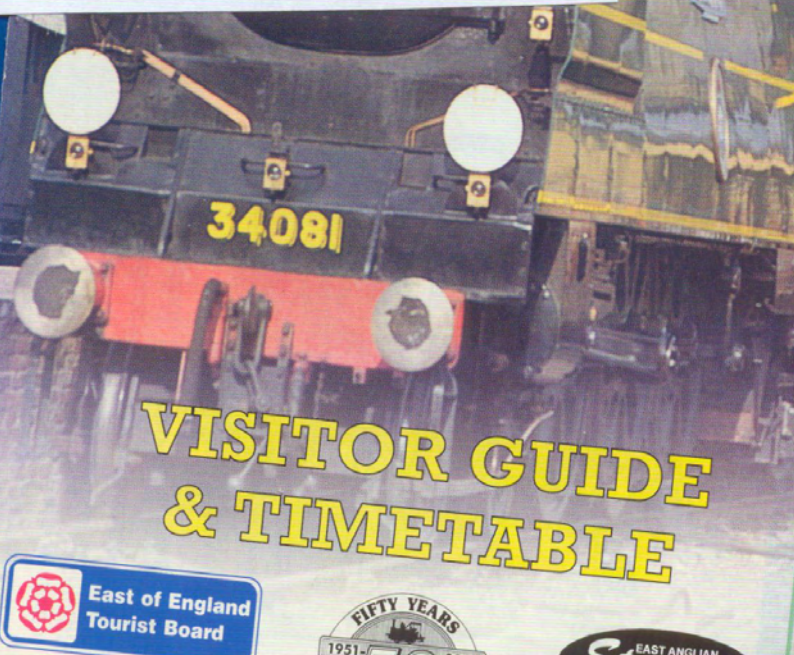
NENE VALLE RAILWAY

NENE VALLEY RAILWAY
2001
PETERBOROUGH, ENGLAND

Special for Summer 2001
One Child free with Adult Rover

1 Another time, another place

After several exciting journeys to the sunny sides of the world, we decided to travel to James Bond's home country, England. This proved to be not only equally exciting, but very recommendable as well. Apart from the famous Pinewood Studios, lots of small and large scenes were filmed around London, and we decided to pay the English countryside a visit to find out what is left of 007's filming location history.



VISITOR GUIDE & TIMETABLE



Since most of the 007 locations are in the county of Buckinghamshire, close to Heathrow Airport, this is your best starting point. Another option is starting from the more northern situated London Luton Airport, in Luton, but personally we weren't very fond of this grey, industrialised area. On Heathrow Airport, southwest of London, you should rent a car and drive straight on to a nearby, countryside bed-and-breakfast or hotel. Make it your headquarters, and from there you can make several trips without exhausting yourself by planning all location visits in one day.

Exploring outer-London West

We decided to camp in the small town of *Marlow*, along the river Thames, some 30 kilometers west of London. Although surrounded by the maze of highways around England's capital, Marlow is a lovely and serene starting point. The impressive surrounding countryside area has in fact been used to film Ian Fleming's non-Bond classic, **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**. Another good reason to visit Marlow is because James Bond went here in 1969 to visit his boss, M.



In **On Her Majesty's Secret Service**, 007 went to M's house to inform him of the new information he retrieved on Blofeld. The house used as M's home was **Thames Lawn**, in the centre of Marlow, on the northern bank of the Thames, where filming took place on April 9th 1969. Unfortunately, the beautiful house was destroyed under dubious circumstances. It caught fire twice in one weekend, and eventually burnt down completely. Although the recognizable **front gate** still exists, a new house was built in 1998, and therefore we are no longer able to visit M's house. To find the entrance gate, park your car in front of the hard-to-miss *George and Dragon Pub & Restaurant*, 25 meters before the old bridge. Walk to the left, past the church through a very small lane, and once you enter the next street, Thames Lawn is on your right side.

Another nearby filming site is in **Hurley**, a small, sleepy town just south of Marlow. It is not exactly a major location, but a small scene was filmed here

for **From Russia With Love**, on July 26th 1963. The scene where 007 is having a countryside picnic with Sylvia Trench (in her final appearance), was filmed here on the southern bank of the Thames, close to the locks. The scenery has changed a bit since then, but it still makes a very good picnic spot!



Some 15 kilometers west of Marlow and Hurley, you can find the even smaller town of *Stonor*. Be careful when blinking your eyes; you have passed it before you know! When driving on the road leading through town, you will eventually pass the entrance gate to **Stonor House**, a marvellous countryside estate, quietly located between the hills. This location was used in **The Living Daylights** as the MI6 headquarters where Koskov thanks Bond for his successful defection, right before he is kidnapped.



Stonor is still inhabited, but its right wing is open to public. You should park your car and stroll around this wonderful area, since most of it will ring a bell or two. When approaching the front door, **the small chapel on your right** was visible in the scenes in which 007 approached the house. The front door itself featured also in the film. Once you're inside the house, you will instantly notice all the interior shots were filmed in the studios, since the actual interior is totally different from the film version. Stonor House is probably the only existing Bond location where actual explosions were filmed inside. To achieve this, the effects crew replaced the windows with cheaper versions, which were blown out by Necros' exploding milk bottles.

Once you have finished your tour of the house, you will notice the wooden gate left of the main building. This is the side which is still occupied, and here all the kitchen sequences were filmed. Necros arrived as a milkman through these gates, and they were again visible when the chopper lands to pick up Koskov. Since all other areas are restricted, you should pick up your car and leave the estate, turning right.



Right next to Stonor's entrance gate, a small road leads around the estate. The first farm is called **White Pond Farm**, and can be seen in the same movie. Here Necros runs past the milkman before sneaking up on him and eventually strangling him with the cord of his headphones. This area is very beautiful and is definitely worth a visit.



When you have the time, you might want to consider going even more west, all the way to Oxford. The city itself is a joy to visit, and strolling through the narrow streets is a pleasant experience. The old and beautiful colleges are as imposing as you can imagine, and through the years served as filming locations for many films. The introduction of 007 in **Tomorrow Never Dies** was also filmed here, at **Brasenose College** and partially at **New College**.

Another location, close to Oxford, is the highly popular **Waddesdon Manor**. Although only used for interior shots, the French-style Château featured in Kevin McClory's *Thunderball* remake **Never Say**

Never Again. The SPECTRE meeting and the *Domination* video game battle were both filmed here. Built and owned by the Rothschild Family, this estate is a one of a kind building and a recommendable attraction. From the M40, take the exit to Aylesbury and follow the signs to Waddesdon.

When you return towards London using the A40, you will pass Beaconsfield. In this town, just before turning right to underpass the M40 towards our next stop, you should make a quick stop at the town's central roundabout. On the south-eastern side of this roundabout lies a pub which played a part in **Thunderball**. The '**Royal Saracen's Head Pub**' served as the exterior of the hotel where Major Derval is murdered. On its corner once stood a telephone booth from where Connery made a call to London while watching an ambulance enter the hotel's inner square. This car entrance is gone and has now become the general entrance to the pub. A small, but none the less very interesting location on your way to... play a game of golf perhaps?



A search for the remains of James Bond's most notorious encounter leads us to one of the three richest postal codes in England: Stoke Poges. Situated in the heart of Buckinghamshire, the town has beautiful lawns and marvellous houses. Because of the proximity of Pinewood Studios, the EON filmmakers frequently visited this area and filmed scenes here for **Goldfinger**, **For Your Eyes Only** and **Tomorrow Never Dies**. When entering the town, follow the signs *Stoke Park Club* and finally to *Stoke Poges Church*.

This church is in fact **St. Giles Church**, a medieval church with a more than familiar cemetery. Here, in **For Your Eyes Only**, Bond visits the grave of his wife, Tracy, who had been shot by Irma Bunt in **On Her Majesty's Secret Service**. When Bond lays flowers on the grave, the church's priest informs him of a telephone call he has just received from Bond's head office. A helicopter flies in to pick up 007 and

lands in the field next to the church. This cemetery and church are still exactly as they were in the early 80's, although we couldn't find Mrs Bond's grave...

that playing golf was more important to him than acting...and he still is a member of Stoke Park Club, as is EON co-producer Barbara Broccoli.



From the church and even better from the path around it, you have a magnificent view of one of 007's best known filming locations: **Stoke Park Club**. The posh Clubhouse, a mixture of dazzling white stone, steps and terraces, has a lake in front and imposing trees in the surrounding park and the estate has a recorded history of more than 900 years. When sold to the Crown, in 1581, Queen Elisabeth lived there until 1603, in the original Manor House (part of which can still be seen today).

The golf shop, where 007 first met his nemesis, is no longer situated outside the Clubhouse, but is now inside. When entering the Clubhouse, you will find yourself in the Reception Hall. Once you paid the US\$ 8000 green fee and the US\$ 4000 annual fee, you can enjoy a cup of coffee inside the impressive Great Hall before moving to the green. From the back terrace of the Clubhouse, you have a splendid view of the **18th hole**, where the Bond vs. Goldfinger game had its climax.

John Penn (whose family founded Pennsylvania and got hold of Stoke Park as part of the compensation given by the new Commonwealth for the loss of their lands in this American state) spent much of his fortune on building a new mansion (the current Clubhouse), landscape and monuments at Stoke Park. It continued to be used as private residence until 1908, when 'Pa' Lane Jackson purchased Stoke Park and turned it into Britain's ultimate country club, Stoke Park Club.



James Bond had his first eye-to-eye encounter with Auric Goldfinger on these same grounds, leaving us with the most famous golf game in cinematic history. It was this game that started Sean Connery's lifelong love for the golf sport. Even today, Connery claims

Being member of the 'Leading Small Hotels of the World', the Stoke Park Club has 21 bedrooms and many other luxurious facilities. Among them is the

beautiful **Ballroom**. This Ballroom was used in **Tomorrow Never Dies**, and served as Bond's Hamburg hotel room. Here 007 had a romantic night with Paris Carver, and later found her dead in this same room. Downstairs, normally only available to club members, Stoke Park Club has a special '**James Bond Hall of Fame**' leading to the dressing rooms, filled with pictures, posters, signatures and other memorabilia. This definitely is a unique place and proves the importance of 007 as an international export product.

Moving towards London, only a stone throw away from Stoke Poges, you will find another frequently visited area: **Black Park**. Black Park is a beautiful large, forest-like park, just behind the Pinewood Studios, and because of its location, proved to be a great low-budget place to film and prepare for small scenes. The park is best known for being the setting of the **Goldfinger** Aston Martin car chase. All scenes for this spectacular chase were filmed at night in Black Park and the alleys in between the various studio buildings. Recently Black Park doubled for the African rebel base in **Casino Royale**. The park is open all day for a nice stroll through its wide paths and you can even find a visitor centre, located at the park's most western entrance.



When you walk or drive your car around Black Park, at a certain moment you will pass the famous entrance gate to one of the world's best known film studios: **Pinewood**. Officially located in the town of *Iver Heath*, Pinewood has been the home of James Bond since the beginning in 1962, and it has been so ever since. Only **Moonraker** (Pinewood only used for model shots), **Licence To Kill** (Mexican *Churabusco Studios* were used), **GoldenEye** (Pinewood being unavailable, a new studio was built at *Leavesden Aerodrome*), **Tomorrow Never Dies** (In Pinewood's available free space, only Carver's stealth ship could be accommodated. With EON's new Leavesden Studios also occupied, once again a new studio was built, this time in *Frogmore, St. Albans*) and **Casino Royale** (most interior sets were constructed in the Czech Republic) have been (partially) filmed elsewhere.

For obvious reasons, over the years various scenes have been filmed in and around Pinewood, therefore making it a true Bond location: In **From Russia With Love**, the pre-credit's renaissance garden was filmed around the main administrations building. The building itself also featured in the film, as SPECTRE's headquarters. As mentioned earlier, in **Goldfinger** part of the DB5 chase was filmed in the narrow studio alleys and the statue Oddjob beheaded wasn't located at Stoke Park, but in the same garden around Pinewood's administrations building. For a more detailed account of the Pinewood Studios Bond locations you can read the travel story 'A day at the studios'.

Leaving Pinewood behind you drive north towards *St. Albans* (M25). Take the exit in the direction of Amersham (A413). After 5 kilometers of motorway, you will come upon a roundabout. Turn to the right (3/4) and immediately another right. You are now on the small road leading to Chalfont Park, and the last house on the left is **Chalfont Park House**, an old manor house used as 'Shrublands' in **Thunderball**.

While all the interior scenes were filmed at Pinewood, the house is visible in the night scene with the ambulance and the scene in which Bond departs from Shrublands. Although nowadays situated in a totally different environment (Chalfont Park can hardly be called a 'park' anymore) and being modernised to accommodate companies, Chalfont Park House kept its recognizable façade, and thanks to this architectural effort, the house will remain to be a Bond location and is still worth visiting.



When you return to the A413 (this time towards London), you can follow this road until you come to an exit towards Denham (A412). Take this exit and follow the road for a while. When passing the town of Denham, you might notice some lakes on the right. These are the **Denham Quarry Lakes**. Here Terence Young filmed a small scene for **Thunderball**, in which Fiona ditches her motorbike in the lake, after killing Count Lippe.

After a small visit to the lakes and the park, you can drive on until you reach an exit leading to Harefield. Take this road until you reach the centre of Harefield and a small roundabout. Turn left here and follow the road for about 2 kilometers. You will notice a rapid descent, driving towards the canal. Look out for a street on your right called **Summerhouse Lane**. Turn in to this street and drive all the way to the end, where you will find a small business park. On your right, behind some newly developed buildings is a small car park in front of a cliff. This cliff, the only one in the area, was used in **Goldfinger**, for the car chase scene in which the chasing Mercedes explodes down the cliff, after being caught in Bond's Aston Martin's slippery oil trace.

When you are ready for some real RAF action, return to the A40 towards London. One of the next exits is the A4180, turn to the left to Ruislip. On your left is **RAF Northolt**, an air force base, nowadays also in use for some commercial flights. EON has a longstanding relationship with the Royal Air Force and has very often made use of their bases. RAF Northolt is probably the most famous of all, and has been used in **Goldfinger**, **Thunderball**, **Octopussy** and recently in **The World Is Not Enough**. For more details, please read our travel story '1964-1999: 35 Years of 007 and RAF Northolt'.

Top photo courtesy of Elite Hotel Group

Exploring the north

A long but recommendable journey is to the north. The road is not exactly paved with Bond locations, but the end goal alone is definitely worth the trip. Best thing to do is, once again, follow the M25 northwards, to St. Albans, and turn onto the M1 motorway, in the direction of Northampton. When close to Luton, take the exit, leading to Luton Airport. You are now close to **Luton Hoo**, which was used as Shrublands in Kevin McClory's **Never Say Never Again**. Remodelled by society architect Robert Adam in 1767, Luton Hoo was once owned by Lord Bute, Prime Minister to King George III.

Luton Hoo used to be a public park, Luton Hoo House a museum displaying the *Wernber* Collection, but was recently sold and is now part of the Elite Hotel Group.



Luton Hoo House, finally completed in 1873, is clearly visible in **Never Say Never Again**, when Bond arrives in his car. Connery is being filmed while arriving from the first gate we mentioned. More recently, in 1999 EON visited the then already empty house to film some interior scenes for **The World Is Not Enough**. The scenes inside Elektra's Baku residence, mainly featuring the **hall and staircase**, were filmed at Luton Hoo. Elektra's bedroom was a Peter Lamont studio creation.

Once you have finished admiring Luton Hoo's immense grounds, go back to the main road and follow the A505 towards *Hitchin* and *Letchworth*. It's not exactly a fast route, but necessary to come to the A1 at *Letchworth*. Once you're there follow the A1 to the north, towards *Peterborough*, this trip's end goal.

The Nene Valley Railway is a 12 kilometer long line, following the river *Nene*, as it meanders from *Peterborough* to *Wansford*. The line was opened by the London & Birmingham Railway in 1845 and was soon be closed to passenger traffic in 1972. The first part of the preserved line was re-opened in 1977 and is now a tourist attraction. The restored steam trains offer a great way to travel back into time, and not only for steam train enthusiasts... Three of the line's small stations, the track itself and the line's 600 meter long tunnel featured in Bond films, **Octopussy** being the most important. All the scenes featuring Octopussy's Flying Circus' train were filmed at Nene Valley.



After a 1,5 hour ride you will find *Peterborough* on your right. Take the A605 exit and follow the road to Orton Mere. Here you will find a part of the famous **Nene Valley railway**, used in more than one Bond film. **Orton Mere Station** was clearly visible in the scenes in which 007 chases Octopussy's train in his stolen Mercedes. With his rims on the track, Bond pursues the train, leaving various waiting people puzzled by this strange view. The area around Orton Mere used to be open, but has recently turned into a 500 acre country park.



Travelling back towards the A1, **Ferry Meadows Station** also featured in Bond films. When Alec Trevelyan rides his black train in **GoldenEye**, he is seen passing Ferry Meadows Station, this time disguised as a more square building, resembling a typical grey, Russian train station. In **Octopussy** the station and surrounding area played an important part as the East German border, where General Orlov runs after the train and gets shot in the back by the border patrol. Since everything was staged by the art department, there's nothing remaining of those cold war days..

Without wasting too much time at Ferry Meadows, you should travel on, back to the A1, where more interesting locations await you. Turning back onto the A1, once again northwards, only a few kilometers further, you will find a sign pointing to the Nene Valley Railway. To **Wansford Station** to be exact. It's a difficult exit to the right (you actually have to get your timing right, to cross the motorway without trouble) but once you have made it you will find Wansford Station directly on your right.



Wansford Station, Karl Marx Stadt in **Octopussy**, is the railway's headquarters and here you will find all the steam trains lined up. **Outside the station** is the exact spot where Bond drove his Mercedes onto the train track. **The bridge on the opposite side of the road** is in fact the bridge used for catapulting Bond's abandoned Mercedes into the water, after being hit by an oncoming train. These scenes were filmed from the other side of the water, on the small field, later used to show the Mercedes being pulled out of the water.

Once on the inside of Wansford Station, even more recognizable places emerge. Around these **platforms**, Bond sneaked onto Octopussy's train in various disguises. Massive filming took place here, and you are guaranteed to see lots of familiar sites. On the station is a bridge to take you from one side of the track to the other, and this is a good place to look westwards. In the distance you will notice a tunnel entrance.

Will this be the tunnel entrance where a major gunfight took place in **Octopussy**, right after Bond has discovered and exposed Kamal's evil plot?



No. But you did find the tunnel. Bond was on the train unit that carried the atomic bomb, while it was driven into the tunnel. Inside the tunnel, Bond's train unit was connected to the train, leaving the unit carrying the smuggle wear outside the tunnel. This was actually filmed on the other side of the tunnel. (When you watch the film, you will notice that two tracks lead into the tunnel, and only one comes out. This is only the case on the other side of the Wansford tunnel!) Now, all we have to do is to discover a way to reach the other side, without trespassing through the tunnel...

When you get back into your car and drive back to the A1 (the same road that brought you to Wansford station), you will notice another exit on the opposite side of the motorway. Now you have to cross the A1 again, drive 25 meters north and take the exit on the

left. Follow the road until you reach the junction. Turn left here. You are now driving on top of a hill. You will see some houses on your left and right, and past the very last one on your right, you will see a metal fence (**Bradshaw Farms**). Ignoring the fact that you are probably not really allowed to enter these grounds, you should climb over the fence (or perhaps open it, if it's not locked...) and follow the sandy road downhill. Here you will find the 'hidden' train tunnel entrance.

Above the tunnel, General Orlov's Mercedes was parked when the jewellery was put into the trunk.

When you walk downwards, following the track, you will eventually end up on track level, from where you can walk back towards the tunnel. Once you're standing in front of the **tunnel entrance**, you will notice there isn't a stairway next to it. The wooden stairs in Octopussy were put there by the film makers. Don't forget to check for trains when deciding to walk on the tracks or inside the tunnel. They don't ride that often, but that makes it even more stupid if you get run over by one...

When you have had enough of Nene Valley, find your way back to the A1 and simply follow the road back towards London. You will end up on the M25 around London and from here it shouldn't be too difficult to find your way back to the town you are staying in.

Halfway between Oxford and Northampton, some 30 kilometers north of Aylesbury, you can find the **Silverstone Racetrack**, where Terence Young filmed the scenes in which Fiona Volpe killed Count Lippe from her motorbike, in **Thunderball**.

Exploring the south

Turning back onto the always busy M25 motorway, this time driving south towards Heathrow Airport, you are underway to even more movie history time-jumps. Just behind Heathrow, an exit leads to *Stanwell Moor*. Following the road will eventually lead you to *Stanwell*. When you keep following this same road, east, towards the industrial zone, you will notice the Shell Company's huge **storage tankers** on your right. These round structures were used in the **Goldfinger** pre-credit sequence, only to be blown to pieces a couple of minutes later by James Bond. Not a big one on our locations scale, but nice if you're in the neighbourhood...



Another small-but-nice location is situated on the opposite side of the M25, in Wraysbury. In this park area huge lakes form the **Wraysbury gravel pits**. It's a nice place for a walk along the water, and you might even stumble upon the exact spot, used in **A View To A Kill**, in the scene where Bond and Tibbett, unconscious in their silver Rolls Royce, are being pushed into a lake. The Rolls EON used in **AVTAK**'s French château scenes, actually belonged to Cubby Broccoli, but for these into-the-lake scenes another Rolls, one without a motor, was used.

When you return to the M25, you have to continue until you come to the exit towards Dorking and Brighton (A24). This road leads all the way to the south coast of England, but after approximately 100 kilometers you will reach a town called Washington where you should turn right, towards Arundel, Pulborough and Storrington. At Storrington you will first see signs leading to 'Amberley Working Museum'. Simply follow these signs, because that will be our final destination. Once you have reached the museum on your left, park your car and walk towards the entrance.



Amberley Working Museum is an old mine, nowadays in use as an open air museum displaying old crafts and machinery, like steam trains and ancient cars. Part of its history is the fact that it served as a filming location in 1985, for Roger Moore's last assignment as 007, in **A View To A Kill**. Here you will find Main Strike Mine, which Max Zorin planned to blow up in order to create the flooding of Silicon Valley.

In the back part of the museum's grounds is **the entrance to the mine**. When you look carefully, a wooden sign with the words 'Main Strike Mine' is still attached above the mine entrance. On the train tracks leading in and out of the mine, May Day drove the bomb away from the dynamite, preventing Zorin's plan to succeed. Outside the mine, the green mine carts can still be seen carrying the Zorin Industries logo. One of the museum's volunteers informed us of the fact that they had tried to repaint the carts several times, but for some strange reason the new paint simply peeled off after a few days. They had now given up, and accepted the fact that these logos were part of Amberley's history and it was decided to leave them on the carts.

On the train rack outside the mine, these carts still stand quietly in a row. Most of them have very scruffy edges, but there's only one with smooth round sides. This is the cart used by EON to transport 007 and Stacey into Main Strike Mine. You are most likely to find them on the right when facing the mine entrance.



In the building behind you, a small exhibition displays various articles and photographs taken during the **AVTAK** shoot. On the other side of it, a small repair and restoration shed has one of the trains on display that were used to pull the mine carts into the mine.



When you step out of the shed you will face the end of the museum's grounds, a **high hill**, visible in the scenes where Stacey runs towards Bond, just before being picked up by the Zorin Industries zeppelin. The action then moves back to San Francisco and its Golden Gate Bridge.

If you're touring around Great Britain and you happen to visit Land's End, the country's southernmost point, you might want to consider stopping at **Eden Project** near Plymouth. The immense glass domes of the project make a remarkable area where you can visit the 'global garden' biospheres of the world. Eden Project was also used in **Die Another Day (DAD)** as Gustav Graves' diamond mine complex, located next to his ice palace in Iceland.



While a model of the building was constructed on Pinewood's back lot, interior scenes were actually filmed inside the green house, in March 2002. Around the corner, at Newquay, EON filmed part of the exciting pre-title sequence of **DAD**. Following the surf scenes, filmed in December the year before at **Peahi, Hawaii**, Bond and his two aids secretly arrive at a North Korean shore, filmed here at **Hollywell Beach**.

If, at this point, you decide to return towards London, you are more or less following the events as they occurred in **DAD** after the beach arrival. While the Korean Demilitarized Zone was recreated on Pinewood's back lot, the following hovercraft chase sequence was filmed around **Aldershot**, close to the M3 motorway.

At the **Long Valley Army Driving Training Facility**, normally used for driving tanks, most of the chase action was staged, while at nearby **RAF Odiham** the US bunker scenes were filmed. After Bond is imprisoned and tortured, he finally meets Zao again at a prisoner exchange, filmed at Aldershot. Here at **Hawley Hill**, a bridge was built over a (surprisingly small) crater and the fog created just the right effect to make the location believable.



Conclusion

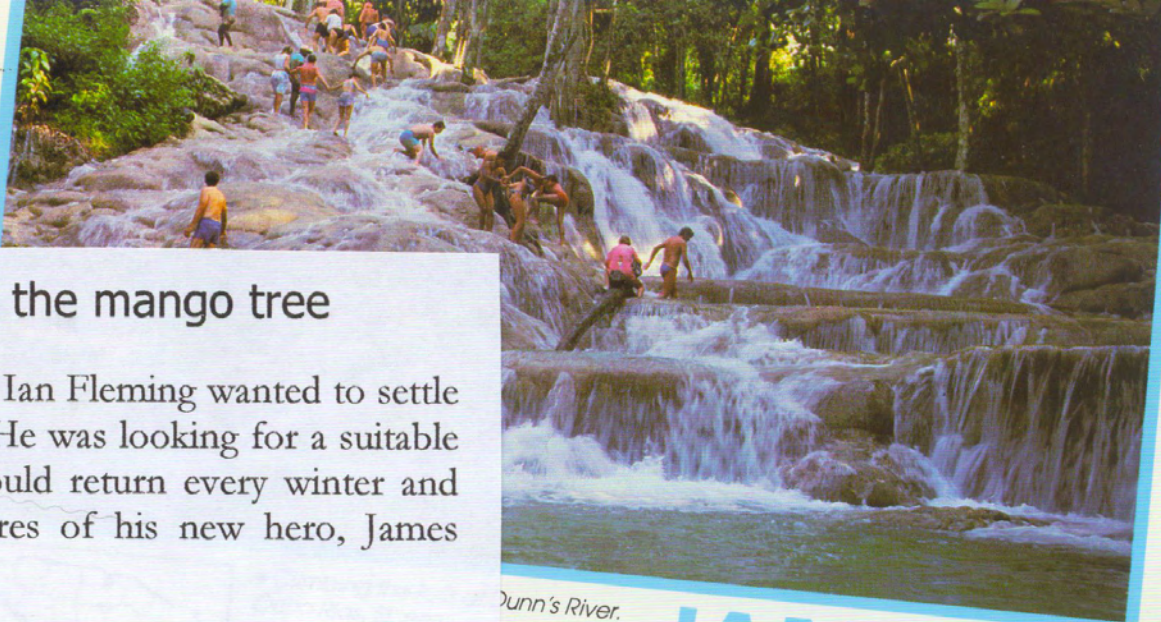
All in all it is fair to say that Bond's home country has a lot to offer. The majestic countryside atmosphere makes sure you will enjoy every minute of it. We would recommend you to visit Britain during the Summer to minimize your chances for rainy days and as long as you don't forget to take some time for some non-Bond locations as well, your trip to England will be equally exciting as a visit to the average exotic country...



2 Underneath the mango tree

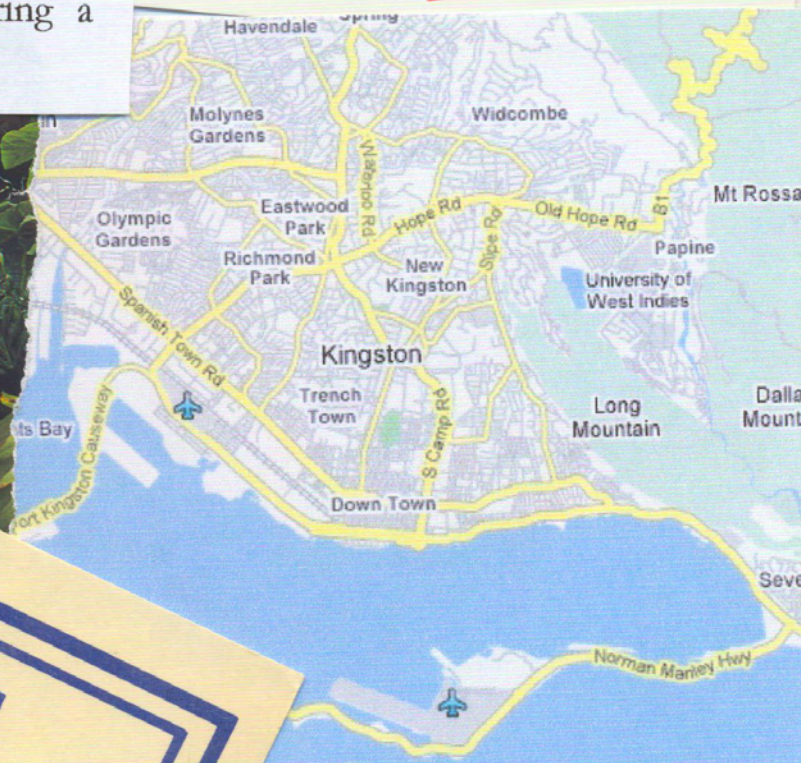
In the early fifties, Ian Fleming wanted to settle in the Caribbean. He was looking for a suitable place where he could return every winter and write the adventures of his new hero, James Bond.

His friend Noel Coward told him about the most beautiful island in the Caribbean, Jamaica. It became Fleming's home base, offering a setting for various stories he wrote.



Dunn's River.

JAMAICA
Ray Chen



CHAT JAMAICAN

By J. J. THOMAS



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

When Albert Broccoli and Harry Saltzman decided in 1961 that **Dr. No** would become James Bond's first movie adventure, they immediately went to Jamaica to look for possible locations, together with Terence Young, the director. This exploration was remembered by EON in 1972, when they were again looking for a Caribbean location for Roger Moore's first Bond movie, **Live And Let Die**. Their decision paid off, and the wonders of Jamaica surely came fully to their right in both films.

In our search for Bond locations, we wondered whether certain places would still be recognizable, especially those used in 1961-62. But we can assure you; Jamaica is just as 'relaxed' as it was in the 60's and 70's. Not much has changed. All tourists coming in by airplane arrive at Montego Bay, situated in the Northwest of the island. This is a good point to start off your trip. The Bond locations are all over the island, so it is advisable to rent a car and drive around. Do not count on public transportation, because it doesn't exist on Jamaica. The rental cars are mostly brand new Japanese cars and very comfortable. The roads in the north are reasonable, but the further you get from the tourist area, the worse the roads get. Jamaicans drive on the left, so if you're not used to this, it's better to practice first on your hotel's grounds. Another important thing is the driving style. Be sure to have a good insurance and even then: Watch out! Most Jamaicans drive like maniacs and assume you are one of them.

Montego Bay and Negril

In the heart of Montego Bay, located at the junction of Barnett Street and Harbour Street, is **Gunpoint Wharf**. Here are the docks where James Bond and Solitaire hire Quarrel Jr., in **Live And Let Die**. At the **Montego Bay Club** the crew stayed in 1972 to shoot the Montego Bay scenes. MoBay, as the town is being called, offers some fine beaches and a lot of hotels. This really is the heart of touristy Jamaica. If you are looking for a place to shoot some pictures, try driving up Richmond Hill. There you have the best view of the town and harbour. If you're not staying in this town, follow the A1 through the centre in southern direction. A couple of miles outside the MoBay area, you will cross the Great River. For river rafting, just follow the signs 'Mountain Valley Rafting'. This trip costs about \$45 per raft/two persons, and includes lunch and necessary transfers.

Travelling to the west, you will pass Johnson Town. On the road from there to Lucea, the double-decker bus chase was filmed, and at **Lucea** the crew filmed the bus slamming into the low bridge. As you can see in the film, the bridge just hangs there and does not seem to have an apparent reason to be there.

Since nobody has ever found a trace of the bridge, we have to conclude that it was just built for the scene, and demolished afterwards.

Lucea is a small harbour town with some historical buildings and a fortress, Fort Charlotte. The town's courthouse has a beautiful clock with a great anecdote attended. The clock was originally made for the island of St. Lucia, but was mixed up with a more moderate clock, built for Lucea at that same time. When the people of Lucea received the beautiful but wrongly delivered clock they refused to give it back. The town council was therefore forced by the people to buy it, and since then it decorates Lucea's Courthouse.

Time to relax a bit on the beautiful beaches of Negril. This is also a very touristy area, but world-famous for its eleven kilometers long, white, sandy beach. The former swamp-area now offers loads of hotels, restaurants and bars. One specific place worth mentioning is Rick's Cafe. Here, locals frequently dive off a twenty-meter high cliff, and are considered a main attraction. The beach-area is divided into two halves, Long Bay and Bloody Bay. In between, off coast, lies a small island named Booby Cay. This island served as a filming location for Walt Disney's classic '20,000 Leagues under the Sea'.

If you have read Fleming's novel *The Man With The Golden Gun*, some names of places in the vicinity of Negril will ring a bell, like e. g. Orange River, Green Island Harbour or The Great Morass. The Hotel 'Thunderbird', where most of the action of the novel takes place, is supposed to be located at Bloody Bay. When you leave Negril and drive south-westward, the first bigger town you reach will be Savanna-La-Mar. Here at No. 3 1/2 Love Lane Bond meets Scaramanga for the first time (in the novel). This address in fact really exists, and resembles Fleming's description of it.



Kingston area

Driving along the coast we skip a part of the island, because our next stop will be Kingston. Coming from Spanish Town, you will enter Kingston from the west, driving on Washington Boulevard. Follow this road, and all the way on the end, turn right. The third on your left, right after you passed a gully, will be West Kings House Road. Just follow this quiet road until you reach **Kings House**. This is where the Jamaican Government houses, just like it was used in **Dr. No**, where James Bond asked the sergeant to make sure his (dead) driver didn't get away. The beautiful building is open for public, for free, but only by appointment. If you didn't make an appointment (nobody seems to know where to make it), you are free to walk around the front yard and shoot some pictures, as long as you don't come too close. Kings House is an oasis of peace and quiet in a terribly busy city.



Returning to West Kings House Road, you have to take the second road on your left, Waterloo Road. Following it in southern direction, it will lead you pass Devon's House, another magnificent building. Here you take a left turn, onto Hope Road. After you passed Kings House Park on your left hand, you will see the Bob Marley Museum. A very nice place to stop and have a look at the King of Reggae's collection of gold records. The entrance fee is about \$6 and they offer guided tours every hour. Don't expect to bring home some nice pictures, because everything seems to be copyright protected. Only Bob's statue in the front yard is available for photographing.

The museum is located in the Liguanea district, and here's the location of **the Liguanea Club**, a meeting place for the rich, that was actually named in Fleming's book 'The Man With The Golden Gun'. This club also doubled for the Queens Club in **Dr. No**. Although there seems to have been some refurbishing during the years, it is still quite easy to find the spot where Strangways was killed and where the 'Three Blind Mice' took aim at James Bond.



Leaving Liguanea behind us, you follow Hope Road until you reach the first big crossing. There is a big gas station at this crossing. Here you turn right, onto Old Hope Road. Now you can start following the signs 'Airport', because they will lead the way to the **Palisadoes**, a small strip of land stretching out in front of Kingston Harbour. The road you will drive, is where Bond and his fake taxi driver are being chased right after Bond arrived in the Caribbean, in **Dr. No**.



Half way the Palisadoes, **Norman Manley International Airport**, formerly the only way to reach the island by air, welcomes you to Jamaica. It is here where principle filming of the first James Bond adventure commenced. In the very first scene filmed by Terence Young, James Bond arrives at Jamaica, makes a phone call to check on his taxi driver, and is being watched by Felix Leiter as he leaves 'with the enemy'. Nowadays the airport is mainly handling domestic flights and serves as the home base for Jamaica's national airline company 'Air Jamaica'. It is a colourful, crowded area, so well worth a small visit.

At the end of the Palisadoes' Main Road you will find **Morgan's Harbour**, a hotel and yacht club, used in **Dr. No**. Stopping here is a 'must', since it is one of the most recognizable locations in Jamaica. When you enter the open-air restaurant and bar area, you will instantly recognize the wooden dock where Bond met Quarrel and followed him to end up in a fight with Pussfeller. The place also featured in the

novel *The Man with the Golden Gun*, where Bond and his former assistant Mary Goodnight enjoy a dinner. Whether you spend the night here or just enjoy a quick lunch, it is both worth the stop.



When you leave Morgan's Harbour, don't forget to visit the old town at the end of the Palisadoes, Port Royal. Driving through the streets of this former pirate capital is truly travelling back through time. Port Royal once was the most notorious place of the Caribbean, housing pirates like Henry Morgan. After a devastating earthquake in 1692, most of the town had disappeared into the sea, leaving only the impressive Fort Charles to survive. Most of the survivors chose to settle on the other side of the bay, and founded Kingston. During the 18th and 19th century, Port Royal served as a marine base for the British Royal Navy, having naval hero Horatio Nelson as its most famous inhabitant.

Driving back towards the 'main land', the **Carib Cement Works** on the slopes of Long Mountain still look the same as in the early sixties, when Sean Connery was briefly seen passing it, on his way to Miss Taro's house in the Blue Mountains.

The East Coast

We are touring the island anti-clockwise, but this way you will save the best for last. Driving along the east coast is pretty and a lot quieter than the touristy area's. At Manchioneal, you have to make a quick stop at the 'Reach Falls', located a few kilometers land inwards. For less than a dollar you can enter this marvellous site and even dive off the falls. The falls are so spectacular, even Tom Cruise did some filming here, for his film *Cocktail*. He also filmed at our next stop, which is very easy to miss; right after you passed the Dragon Bay Villas the road passes the 'Blue Hole', a magnificent bay, but hard to find. Only a little sign on the right points to the entrance. When you reach it, just park your car and enter the restaurant. They offer a nice meal and a beautiful view.

After the 'Blue Hole', follow the road to Port Antonio. This is one of those unspoiled towns where you can still see the true Jamaican way of living. This town used to be the world's banana-trade capital. Off coast lies Navy Island, formerly owned by movie star Errol Flynn, who presumably threw lots of parties here for his Hollywood friends. After he sold the island, he bought a plantation in this area, where his family still lives. Errol Flynn was also the initiator of the *Rio Grande Rafting*. These signs will lead you to the starting point at Berry Dale, where the descent of the river begins (\$45 per raft). A recommendable hotel in Port Antonio is the Jamaica Palace Hotel.

When you leave Port Antonio, just before you enter Hope Bay, you will see a sign directing you to *Somerset Falls*. Although it never featured as a movie location, it is definitely worth a visit. We happened to be there early in the morning, and that gave us the opportunity to enjoy the falls completely on our own.

Near Ian Fleming's Goldeneye

Travelling on, you will pass Annotto Bay and you will enter banana country. The huge plantations provide interesting scenery. From here the road leaves the coast for a little while, to return at Port Maria. Right after Port Maria, there is a little side road that leads to **Goldeneye**, Ian Fleming's former home, and inspiration for Pierce Brosnan's first Bond film title. If you cannot find it, don't worry, a lot of people can't. Just ask someone and you will locate it. The house is private property, but the local youth will be more than happy to provide access. Just ask around a bit and if you offer a nice fee, you'll be surprised how accessible the estate is. In our case, we were lucky enough to get access to the grounds, but due to refurbishing at that time, some members of the security-staff got a bit anxious when we tried to take some photographs, so we were expelled from the terrain. Our local-guide then introduced us to his friend who had a boat, and after some negotiations about the price we were taken on a boat trip, providing us great views of Goldeneye from the sea. (More about Goldeneye on page 261)

Another house worth mentioning is that of Fleming's pal Noel Coward. His house, called *Firefly*, lies above Goldeneye, on top of a cliff. The locals will point you the entrance road. From *Firefly* you have one of the most beautiful views of the nearby coastline. It is quite a climb to reach *Firefly*, but again well worth visiting. The entrance fee for *Firefly* is \$10. After passing Oracabessa, the road will get worse and worse. Especially driving in the evening is not recommendable, since you will have difficulty spotting the potholes in the road on time.



The high cliff between **Rio Nuevo Bay and the resort 'Couples'** was the place where Bond gave a hang glider-kick to one of Kananga's henchmen, in **Live And Let Die**.

The Ocho Rios area

Entering the vicinity of Ocho Rios, make a stop at the Couples **Sans Souci Spa and Resort**, a nice 5-star complex, offering everything from breakfast to wedding arrangements. A scene for **Dr. No** was filmed here in 1961, where Bond is in Miss Taro's room and shoots Professor Dent. The hotel rooms were totally rebuilt shortly afterwards, so you do not have to search for 'Miss Taro's room'. It simply isn't there anymore. More importantly, Guy Hamilton and his crew returned here in 1972, to use the hotel as the exterior location for Bond's hotel room on San Monique. The **hotel shop** where Bond bought the Tarot cards used to be on the north side of the premises, but has also moved. It is now situated at the entrance gate.

Very near to the Sans Souci is the **White River**, also suitable for river rafting. Just follow the signs 'Calypso Rafting'. The White River is the river where Bond, Honey and Quarrel escape from Dr. No's guards, filmed on February 16 and 17, 1962. You can see the tree where they hid under water, when you look upstream from the main road bridge.

Ian Fleming's Goldeneye, now owned by Chris Blackwell of Bond- and Island Records fame.

When you follow the road leading into Ocho Rios, you will pass the **Old Carib**, or Carib Ocho Rios. In this hotel, although totally modified since then, the cast and crew stayed during the filming of the Ocho Rios scenes for **Dr. No**. Following the by-pass road (Dacosta Drive) just outside the centre on the south side, you will find the restaurant **The Ruins**. Nowadays a posh restaurant, the open-air centre of the building offers a unique background, as a waterfall plunges from the rock. Just sit down and remember Jeffrey Holder doing his amazing dance as Baron Samedi, in **Live And Let Die**. A stairway leads upwards and will pass a little strip of grass, where Bond and Rosie first make love and where he later threatens to kill her. The restaurant offers a nice ambience and is free to visit.



One of the most interesting Bond locations we ever visited has to be **Reynolds Pier**. Easily visible from Ocho Rios' beautiful Turtle Beach, this former bauxite plant now serves as a second arrival pier for cruise ships, and it was this pier that was used in 1961 as Dr. No's headquarters. The scenes filmed here were that of professor Dent's arrival and, most important, the moment of total panic just before the structure is blown to pieces.



It is from this pier, Sean Connery and Ursula Andress managed to escape back in the early 1960s and it hasn't changed a bit! When you're lucky you can even visit the structure. People told me they just came across the right person who let them in and showed them around. You can find Reynolds Pier just west of Ocho Rios, right after you passed the sign 'Columbus Heights' on your left. From the centre of Ocho Rios it is no more than a two-minute walk. To get an overview for a good photo of the whole complex, you have to enter a small road on the hillside. The more it meanders up the hill, the worse it gets. It's difficult to find free views, because of the trees, but if you ignore the 'Trespassers will be prosecuted'-signs and be careful, you will find some.

Very nearby is also another, though very small, location. Some 500 meters past Reynolds Pier the coast makes another bend to the right. In the corner of that bend, you will see one or **two small waterfalls** plunging in the sea. It is here where Bond came ashore to blow up Kananga's poppy fields in **Live And Let Die**. Along the road is a pedestrian path called 'One Love Trail'. This path offers you a clear view of this small but lovely location.

When you're leaving Ocho Rios, prepare for another miracle of nature, **Dunn's River Falls**. Just a few miles along the road to Montego Bay, you can not miss this tourist height. Since so many people visit this place every day it has become the most famous waterfall of Jamaica. On the cover of every travel-guide, it is also the location where Bond, Honey and Quarrel washed themselves after escaping from the guards in **Dr. No**. The scenery has changed a bit since then, but the middle area, where they were seen



bathing, is still very recognizable. The great thing about this waterfall is that you can climb it. Stretching out over about two kilometers, going slightly upwards, it has become tourist attraction no.1 to climb the falls. Alone or in a group, many people climb it, and although the slippery rocks are rather dangerous every now and then, no serious accidents seem to happen. A real family adventure! In case you want to take your camera with you on the climb, make sure, you have something with you, to keep it dry (plastic bag and a cloth to wipe the lens).

The entrance fee for this exiting climb is only \$6 and they have special shoes for rent, which prevent regular slipping and falling. Another good service is the locker rental. For a few dollars and a deposit, you can rent a small locker where you can temporarily store your shoes and clothes. A typical Jamaican attitude first revealed itself to me here. Jamaicans are allowed to enter the premises almost for free and they also didn't need to make a deposit for the lockers. Tourists on the other hand have to pay extra.

Laughing Water

The next location you are about to visit, is probably the most dazzling of the island. Remember Ursula Andress emerging from the water on Crab Key, while singing 'Underneath the Mango Tree' in **Dr. No**? That scene was filmed on the beach of **Laughing Water**, a private property, belonging to the Jamaican government nowadays. Whenever important foreign visitors arrive on Jamaica, the government lets them spend some time there. Therefore the place is not open for public. At least not for tourists. The guarded area does seem to be a much-used beach for locals. So if you want to visit the Laughing Waters estate, talk to the locals!

On the main road from Ocho Rios to Montego Bay (A1) there is a little town called St. Anne's Bay. Half way town, coming from Ocho Rios, you will pass an open-air hydro-electrical station. Opposite of that small power plant, you will see a little road heading

towards a house by the sea. This is 'Laughing Water' and its precious beach. Through the years I have heard various ways to get to the beach. First of all you can try to call a guard and give him some cash, preferably US dollars. When you tell those people that you are destined to get to that beach, they will realize that you are crazy enough to do anything to accomplish your objective. You might get access this way. A better way is to walk to the fence and follow it westward. After a couple of meters you will find a hole in the fence. This is the main entrance for the local youth. Climb through that hole, and you will have access to the beach.



We found a third way, somewhat safer but also more expensive. Try to find someone with a boat, anywhere. We rented a boat and captain in Ocho Rios, and had to pay about \$35 to get to Laughing Water. You then have the advantage of being with a local, so when you get to the beach and do get caught (like in our case), the friendly guards just ask you not to stay too long. We spent some 45 minutes there and could walk around and swim.

The beach used to be one of the most beautiful in the world, thanks to a waterfall reaching the sea there. But hurricane 'Gilbert' rearranged the island of Jamaica in 1990, and also had his impact on the shape of this beach. It still is a magnificent beach though, and it brings back a lot of memories.

The waterfall divides the beach in two parts, east and west. The eastern part is still very recognizable as the bay where Quarrel rushed back to Bond to tell him about the arrival of the high-power boat. The middle section used to be the part where the three of them took cover from the machine gun fire, a scene Ian Fleming and his wife Ann witnessed while they were visiting the set in February 1962. Thanks to a still existing letter Ann wrote to her friend Evelyn Waugh, we know that filming isn't always as easy as it seems. During the filming of this scene, all efforts were wasted, because the sound of the exploding bullet effects alarmed a division of the U.S. Navy who happened to be in the neighbourhood. They entered the bay with high speed, and made things look a bit too realistic. So the whole scene had to be set up again.



This part of the beach has changed very much, because it has become much smaller. The waterfall is still a lot like in **Dr. No**, although you will not be able to tell where Sean Connery started singing his part of 'Underneath the Mango Tree'. We personally think everyone who visits Jamaica should not forget to make a stop at 'Laughing Water'. The impact and beauty of the beach surely makes up for the trouble you have to go through to enter the estate.

Falmouth area

Our next stop is between Runaway Bay and Discovery Bay. On the left side of the road you will pass a sign '**Runaway Caves**'. This cave complex was used by groups of slaves who had escaped the plantations. Here they hid for years. The caves were also used in **Live And Let Die**, as part of Kananga's underground headquarters on San Monique. After Bond killed Baron Samedi (or didn't he...?) you can see him running together with Solitaire through the maze of tunnels until he reaches a metal door. The caves house thousands of bats, and there also is an underground lake. Guided tours start every half-hour and the entrance fee is about \$2. It's a small location but worth a stop.



After the caves you will enter Discovery Bay, said to be the place where Christopher Columbus landed in 1494 and 'discovered' Jamaica. A very small open air park, called Columbus Park, is situated right after the big round terminal owned by the Kaiser Bauxite Company. In this park you can see some items dating back to that period. The entrance to this park is free, but don't expect too much from it.

The last big town before returning to Montego Bay is Falmouth. Just before you enter it, on your right, is a recommendable little hotel called Fisherman's Inn Dive Resort (formerly known as *Rose's By the Sea*) with a very familial atmosphere. One of the members of the staff, nicknamed 'Ninja', is a real Bond expert. He can tell you all about the scenes filmed in this area. From this hotel it is well worth to visit the nearby 'Luminous Lagoon' at night, where micro-organisms cause the water to glow green.

You will by now probably also notice the dried swamp surrounding the area. This is called Salt Marsh. Part of it is a smaller area called **Vanzie Swamp**. Here the crew filmed the scenes where Bond, Honey and Quarrel are being attacked by the flame throwing tank-disguised-as-a-dragon for **Dr. No**. Filming took place here on February 13 to 15, 1962. A swamp is a swamp, and it is useless trying to find a specific, recognizable area, so don't waste your time here.

Past the swamp, you will now enter **Falmouth**. The moment you see the town's yellow church tower, you will think of Roger Moore driving through in his now single-decker bus. Time seems to have stood still here, since not much changed. Near the town's centre is **Hampden Wharf**, where Bond drove his bus up to Quarrel's boat, in **Live And Let Die**. This scene was filmed here on December 10, 1972. Beside the Bond locations, Falmouth has not much to offer, so the best thing is to leave and drive on to a major location nearby. Just outside Falmouth (used to be hard-to-find, now you can not miss it because of a huge sign saying "As seen in James Bond Live And Let Die") you will find the **Jamaica Swamp Safari**. Here is 'the Farm' where Mr. Big ordered Tee Hee to bring Bond to. The famous sign is still attached to the fence: "Trespassers will be eaten". Unfortunately it is not the original sign.



When in March 1972 director Guy Hamilton and production designer Sid Cain were looking for locations that could contribute to the developing script, they tried to find a place or thing that would be a serious threat to Bond. An early version of the script had Kananga threaten Bond with a machine normally used to produce sugar, a major Jamaican export product. When it was discovered that working with such a machine would be extremely dangerous, Hamilton and Cain had to look elsewhere. When they passed the warning on the fence they knew that they had found what they were looking for.



The crocodiles swimming around, the little island in the middle of the pond, the wooden house and the basin with the baby ‘cros’. Only the retractable bridge, specially built for the Bond filming, is now replaced by a wooden one. Also on display is the huge skin of the crocodile that followed Bond out of the water.

worth the entrance fee of \$15. Guided tours will update you on the spooky and sinister events that took place here. Once you finished your indoor tour, go outside and ask for Jake’s Tour. Jake is quite a loudmouth, but he seems to be the only one who shows tourists around the immense grounds. Jake will take you for any price, as long as it is enough.



Author Dirk Kloosterboer at ‘the Farm’ in 1996

A car is needed to bring you to a **high hill behind the Great House**. One of the more interesting scenes filmed here, was the scene where Bond and Solitaire discover Kananga’s poppy fields. On this hill, a small school educates local children. The kids love it when you just walk in and sit next to them in class. Half way the hill, Jake will show you the summerhouse of country singer Johnny Cash, called ‘Cinnamon Hill’. Also, part of the grounds is an 18-hole golf course that has been built recently. While you are passing this, Jake will tell you all about the plants and the herbs that grow wildly in the tropical forest.

Some of the guards will remember Ross Kananga, the man who founded the Swamp Safari and gave his name to **Live And Let Die**’s main villain. Since he was so familiar with his own crocodiles, he was the one who performed Roger Moore’s stunts at the farm. Wearing the same pair of shoes and pants as Moore, he tried several times to jump on the crocodiles’ backs. At one time he even slipped and had a crocodile bite his shoe. After making the crocodiles legs heavier with lead, in order to keep them in their place, and using specially prepared shoe soles himself, he finally succeeded. (Ross Kananga passed away in the eighties).



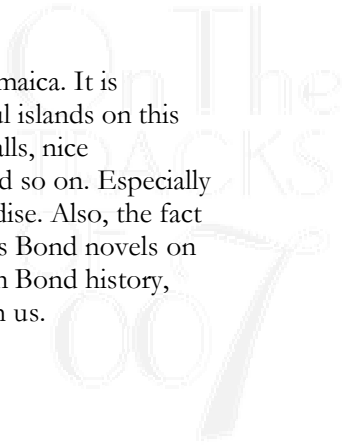
The last stop will be made at **Rose Hall Great House**. This former plantation house has been totally rebuilt in its original state, and it is definitely

Eventually you will be taken to a **small waterfall**. It will not immediately ring a bell, but it was part of a brilliant scene in **Live And Let Die**.

In this scene, Bond and Solitaire have just escaped from Kananga and pass the briefly seen waterfall and a small church with a graveyard, where Baron Samedi plays the flute and greets them with a smile. Although this church and its small graveyard had all been there once, it was demolished and has become hole 17 of a golf course. The only remaining prop that actually appeared in the scene is a wooden cemetery cross, now standing next to the little waterfall that also survived and is getting smaller and smaller each year.

Travelling back from Rose Hall to Montego Bay you will pass the **Half Moon Bay Club**, a huge bungalow complex. Here's where the **Live And Let Die** crew filmed the exterior of Bond's bungalow on San Monique. **Room 52, bungalow 9** is where Bond enjoyed his breakfast outside until he received a tarot warning from Solitaire.

This completes our trip around Jamaica. It is definitely one of the most beautiful islands on this planet: tropical rainforests, waterfalls, nice temperature, beautiful beaches, and so on. Especially for location hunters it is true paradise. Also, the fact that Ian Fleming wrote most of his Bond novels on this island gives it a special place in Bond history, and a travel recommendation from us.



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GOOD STAGES

(Not Sound Proofed)
 10ft x 40ft 6ins = 45,424 sq.ft.
 10ft x 73ft x 8ft 10ins
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 Capacity: 2000 People

STAGES
 6ft x 35ft = 19,140 sq.ft.
 (m.)
PER DAY
 Capacity: 950 People

ND E STAGES
 10ft x 35ft = 18,150 sq.
 (q.m.)
 10ft x 30ft x 8ft
PER DAY
 Capacity: 700 People

C STAGES
 81ft x 34ft = 8,910 sq.ft.
 (q.m.)
 (C only) 10ft x 8ft x 6ft
PER DAY
 Capacity: 300 People

D M STAGES
 x 90ft x 30ft = 9,450 sq.
 (sq.m.)
PER DAY
 Capacity: 200 People

TAGE
 x 100ft x 35ft = 7,500 sq.
 (sq.m.)
 TANK 20ft x 20ft x 8ft
PER DAY
 Capacity: 200 People

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H STAGE (Not Sound Proofed)
 240ft x 120ft x 45ft = 30,000 sq. ft.
 (2660 sq.m.)
 TANK 25ft x 12ft x 2ft 6ins
£7,000 PER DAY
 Capacity: 1100 People

A AND C STAGES
 150ft x 120ft x 40ft = 18,000 sq.ft.
 (1668 sq.m.)
 TANK 36ft x 20ft x 7ft
£5,500 PER DAY
 Capacity: 500 People

INWOOD SHEPPERTON

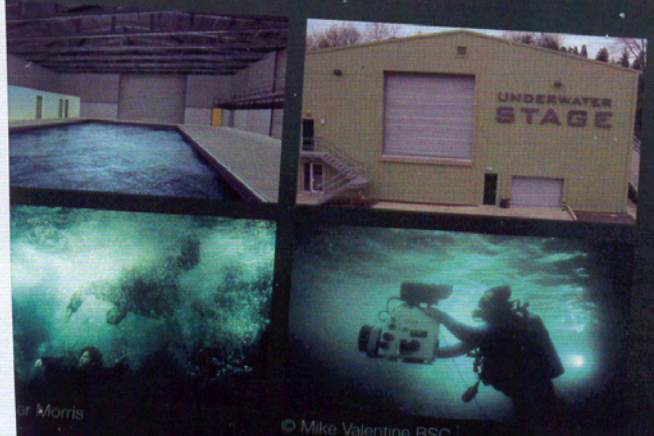
World Class, World Famous

3 A day at The Studios

Every young boy has his dreams, and only some of them come true. As you grow older, you get used to the fact that some dreams simply never come true, no matter how hard you try. When I saw my first James Bond film in the cinema, back in 1983 (no, it wasn't *Never Say Never Again!*), I promised myself that I would do anything possible to get into Pinewood Studios.

Many years and attempts later, I was about to give up, when I suddenly got the opportunity to visit the home of 007. The British Comedy Society was about to honour 40 years of humour in the Bond films, and tickets were available for the event.

We obtained the tickets and some weeks later we drove up to the oh-so familiar front gate... I was about to enter Pinewood for the first time...



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“What’s so special about Pinewood?” you might wonder. “Isn’t it just a bunch of buildings with some movie history?” No, no, no... Our main interest in Pinewood lies in the fact that it had been used a lot in the early Sean Connery Bond films **From Russia With Love** and **Goldfinger**, both high on everybody’s list of favourites. These filming locations are not so easy to visit, and for me that made it very interesting just to see how much there was left of it. While attending the BCS event, we occasionally took a deliberate wrong exit or turn, and this enabled us to stroll around a bit... Remember Bond at Max Zorin’s horse auction garden party? It sort of looked like that. “Oh, excuse me, I was looking for the toilets but I guess it isn’t in here..”



Situated approximately 20 miles west of London, Pinewood Studios has been at the forefront of international film production for over 60 years. Originally Heatherden Hall, an attractive Victorian house with spectacular grounds; it was purchased by Canadian financier, Lt. Col. Grant Morden, who spent a staggering sum transforming the mansion into a showpiece, adding refinements such as a huge ballroom and Turkish bath. It became a retreat and secret meeting place for politicians and diplomats. When Morden died in 1934 the estate was bought at auction by Charles Boot, a builder who had movie ambitions and was determined to establish a British studio that would be the best in the world. The vast pine trees in the grounds inspired him to name the estate ‘Pinewood’. In 1935 Boot met J. Arthur Rank (later Lord Rank), and they became partners in the studio project. In December of that year, construction began. The studios were finished nine months later, the most streamlined and efficient in the world. Producers had been booking months in advance to use the new facilities. Boot’s dream had cost £1,000,000, and by 1936 Pinewood was leading the way in film industry innovation through the ‘unit system’. This enabled several pictures to be filmed simultaneously, and ultimately Pinewood achieved the highest output of any studio in the world. Today, Pinewood boasts the world’s largest purpose-built silent stage, and Europe’s biggest exterior tank. New stages have been designed for flexibility and there has been much investment in post-production facilities. Modernisation and expansion is continuing,

but with care and respect for Pinewood’s film making heritage. In February 2001, Pinewood purchased Shepperton Studios, followed in April 2005 by Teddington Studios, making the Pinewood Studio Group focus strongly on the future. The addition of a spectacular underwater stage further enhanced the possibilities the Studios had to offer. In 2007, Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh visited Pinewood and officially opened the new landmark entrance. (Source: www.pinewoodgroup.com)



When entering Pinewood through the main entrance, the first large building on your left is the main administration building. Behind the building you will find Pinewood’s garden. It features a small lake that was used in the very last scene of **Goldfinger**, in which Pussy Galore and 007 make love underneath their parachute. Another part of the garden is filled with statues and fountains, and in this renaissance garden EON filmed their first pre-title sequence.



In **From Russia With Love**, a Bond look-a-like is strangled by SPECTRE killer Red Grant. This was entirely filmed in this garden part. When the lights are turned on after the execution, Pinewood’s main administration building serves as the exterior of SPECTRE headquarters.

Later in the film, Rosa Klebb visits the headquarters to inspect the man she hopes will be able to handle James Bond.



After arriving by helicopter, she passes the main administration building again, and makes her way through a SPECTRE training centre, built in Pinewood's garden. She finds Red Grant at the pond, tests him and leaves through the same renaissance garden as seen in the opening scenes. All these locations are still there and look exactly the same as they did in 1963. Only the visible addition of the *Gatsby Suite* to the administration building looks odd, but the facade can still be recognized here. In 2008 this extension was removed again.

While most of the famous golf scene in **Goldfinger** was filmed at Stoke Park, one tiny sequence was filmed here at Pinewood. After Bond defeats Goldfinger, the latter writes Bond a cheque and summons Odd Job to demonstrate his dangerous weapon, the bowler hat. From the moment the hat leaves Odd Job's hand, the location shifts to Pinewood Studios, to the garden next to the Main Administration Building to be exact. While the flight of the hat was done by attaching it to a wire, the decapitation of the statue was done with a fake statue, similar looking to the ones that are actually in Pinewood's garden.



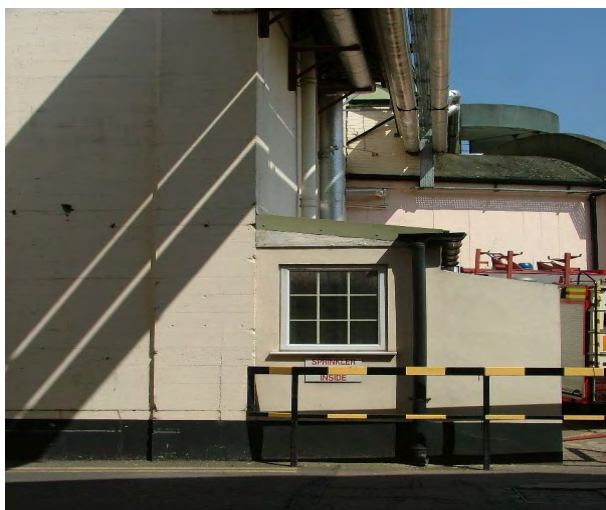
When you stroll through the garden you might just stumble upon a very strange item. A memorial stone for Desmond Llewelyn reminds you of the actor's memorable portrayal of Q and his sudden departure from life. Although it might look strange since this is the only memorial stone in the garden, it does signify the actor's important role in the world of 007.





One of Pinewood Garden's strangest features is a natural **grotto**. The small cave is just large enough for two persons to stand in, but **The World Is Not Enough** showed us it could also be used for a single person to walk out. It was Renard's lair where Renard has a meeting with Elektra's head of security. He appears from out of the grotto and picks up rocks from the fire. Interestingly, the crew returned to the grotto more recently to film a small insert scene for **Die Another Day**. In the pre-credit sequence we see Bond and his two helpers in their surf gear about to go change their clothes. This tiny shot has also been filmed at Pinewood Garden's grotto.

West of the gardens is Pinewood's huge exterior water tank, the biggest in the world. The area around the tank was used to stage the gypsy camp scenes, in **From Russia With Love**. Behind the tank are various stages, post- and pre-production facilities. This was the maze of buildings where 007 drove his Aston Martin DB5 in **Goldfinger**, after using his ejector seat. Even these alleys haven't changed much and it didn't cost us too much trouble to find some very recognizable spots from the film... Another tiny sequence shot here was the spying on Goldfinger by Bond, who had climbed on top of Goldfinger's Swiss factory. This scene was filmed on the road section that is now known as 'Goldfinger Alley'.



The largest building around can be found all the way in the back, the Albert R. Broccoli 007 Stage, the largest silent sound stage that was built for that purpose. Initially simply called the 007 Stage, this huge structure solved a major problem the EON film makers had, back in 1976, while filming **The Spy Who Loved Me**. When the script called for the massive Liparus Tanker interior scenes to be filmed, Cubby Broccoli told Ken Adam: "If you can't find a stage big enough to build your set in, why not construct a whole new one?" EON Productions financed the construction out of its own pocket and Pinewood was more than willing to house the structure. In 1977 the stage was officially opened by British Prime Minister Harold Wilson, and since then it has been used for numerous films, including some of the largest productions ever filmed in the UK.



When you look at the scenes from the Liparus interior, you actually see the whole interior of the 007 stage, and this gives you a pretty good idea of the size of the structure. As said before, it proved to be a popular stage among film makers, and in more recent years this resulted in the fact that EON wasn't able to use its own stage because it was already booked!

In 1984, just before filming would start on **A View To A Kill**, the film stage burned to the ground. Immediately, Cubby Broccoli ordered it to be rebuilt. This time, Pinewood Studios executives insisted the name to be changed to 'Albert R. Broccoli 007 Stage', to honour the man who had brought them James Bond. More recently, the stage burned down again, after filming of **Casino Royale** had just been completed.



Within months the stage had been rebuilt once again and this time the celebration included the presentation of the stage its own website. You can see for yourself at www.007stage.com



Behind the 007 Stage, Pinewood's back lot is available for any imaginable purpose. Say you want to build a huge outdoor set, something like a gigantic volcano for a film called **You Only Live Twice**, this would be a very suitable place. More recently, the area was used to recreate the Korean Demilitarized Zone, in **Die Another Day**.

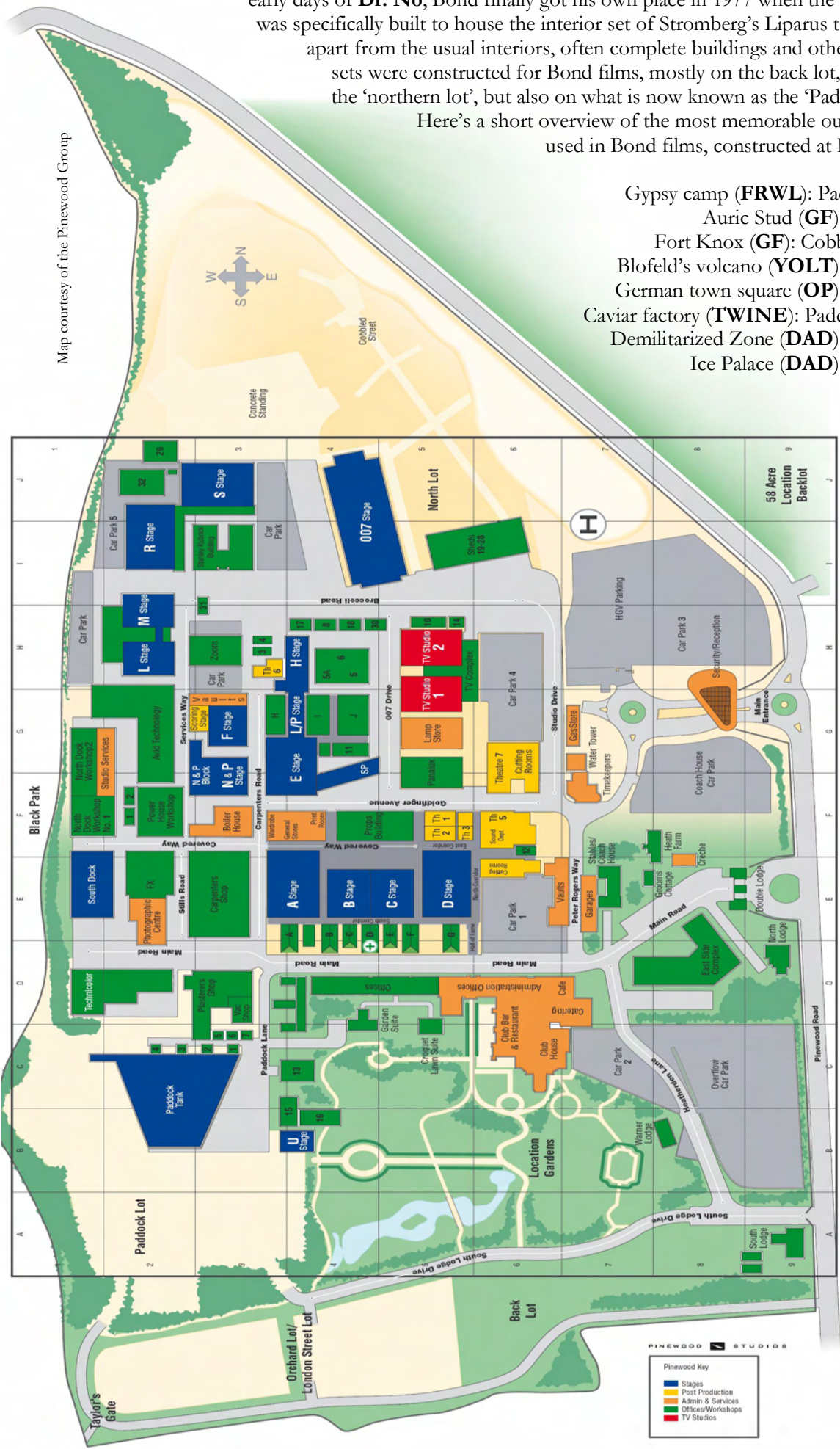
Throughout the 90's, Graham Rye arranged and hosted numerous, unparalleled events for the International James Bond Fan Club at Pinewood, of which the 1990 Convention deserves special mentioning for featuring the largest collection of Bond props ever assembled. Unfortunately I was too young at the time and never had the pleasure of attending these popular fan gatherings. Recently the idea of hosting these events was picked up by *Bondstars.com* and if you want to visit Pinewood one day you should check their website regularly.

When we left Pinewood, the overall feeling was overwhelming. Yet another dream had come true. During the BCS event, we had met with Steve Jaggs, then managing director of Pinewood, Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson, and I had enjoyed a very pleasant talk with them. This even led to an immediate second visit to Pinewood the next day. Later on, thanks to EON's Anne Bennett and Pinewood's Natalie May, we even got official permission to walk around and photograph whatever we needed for our website and this story in particular, many of the photographs published here being a direct result of that. As Natalya Simonova commented in **GoldenEye**: "You're like boys with toys!", and I guess she's right. My toy happened to be a huge area filled with Bond history...

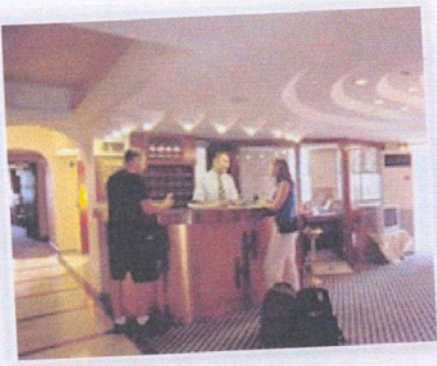
While the Pinewood Studios' A, B, C, D and E stages have all been used since the early days of **Dr. No**, Bond finally got his own place in 1977 when the **007 Stage** was specifically built to house the interior set of Stromberg's Liparus tanker. But apart from the usual interiors, often complete buildings and other outdoor sets were constructed for Bond films, mostly on the back lot, known as the 'northern lot', but also on what is now known as the 'Paddock Lot'.

Here's a short overview of the most memorable outdoor sets used in Bond films, constructed at Pinewood:

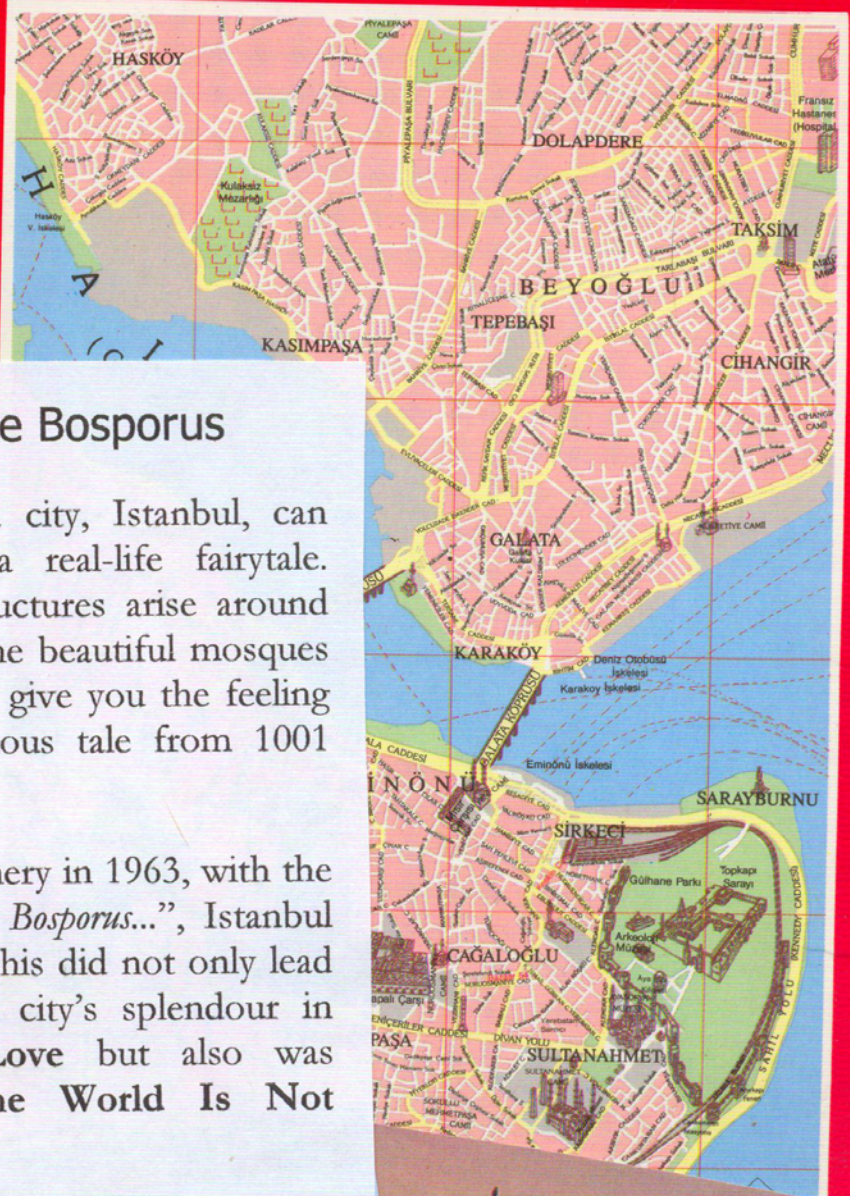
- Gypsy camp (**FRWL**): Paddock Lot
- Auric Stud (**GF**): Back Lot
- Fort Knox (**GF**): Cobbled Street
- Blofeld's volcano (**YOLT**): Back Lot
- German town square (**OP**): Back Lot
- Caviar factory (**TWINE**): Paddock Tank
- Demilitarized Zone (**DAD**): Back Lot
- Ice Palace (**DAD**): Back Lot



CITY PLAN ISTANBUL



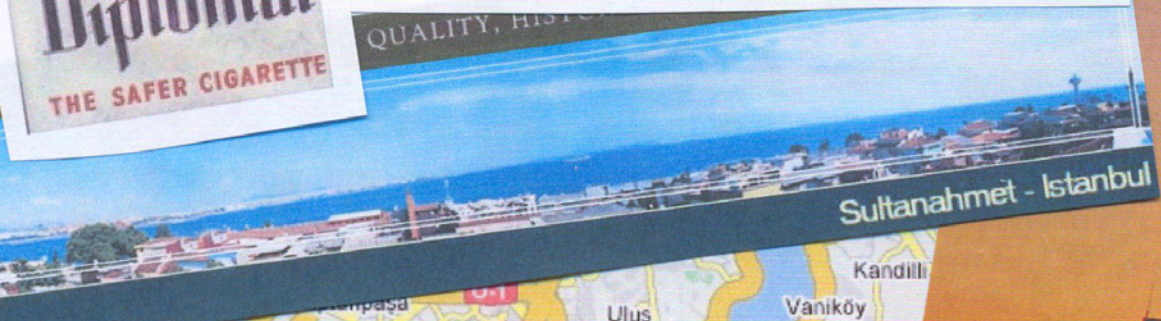
Hotel Historia, a renovated Ottoman lies in the shadows of the Blue Mosque in the historic district of Sultanahmet



4 Moonlight over the Bosphorus

Turkey's most populated city, Istanbul, can best be described as a real-life fairytale. Mysterious, imposing structures arise around every street corner and the beautiful mosques with their many minarets give you the feeling you're walking in a famous tale from 1001 nights.

Advertised by Sean Connery in 1963, with the words "*Moonlight over the Bosphorus...*", Istanbul truly is a romantic city. This did not only lead to full exposure of the city's splendour in **From Russia With Love** but also was repeated in 1999's **The World Is Not Enough**.



The city lies on two continents, Europe and Asia, which are divided by the Bosphorus. This narrow, navigable strait being the only sea way from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, you will quickly understand the strategic importance of the city. This explains why Istanbul is the most besieged city in the world. Built in 667 BC by the Megares and named after their leader, *Byzantium*, the city rapidly became a leading trade post. When the city was finally captured by the Romans, it became the new capital of the East Roman empire. In the year 330, Emperor Constantine decided the city's name should be *Constantinople*. The city had its 'golden age' under emperor Justinianus. The beautiful *Aya Sofia* (Saint Sophia) or 'church of the divine wisdom' is the most famous representative of that time.

In 1354 the city became part of the Osmanic Empire, but it wasn't until 1453, when Mehmet II Fatih (the conqueror) took the city and made it the new capital of the Osmanians, that the city got its final name: Istanbul. It was turned into an Islamic city. The *Aya Sofia* was converted into a mosque and was made the centre of the Osmanic religion and therefore the building model for future Osmanic structures. After the collapse of the Osmanic Empire at the end of the First World War, the city was captivated by the allied forces. The Turkish freedom movement, lead by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, fought successfully for independence, making Atatürk the most important statesman in Turkish history. Atatürk, whose image is still visible everywhere in Istanbul, laid the foundations of the independent state Turkey is today. But, although the country undergoes rapid modernization, the remains of Turkey's rich history still attract millions of visitors each year.

Nowadays, travellers coming from overseas arrive at the modernized Atatürk Havaalani Airport. When James Bond arrived in Istanbul to get his hands on a Lektor decoder, back in 1963, the small airport was then called *Yesilköy*, after the area surrounding it. 007 actually arrived at what was then and still is the **domestic arrival gate**. The modern building it is today is only recognizable from the communications tower on its roof.



When 007 was driven by his chauffeur from the airport into the city, he passed some great views, which have changed so much since 1963, it is hard to imagine they are in fact the same. **Mirihmah Camii** is a mosque, visible in the background of these first Istanbul scenes, and if it wasn't for this mosque's recognizable exterior, you would probably pass the street without even considering it was in a Bond film once. Along this same road, from the Topkapi district to the Edirnekapi district, you will find the remains of the old city defence wall, also shortly visible in the film, before Bond is brought to Kerim Bey.



The most important, ancient and historically interesting buildings you will find in the **Sultanahmet district**. Here are also most of the tourist hotels located, simply because the area has a lot to offer. When you look at the map, you will notice the area is a peninsula, offering three magnificent views. In the upper left corner, the famous 'Golden Horn' divides the European part of the city in two. The waterway going north is the Bosphorus, and finally in the lower right corner, the Marmara Sea is the right way to end up in the Mediterranean.



When Bond arrives in the heart of the city, he passes some still very recognizable houses, just before he asks his chauffeur about the fact that they are being followed. Standing at the **Gülhane Tramcar Stop**, having the park on your left, you will notice the wooden Ottoman houses visible in 1963's film. They

are on the corner of a small street called *Soguk Cesme Sokak* and the main road *Alemdir Caddesi*. Since these last locations cannot be combined in a direct route to Bond's end goal, one can only assume the locations were purely used because of their beauty.



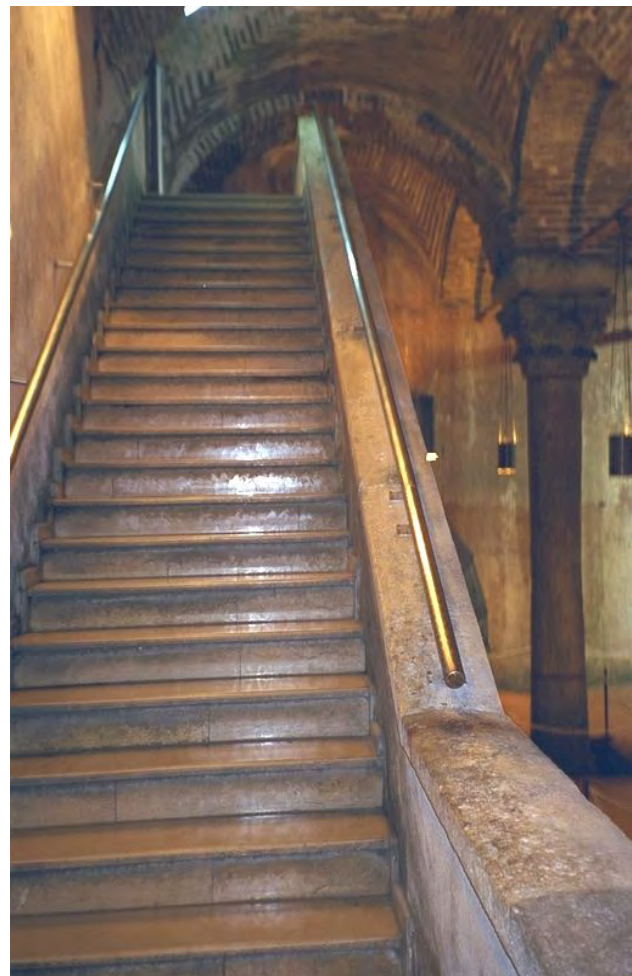
His end goal was a meeting with Kerim Bey, head of station T Turkey, at **the Grand Bazaar**. This Bazaar is an absolute must for those of you who like shopping, carpets, gold, shopping, leather, jewellery, more carpets and even more shopping. Housing over 4000 little shops (including 2000 jewellers!!) this famous covered bazaar still is a model for every oriental bazaar around the world. Thousands of tourists arrive here daily to get lost in the maze of tiny streets. A remarkable experience you should not miss! Neither did 007...



He was driven to the **Nuru Osmaniye Camii**, east of the Grand Bazaar. This Osmanic mosque is the best way to the Bazaar. At this place, the Rolls was parked, and Bond and his chauffeur walked towards the Bazaar. Here they walked through a magnificent stone gate, entering the Grand Bazaar from the East. Most of the Grand Bazaar is a covered area, but also a well secured area. Every night at 19:00h, the local policemen close and lock the 17 huge entrance doors, leaving the 16th century bazaar behind as a desolate underground city. Inside you can also find the *caravanserai*, or inn, used for the scenes in which Tania visits Klebb for the first time



During Bond's second meeting with Kerim Bey, the two men visit the Russian Consulate in a highly amusing way. Kerim takes Bond downstairs to an ancient water reservoir. These underground scenes were in fact filmed in two cisterns. The first scenes were filmed at **Yerebatan Sarayı**. Standing in front of the Aya Sofia Mosque, you will find this cistern directly on the corner of the street on your left, called *Hilâliahmer Caddesi*. The entrance fee is around 3 US\$. When you enter the cistern, you will descend the exact same stairs as Bond and Kerim did. Inside the cistern you will find a forest of pillars. Here the two men took a boat and peddled towards the Consulate.



When they go 'ashore' to walk towards Kerim's underground periscope, the filming location is changed to **Binbir Direk**. Unfortunately, that cistern is no longer accessible. There the crew also filmed the scenes in which Bond, Kerim and Tania are on the run with the Lektor. The Yerebatan Cistern however is accessible, and offers a nice damp atmosphere. Since this also is a major tourist attraction, you should not expect to have it all to yourself.

Two other major landmarks of Istanbul also feature prominently in **From Russia With Love**. First we have the **Sultan Ahmet Camii, better known as the Blue Mosque**. Completed in 1616, this mosque has become the symbol of Istanbul and still is a favourite of tourists. Because it is still in use as a centre of praying, visitors are not allowed to wear shoes inside. Also, women have to cover their bare shoulders with a shawl, provided at the entrance. Like the marvellous interior, the balanced exterior of the mosque with its six minarets too are a feast for the eye. Outside, towards the Aya Sofia, a small park with benches resemble an open-air cinema. Here you can enjoy a spectacular sound and light show, brought to you daily around 19:00h. The Blue Mosque is especially visible in the scenes when Tania walks through Istanbul on her way to the Aya Sofia, to deliver Bond the ground plan of the Russian Consulate. This location unexpectedly turned out to be hard-to-find.



Before entering the Aya Sofia, Tania walks past a white building, standing all alone on a bare, sandy hill, overlooking the Blue Mosque. This area turned out to have undergone major changes over the last 37 years. The visible structure turns out to be the **Firuz Aga Camii**, or Firuz Aga Mosque, built in 1491 and located at *Divanyolu* no.53, the main street towards the Grand Bazaar. The mosque now stands along one of the city's busiest streets. The bare, sandy hill has been turned into a nice park, full of huge trees, still overlooking the Blue Mosque. Even the Turkish gardener we showed a screen pic to, could not believe these were identical places..

Walking back towards the busy space in front of the Blue Mosque, we now turn towards the second landmark, the famous **Aya Sofia**.



This church in the heart of old Byzantium was completed in the year 537, and built by order of Roman Emperor Justinianus. Later renamed a mosque, it received 4 minarets, and finally became a museum in 1934. When you enter the structure it is not hard to imagine why the filmmakers decided to let it play a major part in **From Russia With Love**. The Aya Sofia is so ingeniously designed and built that it is simply breathtaking to walk inside and enjoy the imposing interior. It is open for public, every day (except Mondays) from 9:30h until 17:00h. The entrance fee is about US\$ 3.00 per adult.



Principle filming for **From Russia With Love** started here on Monday 22 April 1963. Every morning the crew left the Hilton Hotel in convoy consisting of 28 vehicles, half of which were filled with lighting equipment, indispensable to film inside the dark mosque. The Turkish Ministry for Tourism had allowed EON to film inside the Aya Sophia, as long as normal tourists wouldn't be bothered. This did in fact cause some trouble when later that afternoon a big group walked in, causing a twenty minute delay.

When Tania enters the building, she's coming in from the south. This is not the main tourist entrance, which is more west. From this tourist entrance you will walk onto the inner centre of the church. On your left you will see a **huge urn** beside a round red column. Bond stood here pointing with his sunglasses into the direction he wanted Tania to go. When you walk towards that urn, the most northern side of the inner space is the area where it all happened. The huge stone columns are the ones where Bond spotted the Bulgarian. In between the columns are **wooden booths**, the most rectangular being the one where Tania left the ground plan for Bond to pick up. This is the booth where Grant killed the Bulgarian who took the ground plan before Bond got there. The Aya Sofia obviously hasn't changed at all since filming took place there and all the important areas are still very recognizable. Whenever you walk around there, you always expect the Bulgarian to show up behind one of the columns...

Before Bond sets out for a little boat trip across the Bosphorus with Tania, he was scheduled to have another encounter with the 'enemy'. Driving towards the ferry departure, Bond is once again being tailed by the Bulgarian, who on his turn is being followed by Kerim Bey. When Bond hits the brakes, the three cars collide causing the Bulgarian to be stuck in between. While 007 is being picked up by the Rolls, Kerim walks up to the trapped Bulgarian saying: "Well my friend, that's life". This notorious but brilliant scene unfortunately had to be deleted when during a pre-screening someone discovered that the Bulgarian had been previously killed by Grant in the Aya Sophia... Apparently it was one of Pedro Armendariz' best scenes.



Most ferries arrive and depart from the area next to the famous Galata Bridge. This former wooden bridge, also visible in **From Russia With Love**, has recently been totally renewed. It has now become a full concrete bridge and a symbol of Turkish modernization. The area surrounding Galata Bridge is called *Eminönü*, is this is where you will find the boats. Bond and Tania took a so called Bosphorus tour. This boat trip can be made twice a day, at 10:25h and 13:35, and takes you all the way up the Bosphorus and back. A beautiful trip, but not really to get close to the Bond locations.



We suggest some smaller trips. For instance a trip to *Besiktas Iskelesi* (or Besiktas Station). This trip will bring you to the *Besiktas* district, past the marvellous **Dolmabahçe Palace**. The construction of this

palace for Sultan Abdülmecit brought the Turkish state to bankruptcy in 1876. Here also Mustafa Kemal Atatürk died in 1938. The beautiful palace is visible in the background during the scenes in which Bond questions Tania about the Lektor decoder.



Once you are at *Besiktas Iskelesi*, best thing to do is to get a taxi. Ask the driver to take you to **Sisli**, a district nearby. This is only a small ride, costing around 3 US\$. Sisli is the only major **From Russia With Love** filming location outside the Sultanahmet area, but definitely one to visit. Just entering Sisli district from Osmanbey district, you are driving on *Halaskargazi Caddesi*. You should get out of the taxi at the bus stop. From here, looking in northern direction, the road bends slightly to the right, and Sisli Camii (Sisli Mosque) is at the horizon. On your left, you will notice some 25 market booths. Behind these booths you will find Istanbul's most hidden Bond location: **From Russia With Love's Russian Consulate**. Only by looking very carefully, you can recognize the fence surrounding the building's garden, and the entrance gate in the middle. This gate featured prominently in the film. Most of the scenes where filmed at this gate, that in fact is exactly the same as it was back in 1963. Lush green plants grow wildly over the fence and the adjacent market booths, and really try to keep the building out of sight.



The street in front of it has totally changed and doesn't look at all like the scenes from the film. Using a small street some 50 meters back, you will

end up behind the building. At the most northern point of the back of the building, wooden entrance doors invite you to undertake some action. As we all remember from the *Leisure Suit Larry*® games, ringing a doorbell often gets you to where you want to go...In our case, a friendly gardener opened the door. He didn't speak a word English but we somehow managed to persuade him to let us take a look around. He let us in.

The building itself is a marvellous wooden villa, surrounded by a well kept garden with beautiful mosaic pavement. The purpose of the house nowadays is unclear. In the back you will find a small church, used for funerals for the nearby Sisli cemetery. Other sources stated the house used to be in use by the Turkish Secret Service. Whatever the case, it's a highly interesting Bond location, well worth visiting.



At Sisli, you are very close to the highway leading to the Second Bosphorus bridge, or *Fatih Sultan Mehmet Köprüsü*. Perhaps taking a taxi is a very wise decision, because driving across this bridge is a great experience and a jump from past to present. The ride does not only make you jump from Europe to Asia, it also symbolizes the jump from 1963 to 1999. At the Asian side of Istanbul we will find two marvellous filming locations from Bond's more recent adventure **The World Is Not Enough**.



The first one is located close to the bridge. Having the nearby castle *Anadolu Hisari* as a real tourist

attraction, most people forget about *Kücüksu*. In this tiny fishermen's village you will find Elektra's Baku residence. At least, the exterior... For the outside of Elektra's magnificent house in Baku, the second unit crew filmed at **Kücüksu Kasrı**, a villa built in the mid 19th century. The entrance fee is, once again, 3 US\$, and this gives you admittance not only to the inside of the building, but also to its garden, from where you have a beautiful view of the Bosphorus and the second Bosphorus Bridge. On the opposite side of the Bosphorus, you can see *Rumeli Hisari*, the 'European' counterpart of the castle on the Asian side. Kücüksu Kasrı is a Bond location you should not miss!

Driving southwards along the coast, you will pass the first Bosphorus Bridge, which was completed in 1973, ending up in the *Üsküdar* district. Close to the ferry boat harbour, a bit more to the south, is a boulevard which offers a magnificent view of Istanbul's European side. Especially around 17:00, with the sun setting behind Sultanahmet, a marvellous natural light show unfolds before your eyes. The silhouettes of the many mosques and minarets are simply enchanting...



By now, you must have noticed a small lighthouse on a tiny little island in the Bosphorus. This is **Kız Kulezi, or Maiden Tower, or Leander Tower**. The Turkish name for this tower comes from an old legend about a Turkish ruler who is being predicted that his beautiful daughter will be bit by a poisonous snake. To save her from this threat, he hides her on the island in the tower. Unfortunately, the snake hid in a fruit basket, and smuggled itself onto the island, where it bit the girl, who instantly died.

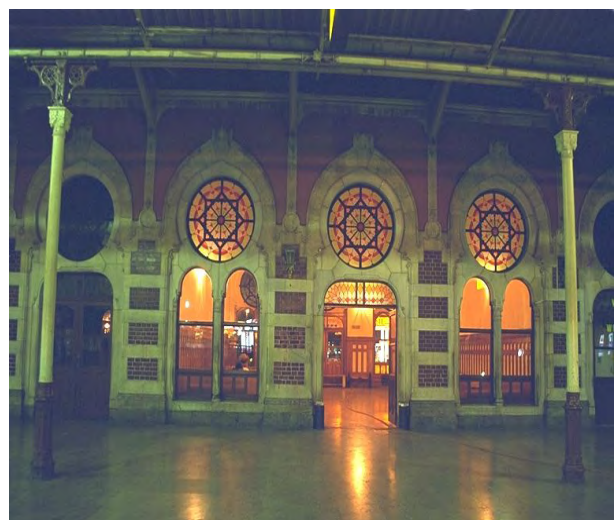
The 18th century tower, which was in fact also visible in the boat trip scene in **From Russia With Love** (look carefully, it's in the background), featured prominently in **The World Is Not Enough**, where it was Renard's Istanbul hideout. In this tower, Elektra and Renard kept 'M' hostage until Bond arrived to save her. Like with Kücüksu Kasrı, only second unit shots were filmed here. None of the actors were in Istanbul, because of serious terrorist

threats. The scene with Bond diving from the top of the tower, actually featured 4 different 'actors' portraying 007. Pierce Brosnan's close-ups were filmed in England and added later to the material.

At *Üsküdar* you will also find a ferry station. From here you can be brought back to the European side. Eminönü Iskelesi (station), *Bogaç* Iskelesi and *Sirkeçi* all bring you close to Galata bridge. From here it's a small walk eastwards to the **Sirkeçi train station**.



Built in 1888, Sirkeçi used to be the end station of the famous Orient Express, a first-class train that ran between Paris and Istanbul in the last years of the 19th and the first half of the 20th century. When first inaugurated in 1883 the train ran from Paris via Strasbourg, Munich, Vienna, Budapest, and Bucharest to the Black Sea, with steamer service on to Istanbul. By 1889 the entire journey was by rail. For many years the service on the Orient Express was so luxurious that it was known as the 'king of trains and the train of kings'. The Orient Express has been the subject or background of much fiction, Agatha Christie's *Murder On The Orient Express* being the most famous. Small scenes for this movie (1974), co-starring Sean Connery, were in fact filmed at the Sirkeçi Station. The station restaurant walls are filled with photographs from this classic.



In order to film at the station, production manager Bill Hill had to work closely together with Turkish Unions. This proved to be a disaster. Specially assigned Turkish crew members did not exactly live up to Hill's expectations and even the placement of lights and cameras usually took up to 6 hours. Filming the arrival of the train in 'Zagreb' was hampered by the fact that the Turkish train driver was unable to stop the train at the precise point Terence Young had marked for him. He repeatedly hit his brakes so hard it caused breaking the cables of on-board generators, resulting in a total power break-down.

The front of the station has been modernized completely. When escaping the consulate with the Lektor decoder, Bond, Tania and Kerim climb up from the cistern to appear on the Istanbul streets, right in front of the Sirkeçi Station. Only a few details of the building are still recognizable: a dome-like structure on top and a round window left of the entrance. Windows like that are actually all over the station. The stained glass bears the symbol of the Orient Express. Since the streets in front of the station have also undergone major changes, you shouldn't waist too much time on the square and immediately enter the station.



Once inside, go to the platform on your left (**platform 1**). Because this platform is kept as close to the original Orient Express platform as possible, you will recognize this area instantly. It is still almost like it was in 1963. From the entrance, Bond, Tania and Kerim came running for the train, waiting at the platform. In front of the before mentioned restaurant area, fenced booths used to be present, from where Russian security agent Benz noticed Tania entering the train. Unfortunately these booths have been removed. For filming the train's next two stops, at Zagreb and Beograd (Belgrade), the film crew simply stayed at Sirkeçi. The train entering Beograd was in fact filmed at **platform 2**, on the opposite side, while Bond's talk with Kerim's son took place in front of the restaurant, back at platform 1. Grant's meeting with the real Captain Nash, nicely played by production manager Bill Hill,

also took place here. When Grant takes Nash to the toilets, this time it's located behind the entrance doors of the restaurant.



When you have the time, it might be an idea to have a ride with a train towards the Turkish / Greek border. Travelling by train is not very expensive in Turkey and it's a beautiful journey through the same scenery that was used as a background for all the train sequences. And even if you don't have the time for this, you can really have some nice moments at Sirkeçi, enjoying the atmosphere surrounding this notorious and famous train station.

A frequent visitor to the Istanbul film set was Ian Fleming himself. Finally used to the fact that Connery portrayed his literary invention (Fleming even started to show enthusiasm...) he is on many photographs taken during the filming of the train sequences, wearing dark blue pants and a white shirt. This same outfit is worn by somebody during the scene in which the train is supposed to stop at the Greek border. While Kerim's son is waiting, the train drives on. Then we see a man, wearing Fleming's outfit, standing with his back to the passing train (?). Since he's in the middle of nowhere, and not one of Kerim's friends (he doesn't leave with Kerim's son), you wonder what he's doing there... Many people still believe this is a cameo appearance by Fleming.

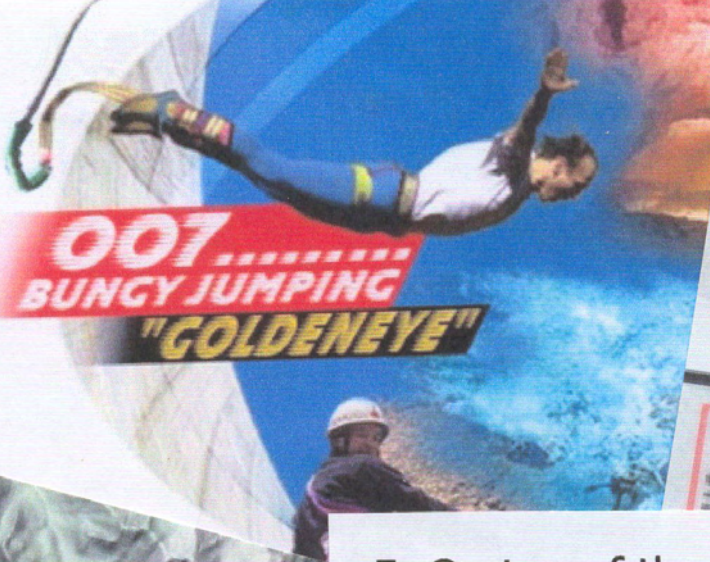
Leaving the train station, you should also not forget to visit *non-Bond* musts, like *Topkapi Sarayı*. This 'Palace of the Sultans' is Istanbul's ultimate tourist attraction. Built for Mehmet II, Topkapi Palace is a cluster of buildings, gates and gardens with some very impressing views over the city. Here, for centuries the Sultans lived, until Abdülmecit decided to spend the rest of his life at the before mentioned Dolmabahce Palace, on the western banks of the Bosphorus. Since then, the Palace has been restored and turned into one of Istanbul's most interesting sights, also because of the very impressive collection of jewellery, located inside the heavily guarded Palace Treasury. The walk through the huge entrance gate of the Topkapi Palace brings you back to the



Sultanahmet area, where we started our Istanbul tour. This location trip not only brought you all the beauty and splendour of the city, which is almost impossible to cover in one trip, but also brought you from past to present and from Europe to Asia. Since Istanbul is a busy city, you should not forget to relax and enjoy some time in one of the city's many parks, or quietly stroll through the many small streets. We are convinced the city will leave a great impression on you and not only because of the many Bond filming locations available.

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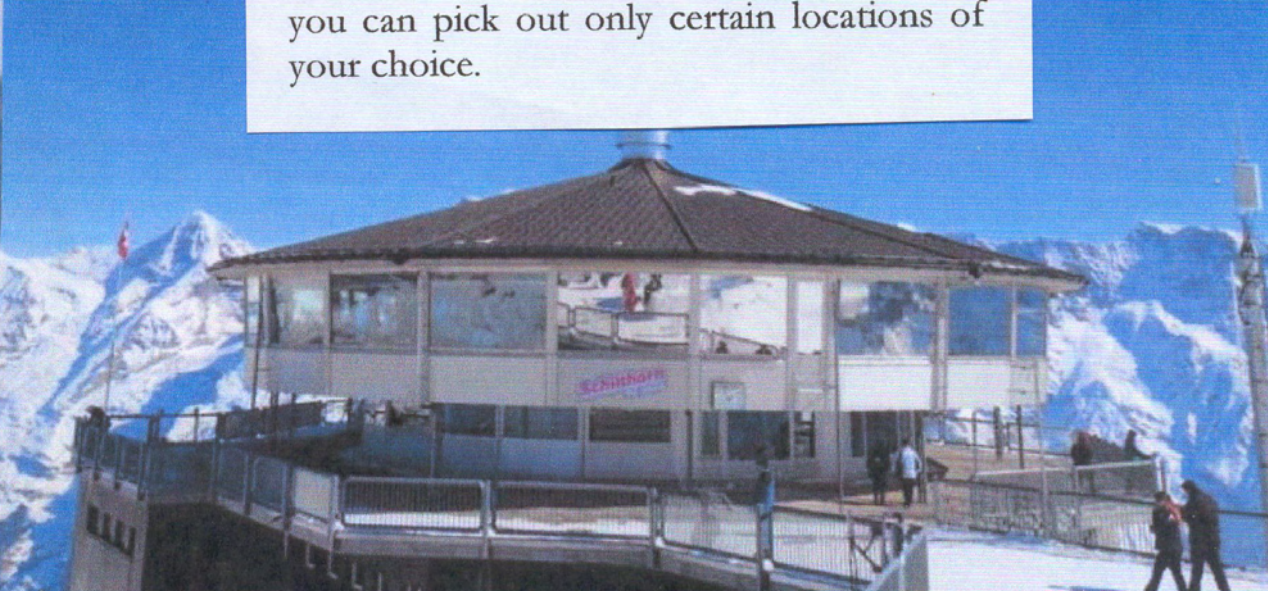
5 On top of the Alps

The Alps, Europe's highest mountain range, are shared by France, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Austria and Slovenia. They were shaped by glaciers 2,5 million years ago and stretch in a bow of 650 miles (1200 km) from the Gulf of Genoa in northern Italy to the Danube near Vienna in eastern Austria. They have a lot of peaks of more than 10,000 feet (3000 m). With an altitude of 15,771 feet (4807 m) the *Montblanc* at the border between France and Italy is the highest mountain of Europe.



This region with a total area of 70,000 square miles (240,000 km²) has, apart from the environs of London, the highest density of Bond locations in the world. Parts of the films *Goldfinger*, *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*, *For Your Eyes Only*, *GoldenEye* and *The World Is Not Enough* were filmed here.

The following route is only a suggestion, it can of course also be done vice versa or you can pick out only certain locations of your choice.



Italy: Cortina d'Ampezzo

The Dolomites in northern Italy are part of the southern Chalk-Alps. Tourism is the main trade of the inhabitants of this beautiful Alpine landscape. Its best known winter sports resort is **Cortina d'Ampezzo**. Located some 40 miles (75 km) west of *Bolzano* at an altitude of 4016 feet (1224 m), it is also a summer destination for hikers and climbers. Under its original name *Ampezzo* the village was first mentioned in 1156. Till 1511 it belonged to the Venetian Republic, then it came under Austrian rule (1511 - 1915). During the heavy fighting between Austrians and Italians in the First World War the front line was very close to Cortina. It became Italian after the defeat of Austria and Germany. As early as 1860 English and Austrian mountain enthusiasts had sparked off tourism in the region. In 1911 Cortina had already 70,000 overnight stays. This development was only interrupted by the two World Wars. Cortina d'Ampezzo with its 8000 inhabitants became world famous when it hosted the Winter Olympics in 1956. Today it boasts 54 lifts spanning the slopes of the *Ampezzo* bowl, 80 miles (150 km) of ski runs which are suitable for all grades and 75 miles (140 km) of cross-country trails and loops. For visitors who come in summer there are more than 160 miles (300 km) of footpaths, which are all marked and in excellent condition. Bond came here to search for a top secret submarine attack-communicator (ATAC) in **For Your Eyes Only** (FYEO) in 1981.



His accommodation in Cortina is the **Miramonti Majestic Grand Hotel** at the eastern entrance of the town. Situated in the beautiful Dolomites Park, this elegant hotel is not just a skier's paradise. In summer the guest can use, among other things, two tennis courts and a 6 hole golf course. The number 300 of Bond's room, where he has to resist Bibi's amorous attacks, doesn't really exist. The **balcony** upon which he steps after his arrival belongs to **room no. 108**. From the terrace of the hotel you have a marvellous view over the whole *Ampezzo* valley with the impressive *Cristallo* massif in the background. Only a couple of 100 yards to the west,

a potholed dirt road leads to the **Trampolino Olimpico (Olympic Ski-Jump)**, where Bond proves that there is yet another English ski jumper, apart from 'Eddie the Eagle'.



Bond meets his Italian contact Luigi Ferrara on the **observation terrace of Mount Tofana**. This mountain was conquered for the first time in 1863. Today a cable car with the poetic name *Freccia nel Cielo* ('sky arrow') carries you to the top of the 10,640-foot-high (3243m) *Tofana di Mezzo* (middle Tofana). While running the whole winter, in the summer it only operates from mid-July till the end of August. The fare is about 25 Euro. Standing on the platform a spectacular Alpine panorama lies at your feet. Only some steps from the base station of the cable car lies the **Stadio Olimpico del Ghiaccio (Olympic Ice Stadium)**.



When there are no special events you can access it for a fee of half a Euro. 007 meets with Kristatos and admires Bibi's figure skating skills in the little **open-air bar** on the left side of the ice rink. Unfortunately the booth (like the whole installation) is a bit ramshackle. Although you have the impression that Bond's fight with the hostile ice hockey players later in the film is an indoor event, it takes place in this very open-air stadium. After this confrontation he returns to his car, which is parked **in the rear of the stadium**, only to find his colleague murdered.



When the motor cycle attack on Bond and Melina was filmed in the winter of 1981 at **Piazza Venezia** in the town centre of Cortina no snow had fallen for several weeks. To give the impression of a proper winter sports resort 25 large truckloads of virgin snow from the outlying districts were moved in and spread around in the streets. The motorcyclists start their assault from the 18th-century parish church, when Melina leaves the sports outfitters where she has bought a new crossbow. This **sportswear shop at Corso Italia** still exists. The **photo-shop FOTO ZARDINI OTTICA** (visible in the background) is now a fashion store and also the flower shop is gone, in its place is now the *Cassa Rurale et Artigiana* (Rural And Artisan Bank). Bond and Melina leave in a two-horse open sleigh from **Piazza Roma**. The snow sculptures in the background of this sequence were made for Cortina's annual Snow Sculpting Contest.



From Cortina d'Ampezzo, the 'Queen of the Dolomites', it is a ride of about 200 miles (370 km) to Locarno in Switzerland. You have the choice between several routes. Most of them are scenic country roads - so take your time, it's really worth it.

Switzerland: Locarno

The Ticino is the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland. It reaches from the heart of the Alps down to the southern tip, which is 27 miles (50 km) north of Milan, Italy. The main touristy areas are the cities around the Ticino lakes. Locarno at the northern end of Lake Maggiore is especially

beautiful. 2300 hours of sunshine annually and temperatures that hardly sink below freezing-point create an almost Mediterranean climate and flair. In 1925 the city was in the focus of world interest, when England, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Poland and Czechoslovakia signed an international security treaty there, which led to Germany's entry into the 'League of Nations'. In the *Castello Visconteo* there is an exhibition recording the 'Locarno Peace Treaty'. Locarno is also known for its annual International Film Festival at the beginning of August.

The landscape surrounding Locarno offers such a diversity that it even doubled for North-Russia in **GoldenEye** in 1995. The **high-dam of the storage lake in the Verzasca Valley**, east of Locarno, was the filming location for the bungy-jump in the teaser of Pierce Brosnan's first Bond movie. Although only second-unit-shots were taken there, the place is really worth a visit. Following the signs *Valle Verzasca* a winding road, bristling with hairpin bends, leads you to this marvel of engineering and you will find that it is indeed as impressive as it looks in the film. The dam is 722 feet (220m) high. At its base it is 82 feet (25m) and at its top 23 feet (7m) thick. Construction started in spring 1961 and was completed in fall 1965.

The special thing about this Bond location is that you can not only visit it, but you can also get into action yourself and step into 007's shoes there. 'Trekking Team', a Swiss organizer of outdoor sports and adventure events, offers the possibility to perform the **007-Bungy-Jump** to everybody. The only precondition is that you are in good health (and that you have the guts to do it). A lavishly built permanent jumping facility was inaugurated in 1996. With a jumping altitude of 722 feet (220m) and a time of 7,5 seconds to the lowest point it holds the world record for a bungee jump from the ground. The season lasts from April to October. The price for the jump is 170 Euro (2008), including training, a drink and a diploma. For an additional fee you can get a personal video. Reservations have to be made.

The whole procedure with training, preparation, etc. will last about an hour and it is not only a unique sensation for the jumper himself, it is also for the spectators on the dam a superlative experience to witness these madmen dive into the abyss.

From Locarno we drive north along the highway 2 / E35. After 40 miles (76 km) near Airolo we have to decide whether to take the 9-mile-long (17 km) St Gotthard tunnel or the scenic route, the St Gotthard Pass. We take of course the latter one, because it is definitely more rewarding and it gives us the opportunity to visit another Bond location.



Switzerland: Furka Pass

The St Gotthard Pass road meanders up to an altitude of 6920 feet (2109m). Near the top a gift shop is located, from where you have a marvellous view over the Alpine landscape beneath you. Descending the St Gotthard to the north you reach Hospental after a while. Here you turn left into the **Furka Pass**. The **road between Hospental and Realp**, with the railroad tracks on the left-hand side, will immediately look familiar to us Bond fans. It is the place where Bond 'ditched' Tilly Masterson by shredding the tires of her car in **Goldfinger** in 1964.



The picturesque small village **Realp**, with the mountains in the background that we approach next,

is also visible in the film. Behind **Realp** the road becomes pretty narrow and steep. In a series of serpentines it ascends the mountainside. Most of the time there are not even crash barriers, only a line of concrete or wooden poles are installed to protect you from driving off the road into the deep. So you have to drive very carefully.



About 3 miles (5km) after **Realp** you have to look for a **boulder with the red inscription 'Kil 47'** on the left-hand side of the road. A couple of yards further down the road is a small parking space also on the left. Be very cautious when leaving the car there and walking along the busy, narrow road. Looking down into the valley you see a **sharp hairpin bend directly above a torrent**. At that spot the Rolls



Royce is parked when Oddjob and Goldfinger take a break and buy some fruit from a street-vendor. You are on the very location where Bond stands observing Tilly Masterson's assassination attempt upon Goldfinger. Following the *Furka* Pass you will see some other spots that are passed by Goldfinger's Rolls and Bond's Aston Martin during their ride through the Swiss mountains, like for example the *Furka Hospiz*.

Since our next port of call is *Lauterbrunnen* south of *Interlaken* we now have the alternative either to drive further ahead via the *Grimsel* Pass or take the longer, but more comfortable route and return to the highway 2 / E35, which leads us along the *Vierwaldstatter See* (Lake Lucerne) to *Stans*. Between *Stans* en *Buochs*, opposite the exit to Engelberg, you cannot miss the **Pilatus Aircraft Factory**, which was the setting for the exterior of Goldfinger's Swiss subsidiary 'AURIC ENTERPRISES'.

On the way to *Lauterbrunnen*, the town of *Meiringen* is also worth a little detour. At the nearby *Reichenbach Falls* writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle let his fictional, world-famous detective Sherlock Holmes fall to his death in a fatal fight with the murderous Professor Moriarty. A bronze plaque at the bottom of the chasm commemorates this desperate struggle. In *Meiringen* you can visit a Sherlock Holmes Museum.

Switzerland: Lauterbrunnen

The area around *Lauterbrunnen* and *Mürren* south of *Interlaken* in the *Bernse Oberland* was the principal location for the filming of **On Her Majesty's Secret Service (OHMSS)** in 1969. In Ian Fleming's novel of the same name Blofeld's lair was described as a fortress situated atop a Swiss mountain accessible only by helicopter and cable car. Since there was not such an abundance of places like that, the filmmakers were jubilant when they came across a half completed restaurant at the peak of the *Schilthorn* Mountain, which towered above the little hamlet of *Mürren*. In return for furnishing the interior and constructing a helicopter landing pad

EON Productions got the filming permission. Many locales in the vicinity of the *Schilthorn* were utilized in the movie. Considering the fact that *Mürren* is not accessible by car, the nearby *Lauterbrunnen* would be an appropriate base camp to explore the region.



Posing as Sir Hilary Bray, a heraldry specialist at the London College of Arms, Bond arrives at the **train station of Lauterbrunnen**. The platform looks pretty much as it does in the film, only an ugly steel construction, carrying the glass roof, spoils a bit the image in our memory. Blofeld's secretary *Fraulein Irma Bunt* fetches Bond from the station and accompanies him on a chopper flight through the spectacular Alpine scenery to her boss' HQ **Piz Gloria atop Schilthorn mountain**. The normal tourist has to take the cable car from *Stechelberg* to get there. A ride departs every half hour and costs about 60 Euro per person. There are special offers for early birds (7.25h - 8.55h) and 'late birds' (15.25h - 16.25h), which are 25 percent cheaper. Although the weather conditions change quite rapidly, the best sunlight for taking pictures is in the afternoon.



Comfortable panoramic cabins take you via four sections to the mountain top restaurant which still has its film name 'Piz Gloria'. You will notice that *Schilthorn* Cableway's trademark, which is painted upon every piece of equipment, like cabins, maintenance cars, etc., includes a silhouette of George Lazenby striking the Bond- pose and the 007 logo. Via *Grimmelwald* it goes to *Mürren*, a friendly, car-free summer and winter holiday resort.

Situated 5360 feet (1634m) above sea level it is a typical example of a picturesque Swiss village embedded in a magnificent mountain range. Unfortunately the bobsled track that was featured in **OHMSS**, is no more recognizable. The next station is **Birg**. Here there is only a restaurant with a huge open-air terrace. Instead of blue, as in the film, the buildings are now painted in different shades of orange. At the place where the cable car departs for the last stage of the ride Blofeld's bodyguard Grunther 'explains' to Bond's assistant Campbell very rudely: "From here up it's forbidden - private - closed!"



The 360° Panorama-Revolving-Restaurant Piz Gloria, lying on an elevation of 9748 feet (2971m) is an *El Dorado* for us Bond fans. You really don't know where to go first. So, to get attuned properly, let's start with the 'Touristorama'. At the pillar in the centre of this cinema-like room two buttons are installed. With one you can switch on a multivision slide show (17 projectors) presenting a spectacular Alpine panorama. If you press the button with the inscription '007' a movie show with the most thrilling excerpts of **OHMSS** starts. Seeing 007 and Blofeld chasing around and hearing John Barry's splendid Bond-theme puts us into the right mood to continue our exploration of Piz Gloria.

Above the escalator to the next floor we discover another trace of **OHMSS**: **Blofeld's elaborate coat of arms (ARAE ET FOCI)** is painted on the wall. In the *James Bond Bar* on this floor an imaginative

range of snacks for smaller appetites is available. The walls of the room are decorated with a coloured painting of an action-scene and three black-and-white murals of Bond, Tracy and Blofeld.

In the adjacent gift shop Bond souvenirs like T-shirts, mugs, postcards etc. are on sale. On the same level as the *James-Bond-Bar* lies the **sun terrace**, which we of course know better as the **heliport**, where Bond, posing as Sir Hilary, and the girls spent their spare time curling. Since the filming some modifications have been made. Instead of quadrangular it is now nearly round and the lateral stairs, which led to the basement, are gone. Here we are amid grandiose, mountain scenery. The famous peaks of *Eiger*, *Monch* (monk) and *Jungfrau* (virgin), which are almost always thought of as a trio, lay directly *vis-à-vis*.

The most appropriate way to admire this majestic, Alpine wonderland is to enjoy it while having a meal in the solar-powered **Revolving Restaurant Piz Gloria**. Ascending the stairs along the gilded grating like Bond, you enter the restaurant on the top floor of the building. The ring of tables along the windows takes an hour to do one complete revolution. Among others a 'James-Bond breakfast' and 'Spaghetti James Bond' are on offer. The menus and paper napkins with 007-logos make very nice free souvenirs.

Relishing a tasty dinner (for a reasonable price), while the marvellous landscape passes by, is a really unique experience. And although there has always been some controversy within the Bond community about how to evaluate **OHMSS**, about its principal location, Piz Gloria atop *Schilthorn* mountain, there cannot be any argument. It is without any doubt one of the most outstanding locales in the whole world.



Returning from Piz Gloria you leave the cable car at the base station at **Stechelberg**, where *Fraulein Irma Bunt* bids farewell to the girls, when they have left Blofeld's lair. From here it's not far to the Trummelbach Falls. There are 10 waterfalls inside the mountain, which drain the mighty glacier defiles of *Eiger*, *Monch* and *Jungfrau*. They are illuminated and accessible by tunnel-lift. Going back to **Lauterbrunnen** you are on the same route as Bond and Tracy in their red Ford Cougar after they escaped their pursuers from the Christmas Festival. At the southern entrance of the village they pass the **little church** which was built in 1822.



A bit further down the street into the centre of *Lauterbrunnen* you will find an elevated **parking lot between the *Kloppelstube* and the Hotel *Jungfrau***. Here the telephone booth was installed, where Bond tries to 'contact London'. When he comes under machine-gun fire from his assailants he escapes and is picked up by Tracy in her car **in front of the Hotel *Jungfrau***. After that we lose track of Bond and Tracy in the countryside around *Lauterbrunnen*. So we also leave that lovely Swiss hamlet and head for the last destination of our journey.



Switzerland: Bern

Bern, situated on the Aare River, was founded in 1191 by Duke *Berchtold V of Zahringen*, in 1353 it joined the Swiss Confederation and in 1848 it was elected federal capital of Switzerland. At present day it has 130.000 inhabitants. Since its emblem is the bear, it is an appropriate way in **OHMSS** to introduce the city to us by showing the ***Baerengraben (Bear Pits)***. Here, live bears, small and large, can be seen rolling and playing about. Draco's Rolls Royce passes this Bernese attraction at the eastern entrance of the old town before crossing the Aare via the ***Nydegg-Bridge***. The main features of Bern's 'mall' (consisting of *Gerechtigkeitsgasse*, *Kramgasse*, *Marktgasse* and *Spitalgasse*) are the beautiful fountains and its 12th-century arcades. They are briefly visible in the film when Draco's Rolls passes them.

At the western end of the *Spitalgasse* you turn into *Bahnhofplatz* (Station Square) on the right and reach the city's leading hotel, the **GAUER HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF BERN**. In **OHMSS** it serves as the office building of Blofeld's Swiss lawyer Gumbold.

The Schweizerhof boasts the title *Gourmet Hotel* and that is truly justified, because you have the choice between several excellent restaurants, like e. g. the *Schultheissen-Stube* and the *Simmertalerstube* with traditional delicatessen or *Jack's Brasserie* (French) and the *YAMAT* (Japanese) for the discerning gourmet. In the summer of 1999 the hotel celebrated its 140th anniversary. Since the shooting of **OHMSS** in 1969 extensive refurbishing has been undertaken. So you need a lot of imagination to recognize the **reception hall** as the place where Bond enters the elevator to get to Gumbold's office. As a clue you can take the flight of stairs that leads through an archway to the next floor. It still lies directly left to the elevator.

The former concierge Louis Achermann, who used to be in charge of the reception for more than 43 years, is a pleasant guy to talk to, especially for us Bond-travellers. From his recollection he tells you some nice anecdotes from the **OHMSS**-shooting, for example how he met the amiable Diana Rigg and how the film-makers had trouble creating the artificial rain on the streets. Also his successor Andreas Suter, who is currently on duty, is a very nice and helpful chap. If you ask him (and if the rooms are not occupied) he might let you up onto the **balcony on the fourth floor**.



Here Bond receives the safe-cracking device from his aide Campbell by means of a crane from the nearby building site. From the balcony you have a view upon the main station, which was built at the end of sixties, while **OHMSS** was filmed. Next to it is the *Heiliggeistkirche* (**Church of the Holy Spirit**), built from 1726 till 1729, whose clock also played a small but important role in the Hitchcockian scene.

After enjoying the Swiss hospitality of the Schweizerhof Hotel and its friendly staff we conclude our tour through the Alps. We have not only seen a huge variety of different landscapes, but the Bond fan in us has been rewarded with an abundance of memorable locations.



Realp, both from the ground and from Furka Pass



Top 10 hard-to-find Bond locations

10. AVUS highway, Berlin

The images in *Octopussy* from the German car chase were very difficult to recognise, even frame-by-frame.

9. Nene Valley train tunnel, UK

Even literally on the tracks of Nene Valley it proved hard to figure out where exactly the *Octopussy* train tunnel fight had taken place.

8. The Palazzo Pisani, Venice, Italy

A call sheet for *Casino Royale* brought us here and only then we realised it had been in *Moonraker* as well, as the place where the fight between 007 and Chang starts.

7. Goldfinger Avenue offices, Pinewood

A walk through Pinewood's maze of streets and offices revealed this tiny location from *Goldfinger*, wherein Bond is spying on Goldfinger at Auric's Swiss factory.

6. Nachi-no-taki, Japan

The site of James Bond's first wedding, in *You Only Live Twice* is far away from the tourist routes and surely is a real challenge to reach!

5. Harlem Lane, Louisiana, USA

Far away from New Orleans, this remote location can be seen in *Live And Let Die*. Here Bond jumped his motorboat over sheriff J.W. Pepper.

4. Palacio de Marqueses Fronteiras, Lisbon

The park where Bond and Tracy finally fall in love in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. Located in the heart of Lisbon, it took a group effort to be found.

3. Russian Consulate, Istanbul

Tania worked here as a cipher clerk, in *From Russia With Love*. It took about seven taxi drivers to get us to this location. Fortunately the last one got it right.

2. Herdade do Zambujal, Portugal

Years of searching finally led us to the estate where Draco lived in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. Here Bond got married to Tracy. We were the first 007 related visitors they ever welcomed, so the owners explained.

1. Astro Spiral Jump Location, Thailand

Still haven't found the exact spot from *The Man With The Golden Gun*. The Bangkok klongs all look alike and the areas around them changed a lot!



6 1964-1999: 35 Years of 007 and RAF Northolt

Just outside London, along the A40, you can find a very large piece of Bond history. For 35 years, EON Productions uses this facility for its productions, for many reasons: Its close distance to Pinewood, the good infra structure, its wide open space and most importantly, its high level of security. The name of this area? RAF Northolt in Ruislip. Being the oldest working RAF base and once London's main airfield, Northolt is nowadays again in use for commercial flights.

The connection with 007 started back in 1964 with the film **Goldfinger** and a year later the base reappeared, playing a very small part in **Thunderball**. More important scenes were filmed here for 1983's **Octopussy** and in 1999 James Bond revisited the area for **The World Is Not Enough**. What would be left of these locations, we wondered.. Our question was answered quickly when we drove up the base, passing the entrance gate and **visitor reception**. This very recognizable building was seen in **Thunderball** and still looks a lot like it did in the 60's. At this building, SPECTRE agent Angelo has to show his ID when he is about to steal the Vulcan bomber.



After making the necessary appointments in the months before, we were now finally on our way to meet Squadron Leader R.J. Livingston, a very gentle man in his late 50's. We received temporary access passes and settled ourselves in Mr. Livingston's car, ready to take a leap through time.

We started on the far north of the base, at a location called '**Crash Gate 1**', a road and gate to allow emergency services to access the base whenever necessary. It was at this remote road that EON settled and filmed some small scenes for **The World Is Not Enough**. It was in this area where 007 went undercover after killing Elektra's security agent Davidoff. He's mistaken for the latter and jumps on board the Antonov plane, taking off to the nuclear facility.



The only structure not present anymore, was the old control tower that used to be on the south side. It was seen in **Goldfinger** when Leiter watches the radar images of Bond's plane crash inside this tower. Unfortunately the tower has been replaced by a modern version, located in another area.



Driving a few hundred meters back, we end up in front of the most important location at Northolt. Known as '**Hangar 311**', a green structure still stands at the base as one of the largest available. This hangar has been used in two Bond films. We first saw a glimpse of it in 1964 in the film **Goldfinger**. When we see Pussy Galore's pilots fly their planes, land them and come running towards their superior, it all happens in front of the hangar. The banner "Pussy Galore's Flying Circus" was attached to the front. Some years later, in 1983, the EON crew returned to this area.

In the exciting pre-title sequence of the film **Octopussy**, we see Bond arriving in his Landrover at some base in a South American country. This arrival was filmed on the piece of land between Hangar 311 and the earlier mentioned Crash Gate 1. The land was given a 'banana republic' treatment, including many palm trees. Apparently, since the filming took place during the early 80's conflict between the UK and Argentina, locals thought the base was given this treatment to make the Argentinean POW's feel at home...

Bond finds his way into the hangar, posing as Colonel Toro, places a bomb and gets caught by the real Toro, quipping "What a small world, you're a Toro too!" This action all took place inside Hangar 311. Later on, when Bond has escaped using his fabulous Acrostar Jet, we see him flying through the hangar, leaving the pursuing rocket blowing up the structure. Looking quite spectacular on screen, this scene proved to be rather difficult to film. The pilot told the crew he could easily really fly through the hangar on his side, but because the plane flew so fast, this would only take less than a second.



Since the scene was supposed to take longer, the decision was made to mount the plane on its side on top of a car. By driving it through the hangar, the footage proved to be long enough to be used.

Part of the deal with Northolt, was the offer to totally refurbish the hangar and repaint it. Blowing it up was not part of it, so the film crew had to use a very old technique they had mastered and used previously on the chopper-through-the-factory scenes in **For Your Eyes Only**: foreground miniatures. You can watch the scene a thousand times, but you will never believe the Acrostar did NOT fly into the real hangar. You simply see it fly into the vacuum between a foreground miniature and the real hangar. Later on, we see the miniature blow up into a million tiny pieces. That's movie magic!



Moving away from the hangar, we come across another familiar building, **Hangar 5**. This hangar was made famous by appearing in **Goldfinger**. In the end of the film, Bond is invited to come to meet the US president at the White House. He gets on board the presidential plane and takes off, only to discover Goldfinger is his pilot. The actual pilots lie inside the hangar, presenting us with a notorious **Goldfinger** blooper: First we see them lying with their clothes on, later they are stripped to their underwear (a scene removed from recent DVD editions). All this was filmed at Hangar 5 and this structure too hasn't changed at all.

Mr. Livingston dropped us off at the entrance where we returned our visitor passes and when we boarded our car, we had the feeling we had gone through time and back. According to reliable sources, some of the buildings will be demolished in the near future, and to our great disappointment, the famous entrance structure being one of them...

RAF Northolt is a convenient location for film makers and we were just very glad to be in time to witness all these remains of Bond's history.

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7 Look Up, Look Down, Look Out

Apart from Jamaica, the Bahamas are James Bond's favourite travel destination. The fourth Bond-flick **Thunderball** was shot here in 1965 as was its 'unofficial' Kevin McClory remake **Never Say Never Again (NSNA)** in 1983.

In 2006 Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson brought 007 back to the Bahamas to film part of the much acclaimed debut of Daniel Craig, **Casino Royale** on New Providence. In this movie, much like in **Thunderball** 40 years earlier, the romantic lure of the Bahamas is used as a running character throughout the whole film.



04 PASSENGER TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK
SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

ISSUED BY **Bahamasair**

NAME OF PASSENGER (NOT TRANSFERABLE)
MULDER/MARTIN

ISS. AGT. ID. **NAS 2TD**

FROM **NASSAU** TO **ARTHURS TOWN**

CARRIER/FLIGHT **UP 306** CLASS **V**

****NOT VALID FOR**** REVALIDATION ****RETAIN****

****TRANSPORTATION**** THROUGHOUT

ENDORSEMENTS/RESTRICTIONS

ORIGINAL ISSUE

FARE CALCULATION
NAS UP 161 98.00 73.00V1 -ATC UP NAS 98.00 73.00V1

FARE **162.00**

EQUIV. FARE PAID **162.00**

FORM OF PAYMENT **1KXXXXXXXXXXXX5085*9RVW33 0906**

ISSUED IN EXCHANGE FOR

NAME OF PASSENGER
MULDER/MARTIN

FROM **NASSAU** TO **ARTHURS TOWN**

UP 304 V 28FEB Y1

THE BIGHT

CARRIER/FLIGHT **UP 306** CLASS **V** BOARD TIME **08AM** SEAT **11** SMOKE

NASSAU

ADDITIONAL SEAT INFORMATION

PCS CK WT UNCK WT SEQ NO PCS CK WT UNCK WT

PACKAGE ID NR

U.S.A. BY MAGNETIC TICKET & LABEL CORP., DALLAS, TX (9-00)

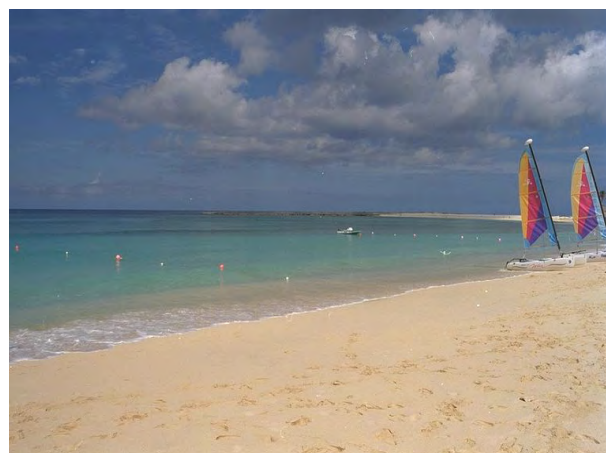
About 700 islands, of which only some 40 are inhabited, form the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. They stretch over a range of 650 miles (1200 km) from the east coast of Florida in a south-easterly direction right up to the Caribbean. Though one of the smallest islands, New Providence, with the capital Nassau, is the political, economic and touristy centre of the country. 65 per cent of the Bahamian population lives here. Because of the pleasant subtropical climate and the excellent beaches the Bahamas became a popular full-year vacation destination. Tourism produces more than 50 per cent of the national income. The second reason why the Bahamians enjoy the highest standard of living of the entire Caribbean is because of banking. The political and economic stability and very liberal tax laws attract investors from all over the world to this tax haven.

On 12 October 1492 Christopher Columbus set foot upon the soil of the New World in the Bahamas. He claimed the island for the Spanish king and called it San Salvador. Some historians nowadays believe that the location of the recovery of America was the Bahama-island of Samana Cay. The first British settlers arrived in 1648 in Eleuthera and New Providence. For the next 300 years the Bahamas remained a British colony. In the 17th century the islands were the hunting grounds of pirates and buccaneers. Blackbeard was the most notorious one of them. The novels of Daniel Defoe made the myth of the pirates of the Caribbean immortal. On 10 July 1973 the Bahamas gained independence. Officially, however, the Queen of England is still head of state. She is represented by a Governor General in Nassau.

Although **Thunderball** was filmed more than four decades ago, you will still find lots of people in the Bahamas today - taxi-drivers, hotel clerks, self-appointed tourist guides, etc. - who can point out where particular scenes were shot, who will show you the house where the production office was located or who tell you proudly that they have actually met Sean Connery in person (he has a house at Lyford Cay) and what a fine and likable fellow he is. It somehow seems that the release of **Thunderball** back in 1965 put the Bahamas on the map of touristy travel destinations.

At that time **Paradise Island**, which lies about 500 yards north of Nassau, was a very tranquil place. It was owned by millionaire Huntington Hartford, who is mentioned in the film's end credits. He abolished the former name 'Hog Island', because he thought it a horrible name for a holiday destination. (Agreed!) You could only get there by boat. Nowadays it is connected to Nassau by two elegantly arched one-way-bridges. Since the mid-Sixties Paradise Island

has changed enormously. Especially the building of the Atlantis Hotel in the course of the Nineties transformed the island from a serene holidaymaker's spot for insiders into a world class mega-resort. Apart from being a hotel the Atlantis is sort of an aquatic theme park with pools, marinas, open-air bars and a variety of facilities to satisfy the vacationer every wish. You might ask yourself, though, if this huge, castle-like complex doesn't blow the dimensions of that little island a bit out of proportion. And, we have to admit it - it destroyed some lovely Bond-locations for good.



Sun-drenched tropical beaches and crystal clear waters washing ashore are the striking features of the north coast of Paradise Island. Here Bond meets 1965's Domino for the first time. He chats her up by pretending to have problems with the engine of his boat. Domino helps him out with her boat and they get ashore at **Paradise Beach** just in front of what is now CLUB MED. Walking in an easterly direction you approach the Atlantis Hotel and Paradise Lagoon. The picturesque **little stone bridge** that formerly spanned the mouth of the lagoon and that was visible in **Thunderball** fell victim to the complete remodelling of the once secluded area and was replaced by a concrete bridge. Fortunately, we were able to photograph it during a visit some years ago.





The **breakwater** that stretches northward into the sea did survive the first reconstruction. At this place Bond emerges from the water after Domino has told him about Largo's lair. The quay where he sneaks among Largo's divers has also vanished. The breakwater will also be consumed by Atlantis' unstoppable expansion and will probably be gone before the end of 2008.



The ultimate showdown of the fourth 007-epic, the final underwater battle between the goodies and the baddies was orchestrated at **Thunderball Reef** off the west coast of New Providence. Since this reef is pretty shallow (about 9 - 25 feet) it is very suitable for snorkelling.

Café Martinique is another unique Bond-location that was swallowed by the Atlantis. The posh night club, where one of the most romantic scenes of the entire 007-series (Domino falls in love with Bond) was staged, used to be situated at the southern tip of Paradise Lagoon. In 2000 it was torn down and it

was replaced by the Lagoon Wing of the hotel. It's really a great shame. In 2005/2006 a rebuilt Cafe Martinique has reopened.

In **Casino Royale**, 007 arrives on Paradise Island by helicopter, conveniently in front of the Atlantis Resort. His search for Dimitrios brings him to the **One and Only Club**, a real-life club located on the north shore of Paradise Island. After meeting his nemesis and winning the latter's Aston Martin DB5, Bond takes home his biggest prize, Dimitrios' girlfriend Solange.

Although most of these scenes were actually filmed in and around the One and Only Club, Dimitrios' beachside villa was filmed on the other side of the island. It is **Albany House**, a luxurious rental villa located almost next to Stuart Cove's Dive Experience, on the south side of New Providence.

Leaving Paradise Island via one of the Paradise Bridges you set foot in Nassau at Potter's Cay. The original name of the Bahamian capital was Charlestown. To honour the prince of Orange-Nassau, who became King William III of England in 1689, it was renamed Nassau. One of the most interesting sights is Queen's Staircase, 66 steps (one for each year of Queen Victoria's reign) which lead to Fort Fincastle, a ship-shaped structure, built on a hill in 1793 to protect the city. From the nearby Water Tower you have a marvellous view over the whole of New Providence Island. A second beautifully restored fortress is Fort Charlotte, built in 1789, on the western outskirts of Nassau.



Walking to the west along Bay Street you enter downtown Nassau at East Street. At the following part of **Bay Street**, the Junkanoo Parade, where Bond is chased by Fiona Volpe and her henchmen, was filmed. The feast of Junkanoo, a sort of Bahamian Carnival, has African origins. The parade is actually performed on the 26th of December and on New Year's Day. With the help of the Nassau Tourist Board it was restaged in April 1965 especially for the shooting of **Thunderball**. 007 escapes his pursuers at **the intersection with East Street** by running south into this by-street.



Only a few steps further on you reach the political centre of the Bahamas. On the left hand side is Parliament Square. A statue of Queen Victoria presides at the entrance to this historical place. Opposite is **Rawson Square** which leads to **Nassau Harbour**. Here Bond meets with Paula Caplan and Felix Leiter before they go to Pinder's shop, where he gets his equipment from Q.

It is also here where 007 arrives in the Bahamas in **Never Say Never Again (NSNA)**. The yellow building that he passes has now been replaced by a very colourful one, being the Cruise Welcome Centre at Prince George Wharf. Bond's name is shouted across the whole square by his awkward Nassau-liaison Nigel Small-Fawcett, played by the British comedian Rowan Atkinson (aka Mr. Bean).



During their briefing they are walking under **the arcades of the Treasury of the Bahamas** on the east side of Rawson Square. Going along **Woodes Rodgers Walk** to the west, you get to the landing stage for the ferry boats to Paradise Island.



On the waters of the **harbour basin between the quay and the opposite Prince George Wharf** Fatima Blush shows off her water ski skills. Later on she joins the voodoo-dancers here. Startled she observes Bond on the fishing-boat, which is moored on the other side at **the quay in front of the warehouses on Prince George Wharf**.



With its prominent address Number One Bay Street, the **British Colonial Hotel** is 007's accommodation in **NSNA**. Due to a total renovation in 1998/99, the hotel lobby where Fatima Blush observes Bond's arrival is not recognizable anymore. Another outstanding reminder of the film, the waterfront bar,

where Sean Connery delivers the throwaway line about his “dry martini”, is gone with the wind. Hurricane Floyd blew it to smithereens in late 1999...

Moving up westwards, you will pass many huge hotels and resorts. Most importantly the Cable Beach area is always crowded with tourists and for the Bond location hunter a place to quickly leave behind. Some parts in this area though still look somewhat like they did in **Thunderball**. The part of West Bay Street, just before it leads into the Cable Beach tourist zone, closely follows the beach, and gives you a small clue to how it all once was. When you watch the scene in which Bond emerges from the sea after his underwater excursion to the Disco Volante, we see him walking from the beach, through a single line of trees, ending up on... yes, **West Bay Street**. He hops into Fiona’s car and we see them speeding towards Nassau. It needs an awful lot of imagination to recognize West Bay Street from the Thunderball scenes. Only the part just before Cable Beach is recognizable from the single line of trees, standing between the beach and the road.



About 2 miles west of Nassau on the right hand side of the road lies a pink painted villa. Its official name is **Rock Point**, but we Bond-fans know it better as **Palmyra**, Largo’s home in the Bahamas.



It is right next to a public beach and looks rather as it did in **Thunderball**. The shark pool where Largo’s

henchman Quist becomes fish fodder is visible from the road. You can also see the beach area, the place at which Bond shows off his masterly skills at trap shooting. Unfortunately, since it is a private estate, Rock Point is not accessible to the public. But if you’re lucky you might just run into Mr Mosko, the current owner of the house. Having bought the house in the mid-1970s, he doesn’t know much about the filming. He only seems to know the film was made there because of the many Bond fans that turn up at his front gate. When you’re outside the gate, you will realise there is absolutely no space for the entrance road with the barrier, as shown in the film. In fact, this scene was filmed on a quiet moment on the road to the airport.



Once you have passed the gate you’ll come to the **parking space in front of the house**. Bond parked his car next to the place where you will now find two 17th century canons, each worth over 500.000 US\$, just lying there on the grass. While the main entrance is also there (there used to be a wooden gate where we see Bond ring the bell in the film), the best entrance is to your left. You will first pass the outer (shark) pool.



Much damage has been done to the surrounding walls by hurricanes, and also the outer pool has suffered. It has partially filled up with sand, but according to Mr Mosko, this was temporary.



The salt water pool at Rock Point with the trap shooting area in the back

Looking towards the sea, you will immediately notice the tree-area in the back, from where Largo was trap-shooting. This area has also changed much, due to the earlier mentioned hurricane attacks. Still it looks recognizable, and it can even be seen from the beach on the left of the house.

with all the hurricanes..!') and some dolphin statues have been added to the site. I was surprised to see the pool actually had round corners, since they cannot be seen in the film. Later on I realised that both the short sides had been covered by some structure, to make it appear rectangular in the film. This had obviously been done to enable the mock retractable cover to work. Although both pools are salt water pools, you might have guessed there isn't a real tunnel between the two. That was purely a combination of smart filming and clever editing...



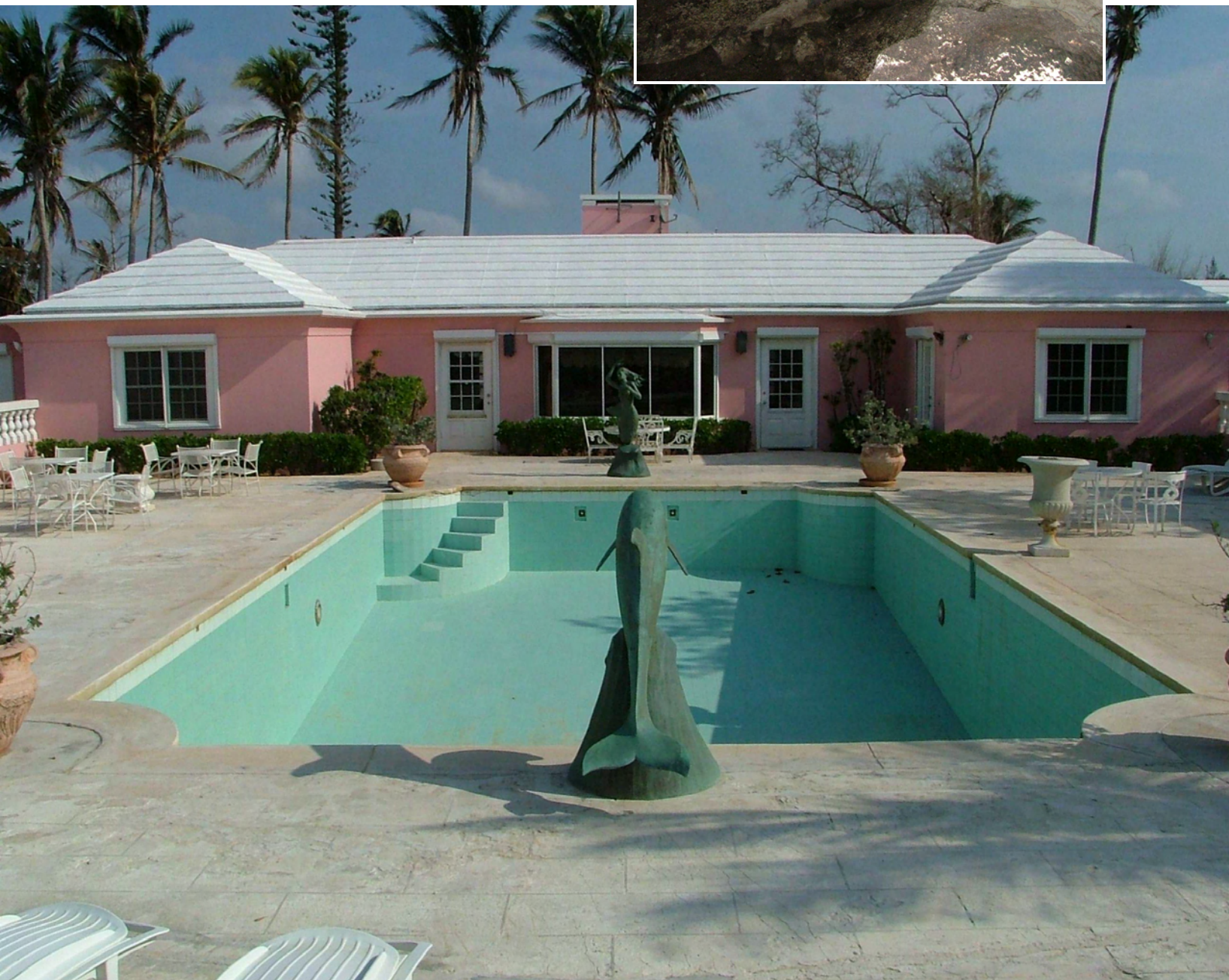
When you walk in between the buildings, you will come to the inner pool area. This is the back yard of the house, and immediately recognizable from the many action scenes filmed here. The pool hasn't changed at all, only the 4 palm trees that had stood on each corner have been removed (*"Too much risk*





The glass wind shields from the sixties had been removed from the sides of the pool area, making it a bit hard to figure out the correct camera angles used by Terence Young. But when it all became clear, it was easy to find out the last location on site: The entrance to the underground room where Paula was held and committed suicide. While the interior of the room was a Pinewood set, the entrance turned out to be nothing more than the entrance to the pool's engine room!

Driving further to the west you will first pass some caves. These small but deep caves are said to be former homes of the original Indians living on the island. They are of interest to us, because the right cave (there are only two, don't worry..) was used in a very tiny scene. When Bond follows Largo's divers, he is trapped inside a cave. While most of these underwater shots were filmed at the now called **'Thunderball Grotto'**, just offshore of Staniel Cay in the Exumas, the part where Bond surfaces and climbs to the cave shore had to be filmed elsewhere, since the former had no place to surface. The Nassau caves proved useful just for this purpose.



The rest of that scene, Bond being picked up with a helicopter, was filmed on a small rocky island, north of Paradise Island. Leaving the caves for what they are, you will now reach **Love Beach**, a few hundred meters to the West. Here the scene was filmed, where Bond tastes women for the first time. Most of the beach is now private property, but it is accessible, since most of the home owners don't mind if people use the beach. Unfortunately, since Hurricane Floyd ploughed up the entire area it is impossible to make out the very spot where Vargas 'got the point.'



The outstanding feature of **Thunderball** lies in its tremendous underwater action scenes. Some critics claim, compared to them the ones in the remake, **Never Say Never Again**, look like 'something done in a bathtub'. In both films Bond does a lot of Scuba diving; however it is not only the action scenes that stick in your mind. For example, the luscious opening sequence, where Bond meets Domino in the waters off Nassau, contributes enormously to the romance of **Thunderball**. So the most spectacular places to go to in the Bahamas are the **underwater Bond locations**.



For the experienced diver it won't be a problem to get to the Bond wrecks. They are located about one mile northwest off **Clifton Pier** at the westernmost tip of New Providence, lying at a depth of some 30 feet. But even the rookies, who haven't done any Scuba diving before in their entire lives, can still reach it. There are several diving centres that offer

beginners tours to the 007 spots. One of them is **STUART COVE'S Dive South Ocean**. This Scuba centre is run by Stuart Cove, who landed a job as stunt diver on **For Your Eyes Only** in 1981. Since then he has collaborated with the Bond-producers on several movies. These diving centres run shuttle bus services that pick you up (and take you back) from every major hotel in New Providence and Paradise Island. The **James Bond Movie Sites beginners tour** starts with a crash course in shallow waters to make you accustomed to the scuba gear and the basic safety rules of diving. Then off you go by boat to the diving site.



For the novice it is an overwhelming, unique sensation to plunge into the crystal clear water and sink almost weightlessly to the alien submarine environment. After you have found your bearings, your dive master, who will be with you all the time, leads you on. You encounter a fantastic, colourful abundance of marine life like e.g. schools of Amberjacks or the giant Southern stingray. Then you arrive at the skeleton of the **Vulcan bomber** from **Thunderball**. In 1965 it was made from pipe and fibreglass. The prop was supposedly destroyed with an explosive when filming had wrapped but fortunately they failed in their attempt. The outer skin is indeed gone but what survived is a huge underwater jungle gym. The remaining tubing has grown over very nicely with clusters of corals and marine life. One of the landing gears is still pretty much intact. Swimming around here with the pictures of the frogmen camouflaging the plane in your mind and John Barry's hauntingly beautiful music resonating through your head is a truly grandiose experience. Just a couple of hundred feet away another great Bond site awaits you: the wreck of the trawler **'Tears of Allah'** from **NSNA**. The ship looks much as it did in the film. The mast that traps the shark is still on the deck - but, sadly, the wheelhouse, where Bond fights with the predatory fish, collapsed some years ago. If one piece of advice may be given, then it is that you should take in this aquatic wonderland thoroughly before surfacing to the real world. And remember: Every single time a Bond scene is filmed underwater, you can bet it is



done in the Bahamas. It has been so since *Thunderball* and still continues. Just watch the end credits of all the Bond films since.

When you leave Stuart Cove's behind you and continue your way back towards Nassau, going East, you will pass the entrance road to Coral Harbour, which is clearly marked by huge signs. While this builds up your level of expectation, Coral Harbour will surprise you as probably one of the least interesting towns on the planet. Its strange main feature can be found at the end of the one-way-street that leads along the coast. A large fence keeps visitors far away from the **Royal Bahamas Defence Force base** behind it, but even from a distance the concrete skeleton of what was once to become a huge hotel can easily be seen.

Behind the fence, EON's skilful production team created the Madagascar shanty town-set for **Casino Royale's** exciting scenes right after the main titles. When terrorist bomb-expert Mollaka (played by Sébastien Foucan) notices he's being watched by enemy agents, he flees on foot into a building site, created around the **abandoned hotel skeleton**. Foucan proves he's an expert free-runner and the chase that follows is an early highlight of the film.

The end of this scene, Mollaka fleeing into the Nambutu Embassy, was filmed at the **Buena Vista Restaurant and Hotel**, on the corner of Delancy and Meeting Streets in Nassau.

In *Thunderball*, Bond mentions he's staying at *'the Coral Harbour Hotel'*. Although this was an actual existing hotel back in the 60s, it should not be confused with the concrete skeleton or any other hotel physically located in Coral Harbour. The Coral Harbour Hotel used to be a luxurious hotel on Paradise Island (current Club Med location) but was demolished many years ago. I recently came across a postcard of the hotel, which shows the building exactly as it was during the 1965 filming.



The Bahamas are a home-away-from-home for millions of visitors who come to their beautiful shores each year. Join them and you will be spellbound by the exotic flair of these subtropical islands. For us 007-afficionados there is still a marvellous variety of Bond locations that puts the finishing touch to a perfect vacation.



The New Otani
IDENTIFICATION
ご宿泊確認

Room No. 506 Rate
お部屋番号 料金

Name MR. MULDER MARTI
お名前

No. Of Guests 2 Dep. 2
ご利用人数 ご出発日

Deposit お預り金 現金 Cash

The New Otani
ホテルニューオータニ
〒102-8578 東京都千代田区紀尾井町4-1
HOTEL NEW OTANI
4-1 KIOI-CHO, CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO, JAPAN
Tel: (03)3265-1111 Fax: (03)3221-2619

8 Welcome to Japan, Mr Bond

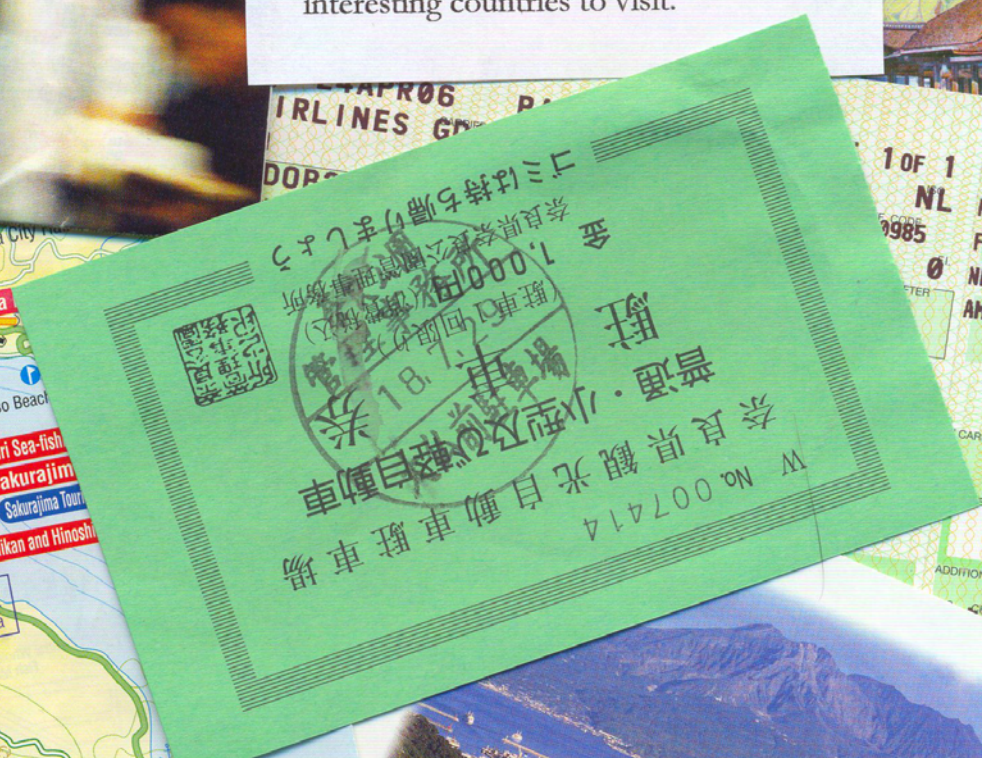
Of all the locations in the Bond films, Japan still stands firmly as the most exotic ever used. In my opinion at least.

Back in 1966, it was considered exotic, unspoiled and unknown enough to send Bond there on his latest mission. Today, some 40 years later, these things can still be said of this beautiful country.

Its cultural heritage, being so different, not only from the West, but from the rest of the East as well, and a very turbulent history filled with samurai, kamikaze pilots and two devastating atomic bombs, makes Japan one of the most interesting countries to visit.

Tokyo Metro Guide

東京メトロ・ガイド
도쿄 메트로 가이드
东京地铁
東京地下鐵



PASSENGER COUPON
1 OF 1 AMS
NL NRT KL 861 Q 24JUL
9985 FUK VOID
NRT JL 3052 Y 08AUGG
AMS KL 862 Q 08AUGG

CARRIER/FLIGHT CLASS/DATE
BOARD TIME SEAT
ADDITIONAL SEAT INFORMATION



When Ian Fleming travelled the world writing his travel stories, he also visited Japan. Very impressed by the Japanese culture he decided to bring 007 to this far away world. The novel he later wrote was *You Only Live Twice* and it picked up where the previous adventure, *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*, had left us. After having just lost his wife, Bond is in desperate search of Blofeld but cannot seem to find him. To get his mind off things, he's sent on a mission to Japan where, in an unusual twist of faith, he finds his wife's killer, walking around in a medieval harness in his castle's garden surrounded by toxic plants. While this plot sounds extremely absurd, the novel is actually a very fine one and over the years has become one of my personal favourites. Truth is that it would have made a lousy film script, since it lacked the action the cinema audience had gotten used to.

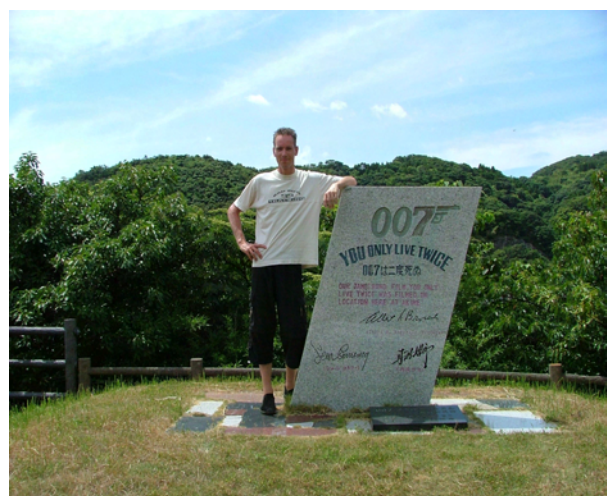
When Cubby Broccoli and Harry Saltzman finished the hugely successful **Thunderball**, their initiate decision was to have **OHMSS** as the follow up. In the early video releases, one could read "*The end of Thunderball, but James Bond will return in On her Majesty's Secret Service*", unfortunately removed from later versions. But, since both stories heavily relied on large action scenes (compare **Thunderball's** underwater action with **OHMSS's** snow action) the idea was dropped and the decision was made to start working on **YOLT** instead, thus reversing the original order of the continuing revenge story.

When visiting Japan, you should really prepare your trip well. Some of the locations are very remote and very difficult to get to and only with a decent preparation you will be able to get the most out of your location trip. You will need at least one week to see them all, but I strongly recommend an extra week. In 14 days you can at least 'enjoy' your adventure and avoid having to rush from city to city without really grasping the atmosphere around you. Our trip took months of careful planning. Since I do not rely on travel agents and always attempt to find my own hotels in the best locations, I spent many evenings searching the Internet for good hotels or *ryokans* in the areas where I wanted to be. And for this trip, this is very important. To give you a little hand I will explain our trip in detail, bringing you to all the locations from **YOLT** in a two week holiday, hoping to make it easier for you to travel not just in our tracks, but more importantly in 007's tracks.

Tokyo: Entering a new world

During the Muromachi-period (1336-1598), Japan had politically fallen apart in many small regions, where local warlords or *daimyo* ruled. Based in Kyoto, Toyotomi Hideyoshi and Tokugawa Ieyasu, both followers of the important shogun Oda Nobunaga, planned and executed the unification of Japan. They decided the new capital of the country would be the

Editor Peter Hunt, who was promised the directing job on **OHMSS**, was extremely disappointed when Broccoli and Saltzman confronted him with their decision and wanted to step away from the series. When the producers offered him a paid vacation around the world, second unit direction on **YOLT** AND the promise that 'his' film **OHMSS** would be the one after **YOLT**, Hunt fortunately agreed to return. Lewis Gilbert was offered the director's chair and together with the producers and production designer Ken Adam, the search for suitable locations was on and the team went to Japan, where they coincidentally bumped into Peter Hunt who was enjoying his paid vacation there. They rented a helicopter and flew around Japan for two weeks, covering every square inch of coast, searching for the medieval castle Fleming had described in his book. Unable to find any castles in the coastal area (it later turned out the Japanese never built castles along the coast) the group went looking for other storyline options. It wasn't until they flew over the Kirishima National Park and saw the green crater lake of Mount Shinmu (*Shinmu-dake* in Japanese) that the idea of the volcano base began to emerge. The rest is history. Ken Adam made some drawings of the volcano set, Cubby Broccoli asked what it would cost to build it, Adam roughly estimated "*One million dollars*" and Broccoli, without blinking his eyes, replied "*If you can do it for a million dollars you can start building it*", giving the very talented Ken Adam the opportunity to create one of the most memorable sets ever designed.



Martijn Mulder at Akime's unique 007 Memorial

city of Edo. At the end of the 19th century, Edo was renamed Tokyo. By that time the city was already by far the largest in the world. Comprised from various smaller villages, the Greater Tokyo Metropolitan Area now houses about one fourth of the Japanese population. In an area of about 600 square kilometers, almost 32 million people live and work. This automatically means it can get pretty crowded during rush hours..

On September 1st 1923, Tokyo was struck by a massive earthquake, causing a great loss of lives. Since most of the buildings were made of wood, almost the entire city burned down when large fires broke out. After the city had been rebuilt, the recession and political climate caused Japanese Emperor Hirohito to choose the side of fascist Germany in WWII. Japan started its own war in the Far East and even attacked the U.S. at Pearl Harbour. The U.S. immediately retaliated and Japan was extremely heavily bombed. Most major cities were completely devastated, Tokyo included (only the city of Kyoto and its many important temples and shrines was spared), and this should explain the total lack of truly old, historical buildings in Japan. When two U.S. atomic bombs forced Emperor Hirohito to capitulate, the Japanese population was left astonished and it took them many years to accept this defeat.

Once again, Tokyo was hastily rebuilt, without careful urban planning, and this gives the city a messy sight. Most visitors will arrive at Narita Airport, some 60 km east of the city. Narita was built to relieve Haneda Airport, which is west of the city. There are many options to get to the city centre, taking a taxi being the most expensive. You could take the train, or even better, take the Airport Limousine, a shuttle bringing you directly to some of the larger hotels. When you have to decide on a hotel in Tokyo, I can only recommend one place: **The Tokyo New Otani**. Apart from it being one of the best hotels I have ever been in, it has a definite James Bond connection and it was a filming location in **YOLT**.



In 1966 the New Otani only consisted of one building. Its strange shape (three wings with a round, revolving restaurant on top) made it an excellent choice for a Bond location and the fact that the hotel had (and still has) one of the most beautiful landscape gardens of Japan only added to this. **The main building** itself became Osato Chemicals, the exterior of the office building Bond forces his way into to copy the contents of the safe and later in the film meets with Mr. Osato and his beautiful assistant Helga Brand. While all interior scenes were filmed at Pinewood, the exterior still looks exactly like it did back then. **The marble pillars outside the front door** are still there, as is the large **parking lot** you can see Aki drive through several times in the film.



The New Otani **landscape garden** was also used as a location. When Bond is chasing the villain who killed Henderson, he's is running through this garden. After tackling the enemy, a small fight takes place on a piece of grass with **deer statues** in the back. Due to the construction of an additional New Otani hotel building ('the Tower') in the 80's, the landscape garden has been remodelled. A marvellous waterfall has been added, while most of the grass has been sacrificed. The deer statues are still present in the garden, but you really have to look carefully to find them. It actually took me two days to locate them..



When you are walking through the garden, follow the path to the sushi restaurants. You should be able to find the statues when you stand in between the two (very small) garden restaurants. They're almost hidden, next to a large tree.



In the film, after Bond has defeated his enemy and put on the latter's clothes, you can see him hiding behind a tree, looking down some stairs, to find a waiting car. This scene was clearly filmed at the west side of the garden, near the swimming pool. I believe the original steps have been removed, but a **similar stairway** can still be found here, bringing you to the

lower road where the car was waiting. The reason I think this is not the original stairway is the lack of large trees, visible in the film.



In a strange twist of faith, the gardens would be used again for another scene later in the film, a fact not widely known. When the crew was filming the final scenes of the Ninja training at Himeji Castle, some of the stuntmen accidentally damaged the walls of the structure, causing the local authorities to immediately withdraw the filming permit, leaving Lewis Gilbert with an unfinished scene. This scene, in which Bond was attacked by an infiltrated SPECTRE agent during his training, was later finished outside the New Otani. In the landscape

garden, a **bright red bridge** brings you to the other side of the pond. With a **historical tea ceremony house** in the background, this beautiful setting can clearly be seen in the scene where Bond defeats his attacker.



The New Otani Hotel is located near the large Akasaka-Mitsuke subway station, serving both the important Ginza and Marunouchi lines. Both these lines are excellent for the Bond locations in Tokyo, another reason why the New Otani is an excellent choice! First we take the Marunouchi line (in the Tokyo subway system this is the red coloured line) in the direction of Ogikubo. After about 15 minutes, we exit at **Nakano-Shimbashi** (station #5) and make our way outside to street level. This is the station used in all the subway station-scenes.



Outside and inside this small and relatively quiet station the scenes were filmed in which Aki lures Bond to Tanaka's headquarters. The entrance to Nakano-Shimbashi still looks very much like it did when Aki parked her Toyota outside and ran inside. The steel roller shutter is only used during the night when subway traffic has stopped, but the concrete, box shaped entrance still looks very much the same. Even some of the interior scenes were actually filmed inside, apart from the hall with the false floor, which was a Ken Adam set.



The only real change inside is **on the platform** itself. In recent years barriers have been placed between the platform and the tracks to prevent people from falling down. While this certainly takes away part of the charm of this location, it is still not very hard to recognize the place where Tanaka and Bond walked before they boarded Tanaka's own Secret Service train. All in all a nice location, away from the busy centre, and certainly not, as many sources state, in the heart of Ginza district! (This mistake is probably caused by the fact that there is indeed a Shimbashi Station, without 'Nakano' attached, in the Ginza district).



The last of the Bond locations worth visiting in Tokyo can also be reached by subway. If you take the same Marunouchi line in opposite direction (either from Akasaka-Mitsuke or Nakano-Shimbashi) and get out at **Ginza**, you will be in the exciting heart of Tokyo. Just take one of the many street exits from the station to enter the shopping and nightlife district that likes to compare itself with New York's 5th Avenue. The large neon signs on top of every building on every street corner surely make an impression and are always used in every film's establishing shot: "Welcome to Japan, Mr Bond". They all look so familiar, it's like a constant feeling of *deja-vu*..



Like most city centres, the Ginza district has undergone massive changes and large shopping malls and designer stores have wiped out all the smaller shops visible in the street scenes in **YOLT**. When Bond has just arrived in Tokyo, we see him walk the streets of Ginza's West 5-chome, on his way to the sumo wrestling arena. He is walking through **Nishigobangai Avenue and Miyuki-dori Avenue**, both almost like pedestrian areas. Since the smaller streets and alleys have no name signs it is impossible to give you any further directions. Therefore you are encouraged to go look around for yourself to see if you can spot the alley where Bond walked into.



The sumo wrestling arena, Kokugikan, was originally located in Kuramae. A few years after filming **YOLT**, the arena was demolished and a new one was built at Ryoguku. Not much to see there anymore, except if you're into sumo wrestling of course.

Nachi-No-Taki: Filming 007's first wedding

For our next stop we have to leave Tokyo and travel southwards. You can either take a domestic flight (using JAL's excellent flight services) or travel by lightning fast Shinkansen. We took the latter and travelled from Tokyo to Kyoto in 2,5 hours. There we rented a car through the Nissan Rental Agency, located just outside Kyoto's impressively modern train station. After a quick cup of coffee we drove to Nara, a small city filled with historical buildings,

temples and shrines. From there we travelled on, the next day, to *Koyasan*, a cluster of Buddhist temples on a mountain top that together form a little town. If you are able to see through the bus loads of tourists around, you will find the charm of Koyasan lying in the fact that you can actually spend your nights in the temples. If you're prepared to attend morning prayers, starting at 6:00am, and enjoy typical vegetarian Buddhist meals, then you will have the experience of a lifetime here..

From Koyasan it's only about 80 kilometers to Japan's Eastern coast, but the road meanders for hours through the mountainous region and you should realize it takes about 3,5 hours to get to *Shingu*, the largest city close to the waterfalls. Since hardly any western tourists come here, you will notice you are a real attraction and have little children stare and wave at you all the time. Quite a funny experience! From Shingu it's about 10 minutes to the falls by simply following the signs. **The Nachi-no-Taki Falls** are the highest falls of Japan and rank among the top three beautiful places to visit.



Once you arrive at the site, park your car on the parking lot and start walking towards the falls. From various platforms you can enjoy the wonderful view before you start your climb to the temple and shrine, located a few hundred meters above you on the mountain.

At the base of the temples you will find two entrance gates, the gate building on your right will bring you to the Buddhist **Seiganto-ji temple**, while the red **Tori** on your left brings you to the **Kumano-Nachi-Taisha Shinto shrine**. Since both buildings were used in **YOLT**, we will follow the course of the film and start with the Buddhist temple complex. After climbing up the stairs (which you will probably already recognize) you will find yourself on the main square from where you will have an excellent view of the pagoda and waterfall in the distance.



Over the years, buildings have been destroyed and added here (the very large Believer's Hall next to the entrance gate being the most obvious recent addition), so the picture doesn't completely fit the memory you will have from **YOLT**, but the most important buildings are still here and very recognizable.

where the actual wedding ceremony was filmed. The reason for this is unclear. While it might be that filming was not allowed inside the Buddhist Temple, it can also be because the brightly red coloured Shrine simply makes a better picture. Whatever the case, the Kumano Shrine looks fantastic and can be entered by tourists as well. This gives us the opportunity to get as close as possible to the place where Bond was married to Kissy. Just make sure you don't forget to take off your shoes before entering.



The wedding ceremony starts with a view of the **bell fry**, still here, looking exactly as in 1966. Then the wedding party finds its way to the front of the main temple, the **Seiganto-ji**. Here, Bond and Tanaka waited for the bride to appear from **the stairs** you earlier climbed. When finally Kissy appears and is introduced to Bond, the scene suddenly changes location to the neighbouring **Kumano Shrine**,





After our visit to Nachi, we quickly had some food at a local restaurant recognizable from its big yellow M logo (was it local after all I now wonder..?). While I'm normally not a big fan of the food served in here, it was a real treat after the vegetarian Buddhist meals.. Then we returned to Koyasan. This fieldtrip can very well be made from Koyasan in a day, making Koyasan a good choice to spend the night. The trip can also be made by train, although that takes a lot longer and will not bring you to the Nachi falls. You would have to take a taxi for that last part of your journey.

The next day we left Koyasan and took the expressway (toll road) back to Kyoto. The expressways are very good roads, though expensive. But the time you save compared to taking the local roads is way beyond your imagination. I think in this case it took us two hours, while the local roads, filled with slow and heavy traffic, would have taken us at least 5 hours. So it all depends on your time schedule, and budget of course..

Kobe: Shaken and stirred

About halfway our return trip to Kyoto you will pass Osaka, the second largest city in Japan. Attached to Osaka is Kobe, for many years Japan's most important port until disaster struck hard. On January 17th 1995 Kobe was hit by a major earthquake

known as the Hanshin Earthquake. 7.3 on the Richter scale, the earthquake killed nearly 6,500 people, leaving more than 300,000 people homeless. Images of the destroyed elevated Hanshin Expressway flew around television screens worldwide, forever linking Kobe to one of the costliest natural disasters in our time.

Kobe's harbour was almost completely destroyed, taking away our only reason to visit the city.. Back in 1966 EON took over **Pier 8 of the docks** to film Bond and Aki looking for the Ning-Po. The subsequent fight scene on the dock and on the roof tops was also filmed here, but nothing has survived the terrible devastation of the Hanshin Earthquake. New piers have been built now, enabling Kobe to slowly regain her top position as a major Japanese port.

Kyoto: Imperial City

Kyoto has always played a very important role in Japanese history. It was the centre of the Japanese Empire until decision was made to move the government to *Edo* (modern Tokyo), in 1868. Although the city has always suffered from wars, fires and earthquakes through the years, it was in fact deliberately spared by the US Forces during WWII. Not a single bomb hit the city, which enables today's

visitors to actually find ancient monuments and temples here. Surrounded by hills, Kyoto is a wonderful city to visit and the many beautiful temples and Imperial Palaces can consume a lot of your time. But, it's well worth it and I can really recommend spending some time in Kyoto, even though it has no Bond related locations.

Adjacent to the earlier mentioned, very modern train station, the Hotel Granvia is a highly recommendable place to stay. Not quite a traditional or budget hotel, but the service and location make sure this hotel should be on every Kyoto visitor's list. From the Granvia it's only a few steps to the Shinkansen platforms from where you can continue your tour.

Himeji: Tanaka's Ninja Training Centre

On your way to the south of Japan, the Shinkansen makes only a few stops. One of them is of particular interest for us: Himeji, and the **Himeji Castle**, the best preserved (wooden!) castle in Japan. Recognized by the UNESCO as World Cultural Heritage, this magnificent building dominates the sleepy city and attracts millions of tourists from Japan and overseas every year. It's bright white plastered façade and towers also caught the attention of the EON reconnaissance team while scouting locations in the area. At that time still desperately searching for Fleming's coastal castle, they knew this castle simply had to be used in the film. And it works wonderfully.

Built around 1600, the wooden structure, nicknamed *'the White Heron'*, miraculously survived WWII bombing, enabling EON to use the castle to its fullest capacities in **YOLT**. The first glimpse we get of Himeji is when Tiger, Aki and Bond land in a chopper on **the field in front of the castle**. We are then treated on a tour of the castle when Tiger is showing Bond his Ninja's and their training facilities. The clever layout of the ground plan, with all its slopes and u-turns to confuse and slow the enemy down, were all wonderfully incorporated in the training scenes



When continuing your way up, you will inevitably climb **the slope to the HA Gate**. This section of the castle was used in the scene where Tanaka explains Bond that he has to become Japanese and marry a Japanese girl to reach the remote island where Blofeld is hiding. After passing through the HA Gate, the climb continues until you reach **the area in front of the NI Gate**, where Tanaka's Ninja's were practicing their 'shuriken' (or throwing stars) techniques.





After going through the gate you will find yourself at the stone base of the castle structure. The field in front of it is called ***Bizen Bailey*** and can be seen in a lot of training exercise shots. It is here where individual techniques were shown and were 007 is being attacked by a 'trainee' from outside. The killing of this enemy was shot at the New Otani in Tokyo, because of reasons explained earlier.



Kyushu: Volcanoes & National Parks

Our train trip continued southwards, our target being Kyushu. This most southern island of Japan is attached to the 'main land' by a train and car bridge, so you hardly notice you're actually on a different island. Fukuoka is the *Shinkansen's* last stop (in fact the last stop is confusingly called 'Hakata', which happens to be the northern part of Fukuoka) and from here there are many options how you want to plan your trip further. If you want to explore the rural countryside and exciting things Kyushu has to offer, you should consider travelling to Beppu in the north (famous for its hot springs or *onsen*) or travel to the south/west, where Nagasaki is waiting for you.

Together with Hiroshima (which you in fact passed on your way to Kyushu) Nagasaki is ready to teach everybody an important lesson by showing you the horror caused by the atomic bomb that exploded here on August 9th, 1945. The highly impressive Atomic Bomb Museum is a must-see for everyone who's in the area. Another interesting place is Dejima, a fan-shaped piece of land that used to be in the harbour (but has since been swallowed by urban development) and was home to the only foreign trading post that was allowed in Japan for 200 years. After the Portuguese and other Catholic nations were expelled from Japan in 1638, the shogunate ordered the Dutch East India Company (V.O.C.) to transfer its operations from the port of Hirado to Dejima in May 1641. After successfully introducing things like beer, coffee, chocolate and tomatoes, finally in 1857 the Dutch were allowed to leave their island and do their business in Nagasaki and other parts as well.

All Bond locations are in the south, mostly around Kagoshima, so if that's your priority then just take the train or rent a car and take the expressway towards *Dazajifu* and then *Kumumota*. There, it might be an interesting sidestep to take the 57 eastwards, to Aso and Aso National Park. The town of Aso itself is interesting because you will find yourself in one of the largest active volcanoes in the world. The caldera is 25 km x 18 km wide and it's a strange feeling to find little towns and hotels here. A unique experience is climbing Mount Aso all the way until you reach its highly active crater. A road leads to the top and after leaving the car park, you can walk the last 100 meters to the actual crater. Everywhere you look you will notice concrete shelters or bunkers, put here after a sudden eruption caused the deaths of some tourists a few years ago. Today electronic equipment installed inside the crater is being monitored 24/7 and guards with earphones are always in contact with the nearby communications centre, all to quickly evacuate tourists if the circumstances ask for this. The phosphor smell and

fumes from the crater itself make a small sign saying “Do Not Enter” on the edge of the crater a little unnecessary, but at least they do warn you.

Visiting Mount Aso is just the set up for one of the most spectacular trips you can possibly make as a Bond location hunter, since our next stop will be Kirishima National Park, where you will have the possibility to climb your way to Blofeld’s volcano hideout, a once-in-a-lifetime experience and an absolute MUST for me.

I returned to *Kumamoto* the next day and took the expressway south, towards *Kagoshima*.

After a two hour ride I got to the city of *Ebino*, where the expressway splits. Here you can go east to Miyazaki (*Miyazaki Highway*) or west to Kagoshima (*Kyushu Highway*). A third and probably better option is to enter Ebino and find the small road leading onto the Ebino Plateau, a mountainous region with 5 rather large volcanoes. Once again I found myself in an area where English is not so commonly spoken (at Aso-City we actually had to decipher our hotel’s name sign-by-sign, comparing our reservation sheet with hotel signs along our route) but that actually makes it all even more fun. I had made reservations in *Takachobogawara* but I needed a kindly given map to locate the hotel at the foot of the volcanic mountain range. After checking in and a quick cup of coffee we jumped into the car again and drove a tiny road we had discovered on our map, leading as far into the mountains as we could get by car. At the end of the road we found a car park and, believe it or not, a tourist office. And honestly, when I see a sign in English I expect to find someone there who speaks at least a little English, but luck was not on my side that afternoon. The very friendly lady gave us a cute smile but was unable to answer any of our questions regarding the length of the walking tours and the time it would take to reach the top of the range. In the end I thanked her and took a folder, hoping this would help a little.



It turned out, there’s a really good hiking trail running from the car park all the way to Ebino city, leading over the tops of all five active volcanoes in

Kirishima National Park. And the folder actually clarified some of the distances as it clearly stated it was a full 1 hour climb to the first top, Mount Naka-dake, then another full hour to the second which was my final destination, Mount **Shinmu-dake**, Blofeld’s hideout. Then taking into account the fact that we also had to return (meaning another two hours of walking) I started to feel a little worried if we could actually pull this off. The weather was also not really co-operating. It was rather cold, foggy and even rainy up in the mountains, but we decided to give it a try and see where it would take us. And it didn’t take us very far that afternoon..

After about 15 minutes we couldn’t even see each other because of the dense fog and the rain started pouring every now and then, making it not the pleasant journey I had hoped it would be. We decided to call it a day and returned to the car.



The next day we had only scheduled to drive to Kagoshima, a small hour more to the south, so we fortunately had enough time to give the climb a second try. We took lots of food, crisps, candy bars and water with us, not expecting to come across a food vendor at the top. This was a good idea which would definitely pay off during the following climb and a tip you should not take for granted. We drove to the car park again, put on our shoes (since I’m not really the hiking type we did not have a very professional outfit and totally lacked hiking shoes..) and started walking. It was still a bit foggy but the higher we got the better it became. After a while we left the low clouds behind us and the sun was really burning on our shoulders from then on. (That was another tip: Do NOT forget sun-block, even if you can’t see the sun from ground level!)

After a while we got to the base of the first volcano, Mount Naka-dake, where the path just stopped. Apparently it had washed away during heavy rainfall, and we had to climb to the top by jumping from rock to rock, improvising our own road. When we finally reached the top it had taken us 1,5 hours... So much for the information in our handy folder!

Mount Naka-dake is hardly worth the climb since it has no crater lake, but the views during the climb are unimaginable. From the top you can even see the city of Kagoshima and the very impressive Sakurajima volcano in her bay, about 100 kilometers away. Also visible was Mount Shinmu-dake, lurking in the (actually not so far) distance. We had discussed our time problem during the climb and we now had to decide whether we would go on or not. The first part had been a very exhausting climb and we were almost at the point of leaving the plan and return home. At that point I just started walking towards Shinmu-dake, because it appeared much closer than the 1 hour walk stated in the folder. And this feeling turned out to be correct, it only took us 30 minutes and the climb was a piece of cake compared to the first one. And reaching Shinmu-dake became one of the highlights of my life..

After a pleasant walk along the edge of Naka-dake and through the valley linking the two volcanoes, a steep but short climb starts, leading to the top of Blofeld's hideout in **You Only Live Twice**. I promise you the first view over the edge you will always remember vividly. The fluorescent green crater lake looks EXACTLY like in the film and it will really take your breath away for a while.

Look around you and just try to imagine a full first-unit film crew on the edges here. While the director, producers and stars would be flown in by helicopter, the crew actually had to walk its way to the top, like we just did. Using two mules for the heavy equipment this would not have been what everyone expected from exotic location shoots.

Below: A hard climb to Shinmu-dake is rewarded with one of the most beautiful sights imaginable: A fluorescent crater lake on a misty but sunny moment. The insert shows Mount Takachiho as can be seen in the film. It served as Blofeld's volcano in the long shots.





We spent a good time at the top, sniffing up the phosphor fumes and looking around, taking lots of photos. **The outer rim** was clearly the area used to 'hide' Tanaka's Ninja's before the final assault on the rocket launching facility beneath the fake lake surface. Of course I couldn't resist throwing a stone in the lake, but mine just sank to the bottom..

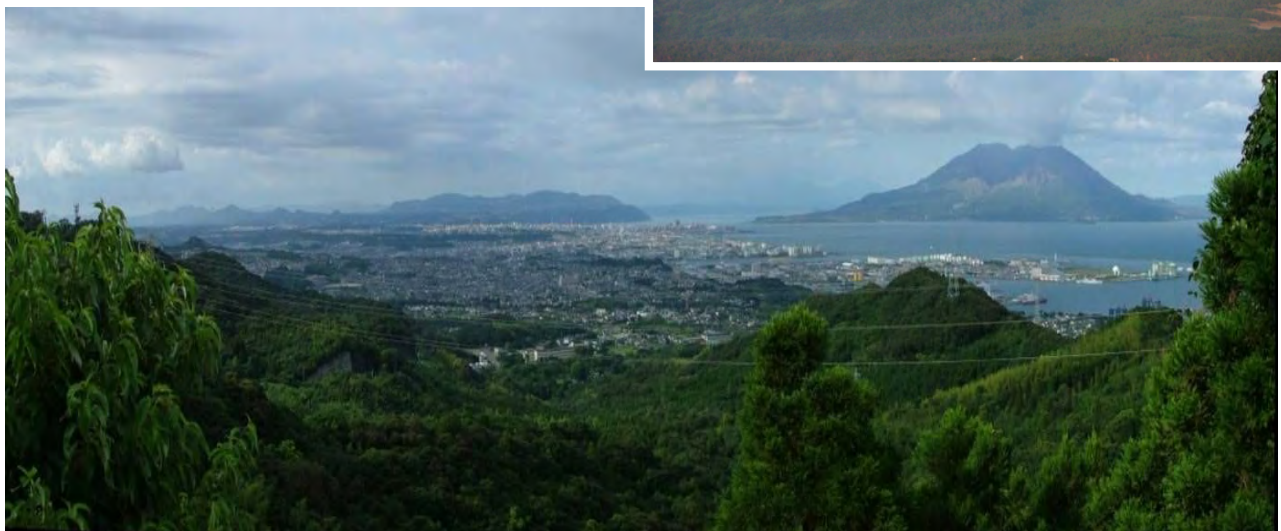
The skies above the Kirishima mountain range were also used to film parts of the Little Nellie helicopter chase. But since the volcanoes were deemed sacred by the Japanese and the Japanese pilots had a hard time flying so close to each other, it was decided to film most of the actual fight in the skies over the Sierra de Mijas mountain range in Spain.



Kagoshima: Off the beaten track

After a short ride back to the Kyushu Highway we went straight towards Kagoshima, our next port of call. Kagoshima is a medium sized city overlooking Kagoshima Bay, a large bay with a very remarkable feature.. In the middle of the bay you will find a huge, active volcano, the Sakura-jima, much like the Italian city of Naples with Mount Vesuvius nearby.

After a while we decided to return and walked and climbed our way back to the car, greeting about 10 other, well-equipped Japanese hikers, all staring and smiling at us, clearly impressed by us for accomplishing this climb without any of the 'required' hiking goods..



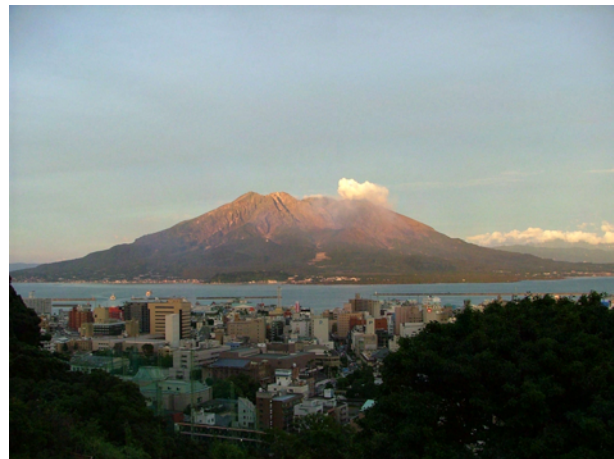
The impressive slopes of Sakura-jima were in fact used in the early stages of the Little Nellie chopper fight. When Bond flies over the island looking for a rocket launching installation, he suddenly spots the shadows of his enemy's choppers on the sides of the volcano. This was filmed at Kagoshima's Sakura-jima. Ken Wallis, who had built the autogyro, flew his creation a few times along the slopes of the volcano in order to get the right shots for the scene, when suddenly the engine started stalling. Since the fuel tank gauge had partially been sprayed over while preparing the autogyro for the film, Wallis had been forced to fly on a time basis, and had misread his watch. He fortunately found a small, but busy road and quickly decided this was his only chance to land. He was informed by camera man John Jordan about a gap in traffic and landed Little Nellie without a problem on the designated strip of road, leaving only a few Japanese drivers speechless..

Many other flight accidents occurred during the production of **You Only Live Twice**. Apart from Ken Wallis crash-landing a few times, there is the notorious accident involving cameraman John Jordan who lost his foot while filming the chopper fight scenes, when one of the choppers flying below him was suddenly taken upwards by the wind. The rotor blades chopped off his foot while he was hanging outside the chopper to get a good camera angle.

Another infamous accident almost ruined the future of Bond film making while the film was still in pre-production. When location scouting in Japan, Cubby Broccoli, Harry Saltzman, Ken Adam and Lewis Gilbert were in Tokyo, hanging out in the bar with the BOAC crew of the plane that happened to be the one they had to take back to London the next day, when a message came in that a possible location had been found by their local location manager. Still desperately searching for a 'Blofeld hideout' their curiosity was tickled and they decided to have a look the next day and subsequently cancelled their flight. When they returned from their trip the next day, May 3rd 1966, they learned that the flight they were supposed to be on had crashed into Mount Fuji when the pilot had tried to give his passengers a good view of the mountain. Caught by the treacherous turbulence around Mount Fuji the plane simply fell apart and crashed, killing all 124 passengers and crew. The flight number was 911..

Kagoshima itself is not very interesting because most of the buildings are post-war and not many authentic spots survived the test of time. Because of its large distance from the rest of Japan, the area is not at all visited by foreign tourists. We stayed at the marvellous Castle Park Hotel (formerly and sometimes still known as the Shiroyama Kanko)

overlooking the city. Here the cast and crew stayed while filming in the area, back in 1966. From here the main actors and director were flown to the locations by helicopter, while the rest of the production crew was driven by bus. This hotel is yet another example of genuine Japanese hospitality which fits in the same list as Tokyo's New Otani and Kyoto's Granvia. Although rather expensive it is very recommendable and absolutely worth the extra Yen. The view of Kagoshima harbour and Sakura-jima from the hotel is simply breathtaking..



The next morning we took our car and drove down the hill on which the hotel is situated. We left Shiroyama Park and took Highway 10 to the north, leading through the city for a while. We followed the signs towards *Senganen*, Kagoshima's famous Iso gardens. Just before the 10 crosses the Inari River you should take the exit to the right. A small road leads to Tagayama Park. While driving past the park, you will see a small island on your right. After passing the only bridge access to this island (also on your right) you should take the second road on your left. You have now found **Shigetomi-so**, one of Kagoshima's most famous and beautiful ryokan and once a villa of the ruling *Shimazu* clan.



While we were there, Shigetomi-so was being refurbished and not open for public, but normally one should be able to book a room here and enjoy



the villa's fantastic view of Mount Sakura-jima. This extremely expensive stay might be worth it once you know that Shigetomi-so was used as the exterior of Tiger's house in **YOLT**.

Although no interior scenes were filmed here, the beautiful gardens were used in several scenes. Early in the film, Bond visits Tanaka's house before the bathing scene occurs. We can see Tiger and Bond walk through the garden to the house, the camera looking in the northern direction. Later on in the film, Bond and Aki talk with Tiger about Blofeld's possible hideout, outside in the garden, this time the camera looking into southern direction. This scene precedes the one where Q appears and introduces Little Nellie, packed in four heavy suitcases.



After Little Nellie has been assembled, Bond takes her for a ride, taking up from a dusty road, apparently behind Tiger's house. This scene was most likely filmed on the island you passed earlier. This area has been totally re-developed in recent years, and although the background (Sakura-jima from this angle) matches the film, nothing here will remind you of this scene. So without wasting too much time we took our photos around the house, left the area and went looking for the last of the remaining Bond locations.. the small fishing village of Akime.

We returned to the Kyushu Expressway and drove back towards Kagoshima. After the expressway connects with the Minami Kyushu Expressway it becomes a scenic route known as the *Ibusuki Skyline*, offering fantastic views of Kagoshima around every corner. We passed a couple of intersections and took the Chiran I.C. towards Chiran, a small village with a few ancient samurai houses and landscape gardens as its main tourist attraction. After Chiran the road splits and we took the 27 to Makurazaki City. There the road connects with the scenic highway 226 running all along the coast of the *Ibusuki Peninsula*. Follow this road to the west (your right, keeping the sea on your left) and drive for about an hour and a half.

Akime: Memories from the past

Akime, although rumoured to be very hard to find, is actually very easy to find. It is mentioned on the road signs, so you actually cannot miss it. There is however another reason you immediately know you're in Akime. The first clue comes from the coastal area, just before you will enter town. **A large, round rock in a small bay** marks the area where Bond and Kissy supposedly came ashore on their trip to climb Blofeld's volcano. The fact that this location is exactly as in the film gave us high hopes on the rest of Akime, and it turned out to be correct.



The biggest clue that you have reached Akime comes from the fact that EON left their mark outside town by erecting a marble memorial, almost tomb-stone shaped, commemorating the filming that took place here, thanking the people of Akime for their co-operation. For reasons unknown this memorial was erected in recent years (1990) and is the only marker ever left by EON at a filming location.



Starting with a giant 007 gun logo and followed by the film's name in both English and Japanese, the stone further reads: "*Our James Bond film You Only Live Twice was filmed on location here at Akime*", and bears engraved signatures of Cubby Broccoli, Sean Connery and Tetsuro Tamba.

The sleepy little fishing village of Akime has hardly been touched by foreign influences and actually looks quite similar to the place it portrays in the film, even though it's been more than 40 years ago that a full film crew suddenly put Akime in the centre of world-wide media attention.

It must have been a strange phenomenon for the people of Akime. Busloads of equipment and crew members were brought in, probably doubling if not tripling the amount of inhabitants for two weeks. Suddenly helicopters arrived bringing in film stars from over seas. A strange toy plane made an appearance, and then the busloads of reporters showed up, all trying to catch a glimpse of Sean Connery (to his ever growing frustration). By then, Connery had already had more than enough of all the media attention. He hated the fact that he couldn't enjoy his time in Japan and reacted by making some very unflattering statements about the Japanese, making more enemies than friends. In fact, one can hardly blame Connery for his reactions considering the fact that some of the most stupid questions were asked during the obligatory press conferences. The Japanese reporter who asked Connery if he was planning on starting his own detective agency deserves special mentioning here..

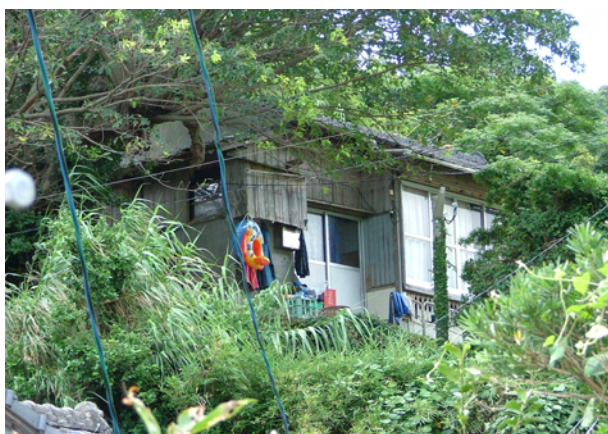


Upon entering Akime, you will find yourself in front of the only restaurant/bar/hotel the town has, **the Ganzin-so Inn**. During the filming in Akime, this inn was used to house the main actors and photos exist of Tetsuro Tamba standing in the second floor window looking outside while eating some noodles. You just **HAVE** to visit this place.

Just enter and politely inform the owners where you come from and why you are visiting Akime. They are so proud of their connection that they will most likely invite you in to see the many photographs they have of the filming. It really is a remarkable collection of official prints and personal photos of everything that occurred in the summer of 1966.



When you're outside, facing the Inn, just turn left and follow **the road along the water**. Here Kissy, Bond and Tiger arrived by boat, the latter two posing as locals. They have to wait for the funeral procession to come by, filmed here on this coastal road. After passing a small road on your right you will find the even smaller **alley** that leads to the hill above town. When you follow the alley you will end up at a house locally known as **Yamashita's**, the house that was used as Kissy's home. Here Bond and Kissy had dinner and spent the night, overlooking Akime.



A little known fact is that EON returned to Japan for another Bond film, something you can only know by looking at the end credits. For years we wondered why on earth the Japanese island of **Okinawa** was mentioned as a filming location for **The Spy Who Loved Me**, until we learned that EON filmed underwater footage of tropical fish around the island. This footage can be seen in Stromberg's huge aquarium on board of his Atlantis laboratory!

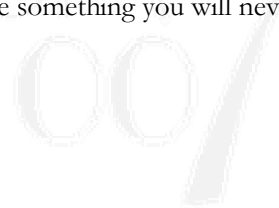


Off coast, a large island is visible, Okiakime. Behind this island, unable to see from the coast, lies **Nakabane Cave**, used for the exterior scenes of Bond and Kissy entering the deadly cave. At the end of the film we can see them exiting this cave, followed by Tiger's surviving ninja's. A trip to the cave should be arranged on location by just asking someone to take you there, because Akime doesn't operate 007 fan-tours to the cave at this stage.



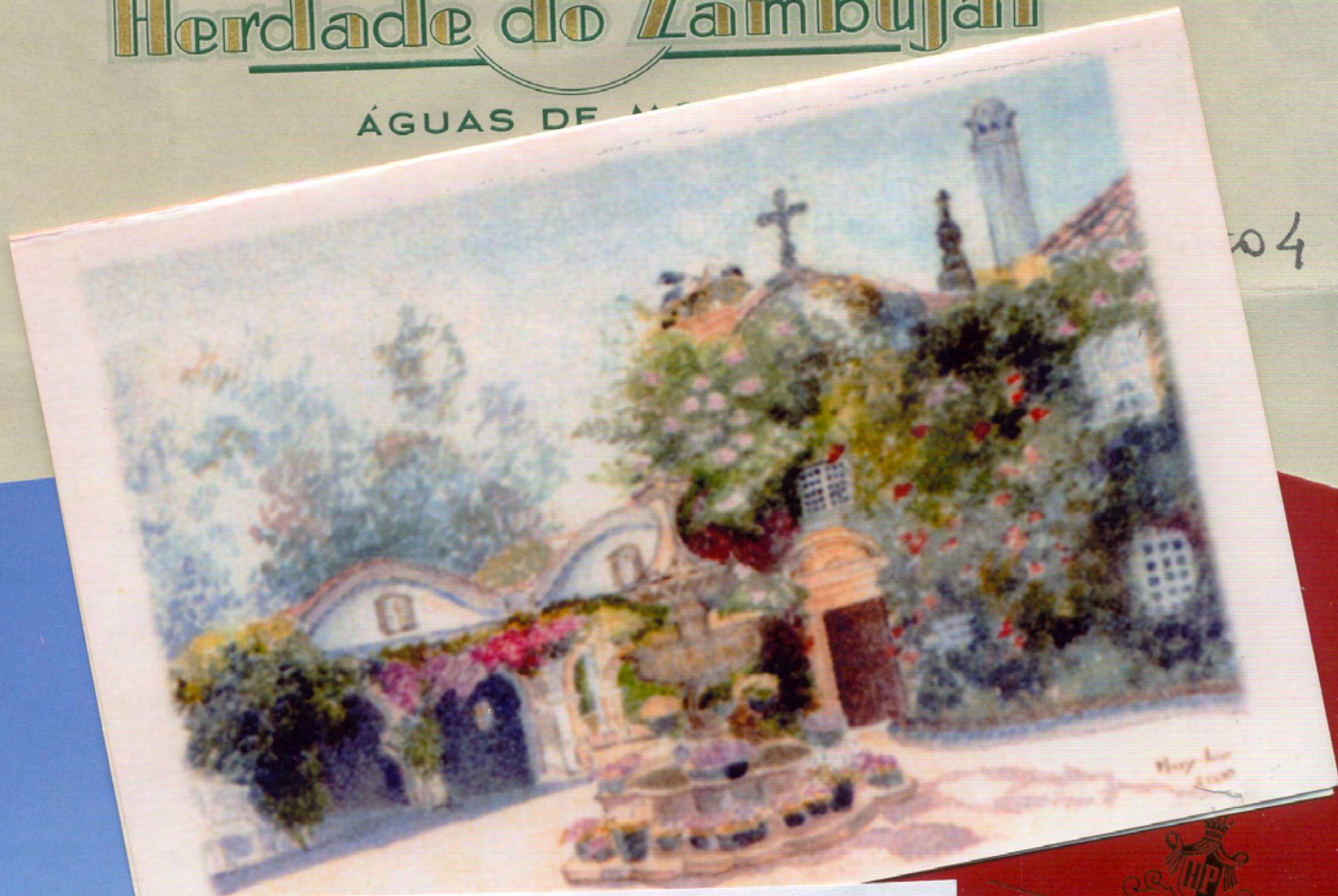
When filming finished on Kyushu the plan was to take a plane back to Tokyo, but Connery, still bothered by the fact that he hadn't been able to see a whole lot of Japan, insisted they took the train back and so it happened. We on the other hand returned to Kagoshima, from where we drove back to Fukuoka. The next day, a JAL flight brought us back to Tokyo where a connecting flight to Europe ended our Japanese adventure.

Travelling through Japan is truly a fantastic experience. The Bond locations, although scattered across the country, are marvellous to visit and I can strongly recommend either following this guide or planning your own trip and go see Japan as soon as you can. It will be something you will never forget!



Herdade do Zambujal

ÁGUAS DE A...



9 All the time in the world

In 1968, director Peter Hunt was on the verge of making "the best Bond film ever", as he often described it.

On Her Majesty's Secret Service was to become a different Bond film, having one of Fleming's best novels as its basis. Originally, **OHMSS** was scheduled for production right after **Goldfinger**, and Harry Saltzman even went back to Switzerland in search for locations, but the sudden appearance of Kevin McClory and the Thunderball-lawsuit changed things. Still, the director's chair for **OHMSS** was promised to editor Peter Hunt, fulfilling his greatest wish.

HIP
HOTEL PALACIO
Estuário



Hunt wanted to stay as close to Fleming's original story as possible, and had already been working on the script with Richard Maibaum during their work on *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Fleming's novel could largely be split in two halves: There's snow action, which was to be filmed in Switzerland, and there is love action, a wonderful love story between James Bond and Teresa de Vincenzo. Hunt faced a serious problem when he read the book, only to discover most of the love action took place in fictional Royale-les-Eaux. Which region on this planet has close ties to both espionage and royalty? Peter Hunt took his film crew to Portugal, to the area around Lisbon, and found some remarkable places that were simply perfect as the setting of James Bond's ultimate romance.

Portugal had its golden age in the 14th and 15th century, when Lisbon flourished as never before. Famous world explorers started their journeys from the Lisbon area, setting sail for a new world. Unfortunately, disaster struck in 1755, when most of Lisbon was destroyed by a powerful earthquake, wiping away whatever was left of this golden age. Lisbon was rebuilt in the centuries after this, but was never able to regain her fame and fortune of her glory days. Nowadays, Lisbon is a modern, busy city with a major parking problem. My advice is not to spend your days in the city, although the old part certainly has its beautiful buildings, cosy restaurants and *fado* bars. We prefer to take you to the nearby Estoril coast from where you have direct access to everything that is left of **OHMSS**.



Estoril can hardly be called a town. A posh resort is the result of one man's dream: Fausto Figueirido envisioned thousands of people strolling through marble corridors and down mosaic sidewalks to the ocean and if it wasn't for the determination of this man, Estoril would still be scrub, pines and sandy hills. In 1930, his dreams had finally been materialized, with the building of the Hotel Palácio and the Estoril Casino. Fortunately for Figueirido, kings, queens, princes and princesses soon found their way to Estoril's luxury and gave the area the name *Costa dos Reis*, or Coast of Kings.

After WWII the whole Estoril-Cascais-Sintra triangle became a haven for more ex-kings, ex-queens, dukes, duchesses, counts and countesses than any other part of the world, since Portugal was neutral and Europe was being devastated. France, Bulgaria, Spain, Hungary, Italy, Albania, Romania and on and on have refugees living in splendour, who were royal once but are refugees now because of politics at home today. Contessa Teresa di Vincenzo would feel perfectly at home here...

On Her Majesty's Secret Service opens with the famous walk-by reflection of Peter Hunt in the Universal Exports sign, and after a brief scene with M, Q and Moneypenny, the action moves to Bond leaving some coastal town in his new Aston Martin. This location, which reappears right after the title sequence, can be found in the village of Cascais. When you follow the *Avenida Marginal*, the old coastal road from Lisbon to the west coast, and in Cascais you follow the signs towards the *centro*, you will eventually drive through the centre, past the port, towards the *Cidadela*, an old fortress that nowadays serves as a military school. Park your car in front of this building. It is the view from the *Cidadela* towards the Cascais port that you see in the film. **The square with the palm trees** is still there, at the *Avenida D.Carlos I*. Peter Hunt cleverly filmed the palm tree tops hiding the rest of the busy boulevard, making it look like there's nothing there but fishing boats.



When you leave Cascais this way you can follow the signs to *Praia do Guincho*. A beautiful new road takes you all the way to Portugal's west coast. Ignoring Guincho beach at first, you should follow the road until you reach a side road leading to *Cabo da Roca*, Europe mainland's most western point. Now turn your car around, and drive back towards *Guincho Beach*. **Rua do Cabo** is the road on which we get a first glimpse of the new James Bond, and where Tracy's Ford passes Bond's Aston Martin. After a few kilometers you will find a **marvellous view of Guincho Beach** that also featured in the film. When you finish descending the mountain road, you will find yourself on the new road along the beach.

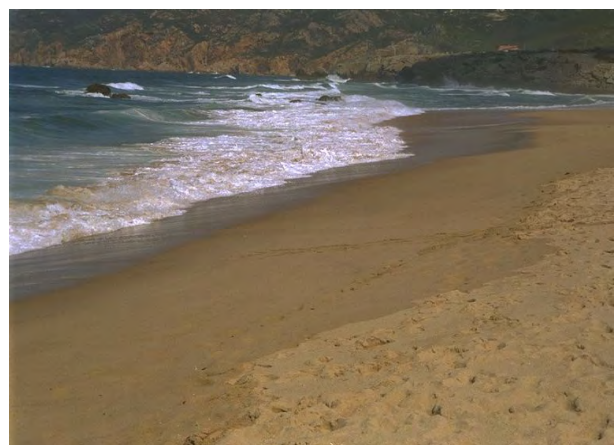


When you park your car on the right side of the road you will be at **the approximate spot where Bond and Tracy parked their cars**, back in April 1969.



Today, Guincho Beach is famous for its excellent wind surfing conditions, but we like to remember the days when George Lazenby spoke the words “This never happened to the other fellow..” on this very location. **The sandy dunes between the road and the beach** have become a bit higher than in the days when 007 drove his car to the sea shore to save Tracy from drowning, so we strongly suggest, although tempting, not to try this anymore. To ensure the Aston Martin’s grip, special metal sheets were placed under the sand. The squeaking acceleration sounds were added in post-production and, although highly unlikely while driving on sand, do contribute to the reality of this sequence..

After saving Tracy, Bond is being captured and, in true Bondian style, forced to first lie down in a fishing boat, before getting shot. The fight sequence that follows was also filmed on this beach. Even though the fishing boats and nets were put there for the scene, **the background land inwards** still looks much like it did in those days. The beach itself is great to relax on and since it marks the beginning of the relationship between 007 and Tracy it is an absolute must for fans.



Estoril

There’s something about Estoril that brings out the secret agent in all of us. After all, this place was the international spy nest of World War II. The famous *Hotel Palácio* had been spy headquarters for the Allies

just as the *Hotel do Parque* had been for the German/Italian Axis. Loads of funny stories about the serious spying game have survived: One day the British embarked an agent from a submarine on the windswept beaches of *Guincho*. Speaking perfectly German and carrying a suit of clothes made in Hamburg together with false papers he checked in at *Hotel do Parque*, hoping to mix with the other German operatives there. He entered his room quite sure that the trick had worked perfectly and went to bed. When he turned back the coverlet he found, to his consternation, a Union Jack and an Eton school tie.. All the agents knew that the hotels were bugged. One agent from Berlin would end all his telephone conversations with “Goodbye Hans,” and would then add “Goodbye also to my British friends, wherever you are...” When the *Hotel do Parque* was torn down after the war, dozens of bugging devices and gobs of wire were found in the walls.



The only survivor of this period is **the Hotel Palácio**, and this also happened to be James Bond's hotel during the **OHMSS** days. You can find the hotel in the centre of Estoril, next to the Casino gardens. The exterior still looks exactly like it did when EON filmed there. **The entrance of the hotel** is easily recognizable. 007 parked his car here, only to discover Tracy's Ford found its way to Estoril's famous hotel, too. The interior of the hotel has changed a bit since, although the marble corridors and floors still breathe the same majestic atmosphere.



Bond enters through **the lobby**, and after a quick word with Manuel, the hotel's manager, he is being taken through **the garden door**, to the pool area outside. The suite he's in was in fact reconstructed at Pinewood and does not resemble the actual suites at the hotel. The real suites are located in the north wing of the hotel and offer two floors to their inhabitants. All the 'normal' rooms (starting from 275 Euro per night) offer the same **view of the pool** as 007's suite did. Although the dive board has disappeared, the pool still looks the same.



During our stay in the posh hotel, we had a meeting with the head concierge, Jose Diogo. He has been working for the Palácio for 38 years, and in fact remembered the Bond filming as if it happened yesterday. Diogo was 19 at that time, and had the pleasure of actually appearing in the film. He's the boy handing over Bond's key to the manager at the hotel reception! The concierge loves to tell stories about all the famous people who visit the Palácio frequently, but also tells vividly about George Lazenby not wanting to rehearse the scene in which he enters the hotel. “The lady star of the film was an angel and took a lot of time for everyone..”, Diogo recalls.

Lisbon

When you want to travel from Estoril to Lisbon, you have several options. When you have to travel without a (rental) car, you should take the train. From the train station in front of the Casino gardens you can travel within half an hour to Portugal's capital. By car you can take the *Avenida Marginal*, which takes you through all the coastal towns, the toll road A-5 (1 Euro per car) or the IC-19 from Sintra.

When in Lisbon, the centre (*Baixa*) can easily be explored by foot. Our main interest is finding the jeweller where 007 bought Tracy's beautiful wedding ring. The start of the *Baixa* is the great *Praca do Comercio* square. When going northwards, the arched entrance gate leads you straight into the *Baixa*.

Just keep walking through the pedestrian zone all the way to the end of the street. You will end up in the *Rossio* area, that's being dominated by two squares. The one on your left is the one we're looking for: *Praca D. Pedro IV*. Here, on your left, you will find the silverware shop of **Joalheria Ferreira Marques**. The store still has exactly the same, highly recognizable exterior and even has the same neighbour. Only the street in front of it has slightly changed. The shop doesn't sell rings anymore, just silverware, but it still is a miracle to see this location so intact after all these years.



Another location, minor but very beautiful, can be found in Lisbon's large green heart: *Monsanto*, a hill made-into a park within the city. The location is located on the western edge between the park and the *Sete Rios* district, in an area called *Furnas*. Mentioned in most travel guides, the **Palacio des Marqueses Fronteira** is a known tourist attraction, with an interesting garden for Bond fans.



Here some of the love scenes were filmed, during the romantic intermezzo. The fountains and statues are all there. The only thing absent, is the sound of Louis Armstrong's *We have all the time in the world*. When you walk all the way to the building on the southern side and look back towards the garden, you will have about the same angle the romantic walk was filmed in. In the separate garden section behind the house you can find the star shaped fountain Tracy sat down on to play with the cat. Since this Palacio is still inhabited it is not open for public that often, but don't let the closed gate scare you off. Simply ring the bell and ask. You might just be allowed a peek into the garden...

When you find the time right to leave Lisbon for what it is, you should take the A-2 SUL, leading towards the south of Portugal and the *Algarve*.



This road also takes you across the *Rio Tejo* (River Tague) using the **Ponte 25 de Abril**, one of two large bridges. 007 crossed this bridge, formerly known as *Salazar* Bridge, twice in **OHMSS**. His first time is when he is brought to Marc Ange Draco in the famous Rolls Convertible. In this scene you can clearly see the Statue of Christ (*Cristo Rei*) on the other side of the bridge, guarding over Lisbon and its inhabitants. The last time 007 crosses this bridge is on his honeymoon, driving with Tracy in the flower covered Aston Martin, straight towards her untimely death.

In search of Zambujal

I would like to step away from the travel guide style for a moment, and share with you some of the adventures a modern day Bond location hunter has to go through on his field trips. We are on our way to one of Portugal's best kept secrets, a tiny place called Zambujal. This is a major Bond location and the obscurity surrounding the exact location of this town has been a puzzle to Bond fans for years. This is mainly because of wrong spelling of the name (Zambuljal?) and the fact, as it will turn out, that it is not a town at all. After obtaining several road maps and strolling around the internet map sites for weeks, none was able to come up with a town called *Zambuljal* in the Lisbon area. The only straight clue came from the **OHMSS** Special Edition DVD commentary track, claiming it was "just outside Setúbal".

After carefully studying the film scenes, it soon became obvious that there was a wide river close to it, as one can see in the bull ring sequence. Comparing this info with one of our many road maps, only one area would fit the bill. South-east of Setúbal, the *Rio Sado* becomes very wide and finally we found a reference on the internet to a place called 'Zambujal' in that area.

When approaching the area following the various clues we had gathered, we soon came upon our first problem: The only (small) road that would lead to the village (according to our map), had been closed

with barbwire. Should we proceed and trespass by foot? Hmm, first let's try to find another way in.. After asking directions several times, people kept sending us into different directions. In the end, we found a little trail more or less leading into Zambujal's direction, presenting serious problems to our simple rental car. In the end we found ourselves on the banks of *Rio Sado* where the trail ended, without the inclusion of a bridge. Being stared at by local farmers, our car found its way back to the N-10. We decided to drive towards *Setúbal*, when we finally had a breakthrough. 100 meters after the second (and last) railway bridge, we found a small sign with the welcome words "*Zambujal*", pointing to the left. We had discovered the entrance road to our location, the *Avenida Zambujal*.

We followed the road and came to a bridge that's not even on the maps. We could finally cross the *Rio Sado* and after 100 meters we could spot a collection of houses. We entered 'town' and drove straight towards the main building, which started to look more familiar the closer we got. On the parking lot we were lucky enough to stumble upon Isabel Vinhas, who owns Zambujal together with her husband and explained that our 'village' was actually *Herdade do Zambujal* (or 'great farm Zambujal'), 3500 acres of land, used for grapes (for wine), horses and bulls.



The main house with the fountain in front of it is still inhabited by Mario Vinhas, Isabel's father-in-law. This is the house you see in **OHMSS**, when Tracy's drives her convertible towards the bull ring, to attend her father's birthday party. The original fountain has been replaced by a larger one, but you can still find the original behind the house. They have simply been switched. The buildings alongside **the lane leading to the house** are workers' quarters. Locals live here who have been working all their lives for the estate. We actually met a fairly old lady who played in the film's party sequence and still kept her photographs of her with Diana Rigg. Today, big trees hide the houses from view and an entrance gate has been added to the main house, which gives the site a slightly different first impression.



The small square with the fountain in front of the house is also visible in the marriage scenes although, as said earlier, this is not the actual fountain. Here, Moneypenny, Q and M gathered to say goodbye to 007 and Tracy, who are about to leave on their honeymoon. Bond throws his hat one more time to Moneypenny, waves and then climbs into the Aston Martin. The newlyweds then drive off through the same lane as described earlier.



On the other end of the grounds, in an area normally inaccessible because the bulls are being kept there during the day, you can find **a small strip of beach**. On this beach Bond and Tracy finally fell in love and we could all see them hug and kiss romantically at the end of the romantic sequence. The beach hasn't changed at all and is interesting because of its obscurity.

Isabel invited us to come with her and promised to show us the bull ring, which only happened to be some 200 meters away from the house. We jumped into her 4x4 car, and while driving, Isabel started talking about the filming of **OHMSS**. A mutual Greek friend had brought director Peter Hunt to the estate, who instantly fell in love with it. Once again, wonderful stories emerged about Diana Riggs' friendliness and it became obvious that she had been everybody's favourite. In the early eighties, a TV movie *To Catch a King* starring Robert Wagner had also been filmed on the estate.

The bull ring still is an amazing place and looks almost exactly as in 1969. A yellow house style colour has been added to the walls (the white apparently drove the bulls crazy), but everything else is still the same. Before going up to the part where the party was held, we had a closer look to **the place where Bond and Tracy had parked their cars**, since this was the place where real love had finally entered their hearts. We spent quite some time on the party place upstairs, overlooking the *Rio Sado* (we had been right with our investigation!), remembering Marc Ange Draco's birthday party and sniffing up the atmosphere of what still was a significant place in James Bond's movie life. After thanking Isabel Vinhas for her help and hospitality, we gave Zambujal one last look and then took off, on our way to yet another highly important location from **OHMSS**: The *Arrábida* road where Tracy got killed.



When you get to the main road (N-10), turn left towards *Setúbal*, a small but busy town. When you reach it, almost immediately signs will guide you to '*Arrábida*' and '*Praia-Arrábida*'. *Arrábida* is a national park with some fantastic mountain roads. Peter Hunt had already discovered the area's potential and investigated every square meter in his search for the best place to end his movie. And at that point, it wasn't even sure if Tracy's death would be included in **OHMSS** at all. If Lazenby had gone on playing 007, the death of Tracy could have been the pre-title sequence of **Diamonds Are Forever**, but as soon as things had become clear, the death scene was included again, marking not only the death of Tracy, but in a way also the death of Lazenby's 007 days.

After leaving *Setúbal*, the road splits in two: One going to the left to *Porthinho da Arrábida* and the other just to *Arrábida*. We take this last one and proceed for another kilometer until we have to turn left, up into the mountains, still following the signs '*Arrábida*'. You will now climb quickly and find yourself in the middle of the national park. The exact place where the death of Tracy was filmed is not so difficult to find, although at first you might think all the roads look alike. It all happened in the hundred meters right after the road reached its highest point and you start your descend. 30 meters after this highest point, you will find a stone bounded view point (in fact the second and last one you will find on this road). Park your car here, and walk the last 50 meters downhill, towards the curve to the right. **In this curve** Bond parked the Aston Martin to get rid of the flowers on his car.



When you have reached the curve, take some time and sit down on the stone road barrier that has been placed in front of the old separate stones that are visible in the film. **Look towards the view point** where you just parked your car and you will have exactly the same camera angle that was used when filming Blofeld's Mercedes approaching. It doesn't really take to much imagination to re-live the historical cinematic moment that ended one of our favourite Bond films.



Filming for **OHMSS** finally ended on 23 June 1969, almost two months over schedule. But Peter Hunt still had to face his greatest challenge: Telling the producers the film was NOT going to have the then standard length of 2 hours. John Glen, who would later become the longest serving Bond director himself, was the lucky man to help Peter Hunt edit the film. Although the producers were concerned about the 2 hour and 20 minute length, an Odeon theatre executive alleviated their fears when he viewed the film and told them the film's running time would not be an issue.

Returning from *Arrábida* to the A2 towards Lisbon, you have ended your tour and seen all the historic locations of **OHMSS**, which are still all very recognizable and highly recommendable. Peter Hunt had done his utmost to give us the most marvellous locations for 'his' film and the success of his efforts says everything about the man who will always be remembered as a fantastic, innovative editor, a skilful director and a vivid story teller. We would also like to remember him as the man who made the best Bond film ever.



Top 10 disappeared Bond locations

10. Kevin McClory's home (NSNA)

Included here for obscurity reasons alone. McClory's Paradise Island home is the place where 007 and Domino dip in the pool at the end of *NSNA*. Demolished in the 90's.

9. Miss Taro's home (DN)

Filmed inside the Sans Souci Hotel in Ocho Rios, where cast and crew stayed during the filming of *Dr. No*. The luxurious hotel has undergone massive changes since the 60's and nothing there today reminds us of this scene.

8. Sumo wrestling hall (YOLT)

The original wrestling hall in Tokyo where Bond meets Aki was demolished in the 80's and a new wrestling hall has emerged.

7. Ice skating ring (OHMSS)

All that's left of this location is a car park in Grindelwald, Switzerland. You might only recognise it from the landscape in the back.

6. Queen Elisabeth wreck (TMWTGG)

While being refitted after many years of loyal service, the QE caught fire in Hong Kong harbour in 1972. For years the wreck was lying there on her side until she was removed in the 80's. She was the exterior of MI6's headquarters in *TMWTGG*.

5. Baron Samedi's cemetery (LALD)

While I always considered this to be a very nice studio set, locals explained that Baron Samedi's cemetery, where he can be seen playing the flute during Bond and Solitaire's escape, had actually existed in the hills above Rose Hall. It was demolished in the 90's and became hole 18 of a new golf course.

4. Café Martinique (TB)

This unique location from *Thunderball* really existed on Paradise Island and attracted quite some Bond fans from around the world. It was demolished in the 90's and is now part of the Atlantis complex.

3. Coral Harbour Hotel (TB)

Bond's hotel from *Thunderball*, where he first met with Domino at the pool, once was a very luxurious hotel on Paradise Island. Today nothing's left of it and no one remembers it.

2. Strangway's house (DN)

One of the first Bond locations ever could once be found in Kinsale Street, Kingston, but was demolished in the early 70's. Here Strangway's secretary was murdered and *Dr.No*'s files were stolen. Too bad this is gone.

1. M's home (OHMSS)

Closely following Fleming's book, Peter Hunt wanted to include M's house in *OHMSS* and found Thames Lawn in Marlow on the banks of the Thames. In the 90's it suspiciously caught fire twice in one weekend and was gone forever.



10 City of diamonds

In one of Ian Fleming's few non-Bond books, *Thrilling Cities*, he describes the various cities he visited for the *Sunday Times*. He chose these cities because of their 'hidden, authentic pulse'. He claimed to have focused on the "bizarre and perhaps shadier side of life". He succeeded, but forgot to visit one city: Amsterdam, capital of the Netherlands. Whenever abroad you just have to mention the city's name, and everyone knows bizarre details about it. Amsterdam is world famous for its red-light district and its soft drug tolerating policy.

Nowadays, Amsterdam is also one of the most important diamond centres in the world. Therefore it seemed logical that Amsterdam was chosen to be a filming location for the 1971 Bond movie **Diamonds are Forever**. Amsterdam is easiest reached by air, coming in on *Schiphol Airport*. A ten minute train ride brings you to the hart of the city. Stepping out of the *Central Station*, you will find the Tourist Information Office on your left. Here you can arrange your stay in one of the many hotels.

Crossing the busy streets opposite of the *Central Station*, you can walk towards *the Dam*, a big square known for its pigeons flying around. On this road from the station to the square, all you have to do is turn left at some point to land in the middle of the red-light district. This neighbourhood has been the home of a thriving prostitution business since the early 17th century. In those poor days, prostitution was one of the only ways to make a living, and to regulate things, the Dutch authorities tolerated prostitution only in this specific area. This has been so ever since. The circumstances have become much better now, and the women all operate from their own rooms in 17th century buildings. They sit behind the front windows, reading or flirting. A red fluorescent light hanging above their window, notifies you whether a woman is on or off duty. This unique way of advertising themselves, is being tolerated by authorities and attracts thousands of tourists each day.

Amsterdam was founded around the 14th century, and is (like Venice) largely built on poles to make sure the marshy ground did not affect the stability of the buildings. The centre of the city is surrounded by canals, built in the early 17th century. In that period the Netherlands had become an important seafaring nation that grew affluent from world trade. In 1626, Dutchman Peter Minuit was the one who acquired Manhattan from the Indians, for merely \$30, and called it New Amsterdam. The Dutch ruled the important area until 1664, when Dutch governor Peter Stuyvesant was ejected in favour of the English. The settlement was then renamed New York and English became the official language there.

Standing on the Dam square, opposite of the National Monument, you can see the Dutch Royal Palace, reportedly built on 13.500 wooden poles. On the left of the palace is the beginning of Amsterdam's busiest shopping street, *de Kalverstraat*. Walking through this street makes it almost impossible not to buy anything. After a thousand meters, on your left you will find the *Leidsestraat*, leading you to the *Leidsplein* square. Here you can find numerous restaurants, bars, and also the Casino. Crossing the *Singelgracht* canal and following the street to your left, you will walk towards the beautiful *Rijksmuseum*. This national museum houses a

magnificent collection of 17th century Dutch paintings by Rembrandt, Vermeer and Hals among others. Its most famous painting hangs in its own room at the end of the Gallery of Honour. It is officially called '*Company of Frans Banning Cocq and Willem van Ruytenburch*', painted by Rembrandt in 1642. Through the years it became covered with grime, and was therefore later mistaken for a night scene. This way it acquired its incorrect but world-wide known name *De Nachtwacht* (the Nightwatch).



If you decide not to go to the *Leidseplein* you can just follow the *Kalverstraat*. It will eventually lead you to the other square, the *Rembrandtsplein*. Here you will find even more bars, restaurants and discos. Around this area, some interesting scenes were filmed for Sean Connery's last EON-produced Bond film *Diamonds are Forever*. After having taken diamond smuggler Peter Frank's place at Dover, Bond travels to Amsterdam. The first scene here was filmed on **the Amstel River**, near the Magere Brug (the Skinny Bridge). Here the body of Mrs. Whistler is being pulled out of the river, as seen from **the canal-tour boat 'Willem Alexander'**. All this is being witnessed by Wint and Kidd who are standing on **the Skinny Bridge**.



On the background you can already see Bond arriving by car. This ride was filmed in two phases. The first bit was filmed on the west side of the river. Back on the *Rembrandtsplein* square, if you look in southern direction, you will see another small square, in fact a projection of the *Rembrandtsplein*. This

square is known as *Thorbeckeplein*. Passing it southwards, after crossing the *Herengracht* canal, you will be walking along the *Reguliersgracht*. Make sure you are on the western side (right) of the canal. At **Reguliersgracht no. 36** is the house where Tiffany Case lived. In front of this house, Bond parked his car. The doorbell and intercom system were not originally there, but a studio shot was later inserted. There happens to be no elevator inside the building, so this too was filmed inside the Pinewood Studios, along with all other interior scenes. Later when the real Peter Franks arrives at the house, you can see Sean Connery acting a love scene with himself in front of the neighbour's house. Standing with your back to the house, at the small bridge on your left on the other side of the canal, the second bit of Bond's car ride was filmed, and later cleverly cut.



'*Amsterdam has got it all!*' is the slogan that was used for years by the city's authorities, and indeed it does. From busy shopping streets to quiet courtyard gardens, from the beautiful *Vondelpark* to the obscure pot coffee shops. From the Anne Frank House to a houseboat for homeless cats. From half a million bicycles to one of the most important airport hubs in Europe. In our opinion, Ian Fleming really missed out a chance to describe one of the world's most interesting cities in his travel book. On the other hand, at least 007 paid Amsterdam a visit...

We often wondered why EON picked this specific house, but up to today, we haven't come up with a satisfying answer. Guy Hamilton couldn't remember a specific reason, but research has shown that at the time of the filming, the house was owned by the owner of the Amstel Hotel, Amsterdam's finest hotel and possibly temporary home for cast and crew. Whatever the case, the house surely has all the beauty and grace of the typical Dutch canal houses. Small, tall and all built in the 17th and 18th century. You can easily recognize Tiffany's house from the decoration at the top of the façade. A nice detail is the towing hook, at the top of almost all the houses. These were (and sometimes still are) used to pull up large and heavy furniture to the higher floors, since the stairways inside are often too narrow.

GOLDEN NUGGET GAMBLING HALL

GOLDEN NUGGET 1905

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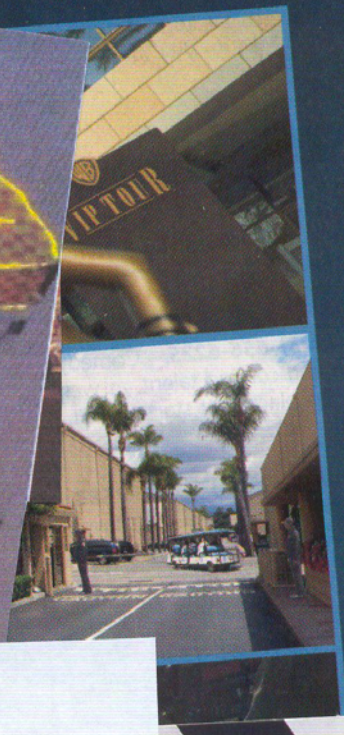
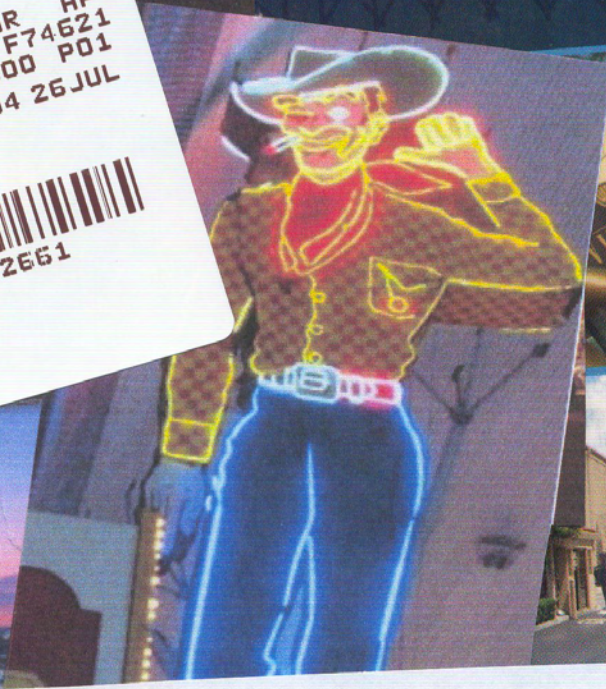
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WARNER BROS. STUDIOS
STUDIO TOUR



11 Mud pies and rock salt

The west coast of the United States, or 'Pacific Coast', is one of the world's most attractive holiday destinations. Everything you need can be found here, from beautiful beaches to bustling cities, from the cold tops of the Rocky Mountains to the scorching heat of Death Valley. When you include neighbouring states Nevada and Arizona, you are really in for a Bond location treat.

Coincidentally, two of the most popular Bond actors ended their contribution to the official EON series here: Sean Connery tried his luck on the gambling tables of Las Vegas in **Diamonds Are Forever**, while Roger Moore said farewell steering a fire truck through the streets of San Francisco in **A View To A Kill**.

Since we will visit these locations later on, it seems like a good thing to start our journey in the City of Angels and her famous district of Hollywood.

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Los Angeles & Hollywood

Even though the first Europeans reached the area already in 1542, it took until 1781 before the original Portuguese mission was developed into a Spanish held *pueblo* or town. Not many people will know that L.A.'s original name is *El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles Del Río de Porciúncula*, meaning 'the Town of Our Lady the Queen of the Angels on the River Porciúncula'. By 1821 L.A. still was a small town with a few hundred settlers as inhabitants, when *Alta California*, as the region was called, became independent from the Spanish Empire and became part of Mexico. This rule ended during the American-Mexican War and after a short adventure as an independent republic California became the 31st state in 1850.

Around that same time the gold rush began when gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill. The effects were gigantic. Both L.A. and San Francisco grew from tiny hamlets into busy cities almost overnight when roads, schools, churches and other towns were quickly built. When in 1869 the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads joined at Promontory Summit in Utah, the first Transcontinental Railroad was established, giving California another boost of indescribable proportions.

When in 1910 director D.W.Griffith was sent to the L.A. area with a group of actors to do a short film, they eventually ended up in what is now Hollywood and stayed there for months filming. When word started to spread about this wonderful place, other film makers soon followed. Among them famous director Cecil B. DeMille who made the very first feature film here, called 'The Squaw Man', in 1914. This put tiny Hollywood firmly on the map and the Hollywood movie industry was officially born. In the following years Hollywood would slowly become the movie capital of the world, a place which it, in many people's minds, still holds today.

Most people arrive in L.A. by plane and will land at Los Angeles International Airport, mostly referred to by its airport code **LAX**, which is the 5th busiest airport in the world. As soon as you get in a cab or rental car, you will find yourself driving on some of the most famous roads you will ever encounter. Since so many TV series were filmed in and around L.A. (just think *Knightrider*, *The A-team*, *24*) you will have a lot of *deja-vus* along the way to your hotel and almost every street sign will trigger a memory of a song or film in your head.

Spending a few days in Hollywood is certainly recommendable since there is a lot to see. The Kodak Theatre (home of the Oscars TM) and next to it the impressive Graumann's Chinese Theatre (with all the famous foot and palm prints in concrete,



going back as far as Harold Lloyd!) are good starting points for a stroll over the Walk of Fame. This is probably the best known sidewalk in the world, embedded with over 2000 stars featuring names of celebrities honoured by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for their contributions to the entertainment industry. The only major studio complex still in Hollywood is Paramount Studios at 5555 Melrose Avenue. It is open to visit and guided 2-hour tours are operated daily. Other famous landmarks within the Hollywood borders include the circular Capitol Records building, Griffith Park and Observatory, the Hollywood Bowl and of course the Hollywood sign in the Hollywood Hills.



Originally spelling 'HOLLYWOODLAND', the well known white letters were erected in 1923 to promote a new housing development. After a while the sign had become an internationally recognised symbol for the L.A. entertainment industry so it was decided to keep it in place. When the sign's official caretaker accidentally destroyed the letter 'H', it marked the beginning of the deterioration. After an initial restoration attempt (which called for the 'LAND' part to be removed) the state of the sign even got worse when the first 'O' broke in half and the third 'O' completely fell down, leaving the sign reading 'Hullywo d' for a number of years.

It took a public campaign initiated by rock star Alice Cooper to raise funds in the late 1970s and when 9 donors were found who each donated a small 30,000 US\$, the sign was officially saved and the letters were finally replaced by solid steel ones.

Of course we can go on for a number of pages about MGM Studios or other notable places one could visit like Disneyworld and the Disney Studios, but that would go too far for this story. Let's focus on the reason why we are in California in the first place. The only Bond location in Hollywood itself is located on the grounds of Universal Studios. Here on the car park of the studio complex the car chase was filmed with Bond and Tiffany in their Ford Mustang for **Diamonds Are Forever (DAF)**. From L.A. it is a four to five hour drive to Las Vegas, depending on the traffic. Just take the San Bernardino Freeway to San Bernardino where you can pick up the Interstate 15 North to Las Vegas.

One small detour might turn out to be a mighty interesting one though. When you follow the Interstate 10 eastwards from San Bernardino and take the 111 right after passing Cabazon, you will end up in Palm Springs. Follow the 111 into town until it becomes the North Palm Canyon Drive. After a short while it bends to the left and becomes the East Palm Canyon Drive.

Immediately after crossing a bridge you turn right into Southridge Drive. Just follow the road up the hill and the first house on your right should immediately catch your eye.

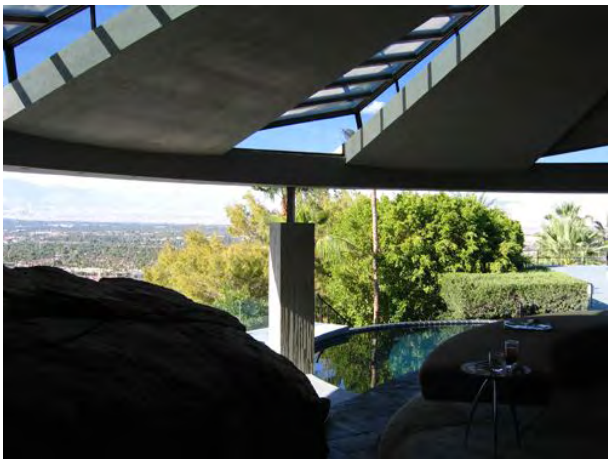


This is **Elrod House**, designed by famous architect John Lautner for interior designer Arthus Elrod. Built in 1968, the incredible house is basically a massive concrete roof hung over an indoor-outdoor pool with boulders in the living room, making the house feel like a modern cave. The wall on the north side is motorized glass that opens up to make the entire house feel like it is outside. If you didn't know better you would say it's a Ken Adam set.





This house was Willard Whyte's house in **DAF**. This is where Bond gets beaten up by Bambi and Thumper until he almost drowns them in the outside pool. Later on in the film he almost gets shot by Burt Saxby while rescuing Whyte from the room where the latter's being held. For the fortunate ones, this house is available for rent, so if you can spend the money, here's your chance to spend a few nights at an amazing (Bond) location.



The last Bond location here worth mentioning is the former house of Kirk Douglas. Located at **515 West Via Lola**, the villa featured in **DAF** as Tiffany's American house and has the pool in which Plenty O'Toole was found dead.

Viva Las Vegas!

Named after the availability of water in the valley - Las Vegas means 'the meadows' in Spanish - the small desert town in Nevada became a small city when construction of the Boulder (now Hoover) Dam began in the early 1930's. With gambling legalized in 1931, Las Vegas started its rise to world fame as the gambling capital of the world. Gambling became organized and regulated. The city issued the first gambling license in 1931 to the Northern Club, and soon other casinos were licensed on Fremont Street like the *Las Vegas Club* and the *Apache Hotel*. Fremont Street developed its nickname as *Glitter Gulch* from all of the lights that were powered by electricity from Hoover Dam. This huge dam and its reservoir, Lake Mead, turned into tourist attractions on their own and the need for additional higher class hotels became clear.

On April 3, 1941, *El Rancho Vegas* opened its doors. It was the first resort on what would become the Las Vegas Strip. A few more resorts were built on and around Fremont Street but it wouldn't take long before the Strip publicly demonstrated the influence of organized crime on Las Vegas when gangster Bugsy Siegel, with help from fellow mobster Meyer Lansky, built the infamous *Flamingo* there in 1946. Many people, including some involved with organized crime, saw the potential that gambling offered in Las Vegas. From 1952 to 1957, they built the *Sabara*, the *Sands*, the *New Frontier*, the *Royal Nevada*, the *Showboat*, ***The Riviera***, the *Fremont*, *Binion's Horseshoe* (which was the *Apache Hotel*), and finally ***The Tropicana***.

Even with the general knowledge that some of the owners of these casino resorts had dubious backgrounds, by 1954, over 8 million people were visiting Las Vegas yearly pumping 200 millions dollars into casinos. Gambling was no longer the only attraction. The biggest stars of films and music like Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and others performed in intimate settings. After coming to see these stars, the tourists would resume gambling, and then eat at the gourmet buffets that have become a staple of the casino industry.

While The Strip was booming, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission on January 27, 1951 detonated the first of over a hundred atmospheric explosions at the Nevada Test Site. These atmospheric tests would continue until enactment of the Partial Test Ban Treaty in 1963 when the tests moved underground. Despite the dangers and risks of radiation exposure from the, at the time, greatly underestimated fallout, Las Vegas happily advertised the explosions as a tourist attraction and even offered *Atomic Cocktails* in sky rooms that offered a great view of the mushroom clouds.

Diamonds Are Forever was the seventh film in the official EON series and was mostly notable for the (first) return of Sean Connery as 007. After George Lazenby had decided not to reprise his role as James Bond, about halfway through the filming of **OHMSS**, the search for a new lead began again. While many were considered and tested, the role of 007 was initially won by American actor John Gavin. During pre-production of **DAF**, United Artists' president David Picker convinced Broccoli and Saltzman to try to persuade Connery into one last appearance as Bond and in the end Picker himself met with Connery and offered him a deal that was too good to refuse: 1,250,000 dollar and a share of the net profits. Additionally Connery could make two films of his own choice with UA and a clause was written in the contract that would pay him extra money if the filming would go over schedule. John Gavin's contract was paid off in full by EON and in later years he would more focus on politics and would even become the US ambassador for Mexico (1981-1986).

Guy Hamilton returned as director and Richard Maibaum wrote the first script, about Goldfinger's twin brother. This idea was abandoned when Cubby Broccoli had a dream one night about his friend Howard Hughes. In his dream Broccoli was visiting Hughes who was living as a recluse in a Las Vegas suite. But upon approaching, the figure sitting behind the desk turned around and it turned out not to be his friend Hughes but an impostor. When Broccoli shared this dream with Maibaum, the latter quickly incorporated this idea in a brand new script, revolving around multi millionaire Willard Whyte, who lived as a recluse in Las Vegas. Maibaum brought back **SPECTRE** as the main enemy and Blofeld as the one who had taken the place of Willard Whyte. Later American writer Tom Mankiewicz was brought in to polish up the script and several new elements were added. Originally the film was supposed to end on Lake Mead with 007 entangled in a speed boat chase with Blofeld near Hoover Dam. This was changed into a finale on an oilrig. Mankiewicz also came up with the subplot about Blofeld cloning himself.



When you enter Las Vegas on the I-15 take a right turn at the first big junction right before the airport and turn left onto the Las Vegas Boulevard South, better known as 'The Strip', heading north. After passing **McCarran International Airport**, also used in the film in the scene with the smuggled diamonds in the locker, on your right you will be facing one of the most famous 'welcome' signs in the world: *Welcome to fabulous Las Vegas Nevada!*. Next, between the road and the airport, you might recognize the empty lots as the fictitious location of *The Montecito* from the NBC series *Las Vegas*. On the corner of the crossing with Tropicana Avenue can find **The Tropicana Hotel** on your right. This was Bond's hotel in Las Vegas. In the film Bond comments to Shady Tree and Morton Slumber he's heard the Tropicana is quite comfortable.



Next along the Strip is an impressive line-up of large resort casinos. In fact, 18 of the 25 largest hotels in the world are here on the Strip. When you continue your way until crossing Desert Inn Road, another few Bond locations are lying ahead of you. The first road on your left is Circus Circus Drive, around, yes, the **Circus Circus Hotel**. Inside, in the famous 'Carnival Midway' section, the scenes were filmed where Tiffany 'wins' the diamond-stuffed elephant at the water balloons, while being observed by both Bond and the CIA as well as the smugglers. Across the Strip, opposite of the Circus Circus, you can find the **Riviera Hotel and Casino**. Home of entertainer Liberace for many years, the Riviera is the hotel where cast and crew stayed during the 7 weeks Las Vegas shoot. This is also the place where Bond met Plenty O'Toole at the gambling tables. Here was also the scene filmed with Sammy Davis Jr., which eventually ended up on the floor of the cutting room. Because the casino is open 24/7, EON was allowed only to shoot between 3am and 6am to not disturb the other guests too much. Moving yet another street to the east, you will get to **the former International Hotel**. At the time brand new, the International Hotel became the White House. In later years the hotel became part of the Hilton Hotel Group.

Last but not least, there is a huge car park between the Hilton and the Riviera. While not really a Bond location today, it sure still was one some time ago. Here used to be the **Landmark Tower**. This futuristic hotel and casino first opened its doors in 1969, offering only 525 rooms. Playing host to celebrities like Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley, the hotel became a landmark in the true sense of the word. Owned by Broccoli's friend Howard Hughes, the Landmark somehow didn't make enough money and soon trouble started mounting. After a leaking gas in the AC system killed one guest and injuring around 100 others, bad publicity started doing its work as well and by the early 90s the hotel's fate was sealed.



Despite attempts to have the structure put on the list of historical landmarks, the Landmark Hotel was imploded in 1995. The merely seventeen seconds implosion was caught on camera by director Tim Burton and used in his film *Mars Attacks!* which was released a year later.

One remarkable feature of the Landmark Hotel was its **glass outdoor elevator**. This was used as the elevator Bond uses to get to WW's penthouse in the Whyte House. Connery can also be seen walking on the casino roof at the bottom of the tower.



The gas station where Bond sneaks into Dr. Metz's van was also located on the northeast corner of the huge parking area. The photographic evidence we provide here was taken on a location trip during the mid-80s and is merely here to give you an idea of how the situation was back then. A real shame all these locations are now gone and replaced by something as uninspiring as a parking lot.



The best known street in Las Vegas, next to the Strip, must be **Fremont Street**. Everything that shouts 'Vegas' can be found on this busy street. Large casinos like *Binion's Horseshoe* and the *Golden Nugget, Vegas Vic* (the waving cowboy neon sign) are all together in what is probably the best lit street in the world. Nowadays covered by an archway roof, the street used to be open air, as can be seen in **DAF** during the exciting car chase. EON had arranged the street to be closed off for three nights and in these three nights the chase scene was filmed including the entry of Bond's Mustang into an alley (50 meters from the corner of Fremont and South Casino Blvd) and its two wheeled exit into Fremont Street (in front of the Pioneer Club at 25 East Fremont Street).



When the rushes clearly showed a huge crowd and attending police car in the background, it was decided to reshoot the Mustang exiting the alley. Unfortunately the second time, the stuntman drove out of the alley on the wrong set of wheels, an error which was discovered while editing the film later on. Tom Mankiewicz came up with the silly, but only usable, solution of inserting a shot of Bond and Tiffany inside the car turning it over from the right wheels to the left, to at least have the entry and exit footage match again.

When you return to The Strip and keep heading north (604), go underneath the I-515 and follow the road when it catches up with Main Street and bends to the right. Take a right turn at the crossing with East Lake Mead Boulevard (147), follow this road for a while through Sunrise Manor and leave Vegas behind. A few kilometers into the desert you will find a road to the left called Gypsum Road. When you take this exit and follow that road you will be brought to Willard Whyte's Techtronics Space Laboratory or rather **John Manville's Gypsum plant**. Here Bond arrived in the back of Dr. Metz's van and left in a Moon Buggy while being chased by security personnel on trikes. The interior scenes were all done in the studio.

The scenes were shot on the gypsum plant's grounds in May 1971 and the crew suffered from various problems, mostly vehicle related. Originally the script called for the Moon Buggy to drive through the wall, find its way back to the road and disappear out of sight. With this in mind, the Moon Buggy (or *Moon Machine* as it was called in the call sheets) was designed by Ken Adam and built by California based Dean Jeffries. It wasn't until Guy Hamilton saw the rugged area around the chosen location that the chase sequence was staged. But now the trouble started because the trikes turned out to be very hard to handle and the Moon Buggy kept falling apart. Initially the buggy's wheels were too light and were replaced at the last minute with balloon tyres. The before mentioned **Gypsum Road** is the road driven on by Bond and Tiffany when 007 has escaped his pursuers.

Unlike any other famous Bond vehicle the Moon Buggy is truly unique since there was only one built. What happened to the Moon Buggy when filming wrapped is yet another story worth sharing. After its appearance in the film it was used as the centrepiece of the worldwide advertising campaign. After the publicity tour the Moon Buggy was discarded. It soon fell into a state of disrepair until Graham Rye, publisher of *007 Magazine*, discovered it in a field somewhere in the UK. He acquired the remains and organised the restoration of the vehicle to its original condition. The Moon Buggy was then shipped to Las Vegas where it was displayed at *Cesar's Palace* until 2003. Finally, offered in auction at Christies, the Moon Buggy sold for £23,000 and was purchased by *Planet Hollywood* owner Robert Earl for display at the *Planet Hollywood Las Vegas Casino*.

The final Bond location in the Las Vegas area we will visit can be found on our way back. When Gypsum Road meets East Lake Mead Boulevard (147) again, turn left. At the end, turn right on to North shore Road (147). Driving around Lake Las Vegas you will eventually come upon the East Lake Mead Parkway (564). Turn right and drive back towards Las Vegas. When you hit the suburbs of Vegas, turn left on the Boulder Highway. Drive south for a few blocks and right after you have passed Major Avenue you will notice a vacant lot on your left. Get off Boulder Highway and get on to Frontage Road, running parallel. Next to the vacant lot is our last stop.



Here in Henderson, you might recognise the exterior of **Palm Mortuary** as the location of Slumber Inc. where Bond came by to 'cremate his brother' and to deliver the diamonds. Bond gets knocked out by Wint and Kidd when he is putting the diamonds filled urn into a niche at **the columbarium** and when he wakes up he finds himself trapped inside a coffin while being cremated. This tense sequence was in fact the very last Sean Connery filmed for **DAF** on August 13th 1971.



The Palm Mortuary still looks exactly like it did when it doubled for Slumber Inc. in the film. The very recognisable diamond shaped window is still present and also the niches where the urns are kept haven't changed at all. Of course all interiors were Ken Adam sets, who did a wonderful job once more.

The Bay Area

Including San Francisco in this story really requires you to take at least three weeks for this trip, but it is included here for its relative proximity to L.A. and in a lesser degree to Las Vegas. All three cities deserve a full week minimum in order to see all they have to offer. A ride by car from Las Vegas to San Francisco takes about 9 hours, from L.A. it's just over 6 hours, but you can of course always take a domestic flight.



Las Vegas is one of those places in the world you simply have to visit at least once in your life. Combining this visit with a bit of Bond location hunting makes it even more memorable and a fun time is guaranteed. You could even consider making a detour and include 'nearby' Grand Canyon in your itinerary. From Las Vegas it's a 230km ride and will take you approximately 3 hours. Expect not to be the only visitor, but it is well worth the ride!

Although inhabited for centuries, the first Europeans to discover the Bay Area were the Spaniards in the last quarter of the 18th century. They established a fort and a mission, which they called 'Mission San Francisco de Asís'. When after some fifty years the settlement had grown into a town it was named *Yerba Buena* ('good herb') after a plant growing native to the area. When during the Mexican-American War *Alta California* was claimed by the United States, *Yerba Buena* was also claimed and a few days later its name was changed to San Francisco. Like we saw in L.A., the Gold Rush caused the population to rise from 1,000 to 25,000 in just a year. Once a part of the United States, the U.S. Army quickly built a fort on Alcatraz Island to secure the San Francisco Bay. Around the year 1900 San Francisco was a major city known for its flamboyant style, stately hotels, ostentatious mansions and a thriving arts scene.

Disaster struck on April 18, 1906, when a major earthquake struck Northern California leaving almost three-quarters of San Francisco lying in ruins and half the city's population homeless. Entangled between the San Andreas Fault on the west side and the Hayward Fault on the east side, the San Francisco Bay area is hit by minor earthquakes on an almost regular basis, but major quakes like the one in 1906 and more recently in 1989, in fact both caused by the San Andreas Fault, are a real threat as one never knows when to expect it. It was of course a great inspiration source for the screenplay written by Richard Maibaum and Michael G. Wilson for 1985's **A View To A Kill (AVTAK)**.

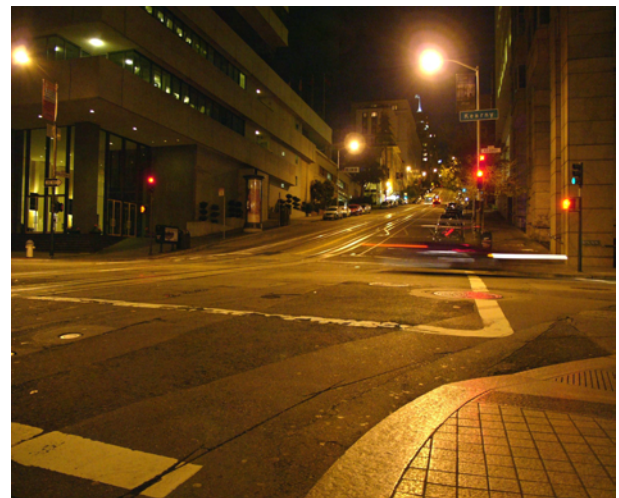
AVTAK's storyline deals with megalomaniac microchip industrialist Max Zorin who is secretly planning to detonate explosives around Hayward & San Andreas Faults to create an earthquake that will destroy Silicon Valley, one of the world's largest concentrations of computer related industries, located in the Santa Clara Valley, south of San Francisco Bay. Silicon Valley and the graduates of Stanford University are largely responsible for many of the electronic computerised appliances we all work with daily. William Hewlett and David Packard teamed up here to build personal computers together from a workshop initially located in Packard's garage, and small companies like Apple, Microsoft and Google all started here in cupboard offices and changed the world forever with their innovative ideas.

While certainly an interesting story idea, the film seriously suffers from many factors like a visibly aging Roger Moore and a truly lousy written female lead-part, played by Tanya Roberts. Christopher Walken is a menacing and unpredictable villain and surely makes up for other flaws. Grace Jones is a surprise, not only for the viewer but for Bond as well when he slips into her bed in Zorin's Château. The film's finale was filmed in and around San Francisco and gives the viewer a good idea of what the area has to offer. We will start off outside the city and work our way back to the waterfront.

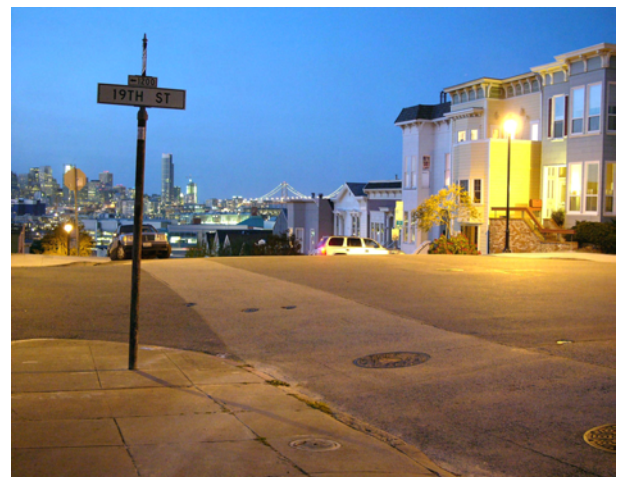


Located in Oakland, at 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, **Dunsmuir House** was built by Alexander Dunsmuir in 1899. After his death, the estate was purchased by the City of Oakland in the early 1960s and a non-profit organization was formed in 1971 to preserve and restore the estate for the public benefit.

EON arrived here in 1984 to temporarily turn the historic house into the home of Stacey Sutton. On approach you instantly see the area hasn't changed at all. The front lawn where Chuck Lee arrives is still the same as is the mansion itself. Here Bond and Stacey were attacked by Zorin's men and discovered by Q's remote controlled Snooper device.



Most of the fire truck chase was filmed downtown, in various unrelated places. On the crossing of **California Street and Kearny Street**, Bond's truck suddenly turns left (that's right for the viewer) and almost hits a trolleybus, while on **First Street** the truck turns left into **Market Street**, swinging Bond on the ladder all the way from left to right.



The scene of the fire truck coming up a hill jumping out of shot was filmed at **Potrero Hill, on 19th Street and Mississippi Street**.



The chase originated at **City Hall on Van Ness Avenue**. The beautiful Beaux-Arts building was designed by architect Arthur Brown Jr. and opened its doors in 1915, after the former City Hall had been completely destroyed in the 1906 earthquake. Inside, underneath the fifth largest dome in the world, the Rotunda is a spectacular open space which also featured in films like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.



City Hall featured prominently in **AVTAK** and was the place where Stacey worked. Bond visited Howe's office pretending to be James Stock of the London Financial Times, a rather lousy undercover name and occupation combination if you ask me. Somehow the baddies figure this out as well, and Bond and Stacey get caught while breaking in Howe's office one night. They are locked in and Zorin sets the place on fire, in what is truly a spectacular scene and a real accomplishment of the production team. EON actually pulled it off and got permission to use real flames on the City Hall's roof and with all the fire trucks around many people believed City Hall was really on fire that night.

Because of the mild weather and good atmosphere in the city, many TV productions have been taped in San Francisco. Of course there was *The Streets of San Francisco*, and more recently productions like *Full House*, *Monk*, *Nash Bridges*, *Suddenly Susan*, *Charmed* and *Dharma & Greg*.

Other films shot in San Francisco include Clint Eastwood's *Dirty Harry* films, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* and *Bedazzled*. Alfred Hitchcock filmed *Vertigo*, *the Birds* and *Psycho* here. Sean Connery can also be called a frequent visitor. He made *The Presidio* here in 1988 and returned to film *The Rock* in 1996.

From City Hall take the Van Ness Avenue northwards towards the top of the peninsula and park your car all the way at the end. From here it's a short walk to the right, where **Fisherman's Wharf** is located, the most popular tourist attraction. Different piers here are filled with museums (*Wax Museum*, *Ripley's Believe it or Not*), bars and restaurants. One of the city's most popular figures is a harmless but controversial local street performer called the *World Famous Bushman*, who sits behind some branches and startles people who walk by. He has gained much notoriety during the 25 years he has been doing this.



At Fisherman's Wharf, at the area on **Jefferson Street between Jones St. and Taylor St.**, Bond met with undercover CIA agent Chuck Lee (another extraordinary name choice, which must have beaten *Bruce Norris* by an inch). In the scene where they discuss Zorin's activities and Lee explains Bond about the trouble local fishermen are encountering, you can see both men walk along the pier, with Fisherman's Grotto no.9 clearly visible in the background. This is all still there, looking quite the same. Maud Adams visited the set during the filming of AVTAK and many people claim she can be spotted in the background of the Fisherman's Wharf scene, pushing her contribution to the Bond series to three appearances.



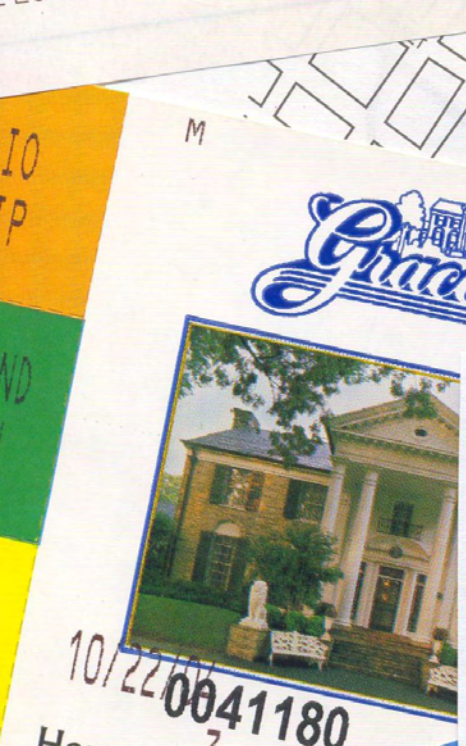
Our last port of call is probably the most famous landmark of San Francisco. **The Golden Gate Bridge**. If you drive your car to the west and get on the 101, you will cross the bridge automatically. Right before the bridge's toll booths there's an exit to the right, which brings you to a nice little park behind the Transfer Transit Faculty. From here you have exactly the same view as in the film, when the blimp floats above the bridge.

To best place to end a San Francisco car chase turned out to be next to the Giants Stadium, **on the corner of 3rd Street and King Street**. Here you can find the **Lefty O'Doul drawbridge**, named after Francis Joseph 'Lefty' O'Doul, a professional Major League baseball player who had his finest hour as a very successful manager in the minor leagues. Next to the stadium, the drawbridge was ordered by the police to be opened when Bond and Stacey approached in their fire truck. While the squad cars arrive to late, Bond comes just in time to jump the already opening bridge, enabling him to escape.

San Francisco was a good choice as a Bond location. The city itself is charming and the atmosphere is like that of a medium sized town. The vibes from the late 1960s, when San Francisco was the centre of the hippie movement, can still be sensed and the 'anything is possible' mentality is about the same as in Amsterdam. Therefore it makes a wonderful holiday destination that can even be combined with earlier mentioned Las Vegas and Los Angeles.



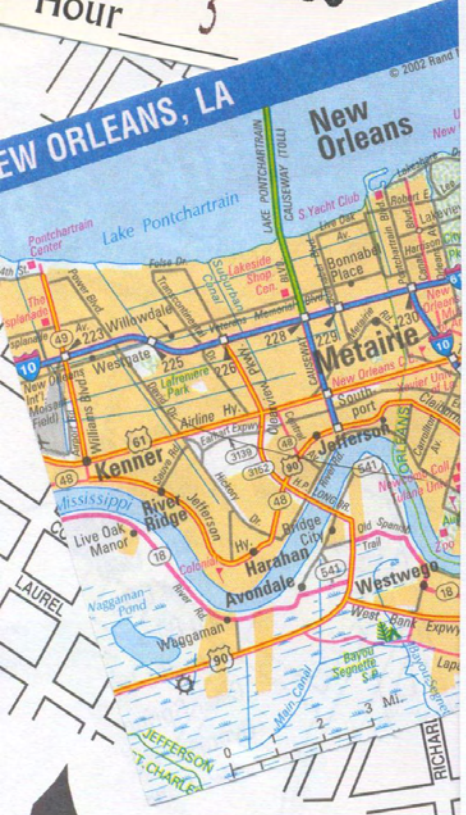
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12 The Harlem connection

One of my dreams had always been to travel along the banks of the mighty Mississippi River, crossing Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, ending up in Elvis' hometown of Memphis. When the time had finally come to make this trip I was well prepared to delve deep into the history of Bond filming in Louisiana, more specifically the New Orleans area.

In October 1972, on Friday the 13th, principal filming began for Roger Moore's first outing as her Majesty's most loyal spy. One of Ian Fleming's earlier Bond novels, **Live and Let Die**, had been chosen as the basis for a new story written by Tom Mankiewicz. After Connery's departure, EON had the difficult task to introduce a new Bond once more.



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NEW ORLEANS, LA

Situated in the heart of 'Cajun Country', New Orleans is a very un-American city and this is mainly due to the Caribbean, French and Spanish influences that can still be seen around every street corner. Louisiana's rich history is divided by several important markers. The early 1700's is the time the French occupied the area, establishing and laying out the ground plan for the city. When Louisiana proved a very unprofitable area for the French they traded the area with Spain and in return received hard needed support in their struggle against the British Empire. By the late 18th century, Louisiana proved as troublesome and costly to the Spanish as it had previously been to the French, and when French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte 'generously' offered to retake control of the area, the Spanish gave it up in 1800, at least ensuring it would not become British territory.

When Napoleon needed to raise funds, he sold Louisiana to the US for the sum of 15 million dollars (*the Louisiana Purchase*) and the state officially joined the Union in 1812. In that same year, the US declared war against the British and a local army was quickly formed from pirates, Indians and other volunteers. These Louisiana troops fought the British at the battle of New Orleans in 1815 and won. (The war had actually been declared over before this battle, but unfortunately neither side had been alerted..)

With US dominion firmly in place, life turned back to normal and huge cotton plantations began to emerge. Slavery was quite normal in those days, until Abraham Lincoln won the 1860 presidential election. Lincoln was strongly against slavery, causing seven southern states to secede from the Union. This rupture resulted in the Civil War, from 1861 to 1865, which was ultimately won by the North.

The storyline for **Live And Let Die (LALD)** was written around Fleming's main characters, a bad guy named Mr. Big and a leading lady named Solitaire. Writer Tom Mankiewicz was determined to make Solitaire black as well, but United Artists, who financed the Bond films, objected strongly and made EON hire beautiful-but-white Jane Seymour for the part, much to Mankiewicz dislike. While other filming locations included New York and exotic Jamaica, New Orleans and its surrounding area also played an important part in the story and the Louisiana bayous fitted in nicely with Jamaican swamp scenes. This can be seen for instance in the Alligator Farm scene. The farm was located in Jamaica and when Bond escapes, we see him jump into a motorboat. We then see him speed by, which was filmed around New Orleans. Location jumps like these make it all the more interesting to see what can be retraced of this boat chase.



When 007 arrived in New Orleans, he landed on what is now **Louis Armstrong International Airport**, in the Kenner district. Together with Solitaire we see him leave the airport **departure hall**. Obviously this location has totally changed over the years, as the demand for flights, both national and international, has dramatically increased. The tube shaped hall can still be seen in the back, but you really need a screen shot of the scene to recognise anything at all. Time to move on!

North of the city lies Lake Pontchartrain and here we'll find two more **LALD** locations. When you follow the Interstate 10 and pass the Pontchartrain Causeway, take the first exit, turn left and drive all the way to the waterfront. Follow this road when it bends to the east and drive along Robert E. Lee Boulevard, all the way until you find **Lakefront Airport** on your left. Park your car and follow us onto the premises. This local airport was used in the Bleeker Flying School action scenes..

When you step outside the main office building / arrival / departure hall, look to your left. You will see one of two similar hangars (the other is on the right side of the main building). After Bond and Solitaire are brought to Adam who orders them to step into the plane, Bond escapes and we see him run towards a hangar.. This is the hangar, its entrance facing west, nowadays referred to as the **Exxon Mobil Hangar**.





The sister hangar on the right of the main building is the **Taylor Energy Building**. Attached to it we find the small office where the Bleeker Flying School office was located, on the building's north/west corner. Although the Exxon Mobil Hangar hasn't changed a bit, the latter has been remodelled and plastered. It can still be recognised though..



After Bond has taken over Mrs. Bell's flying lesson, the action shifts to a totally different hangar, all the way in the north/east corner of the airport grounds. **T-Hangar 'F'** was the hangar used for the chase scene between Bond and the baddies. Here the stunt crew wrecked numerous plane bodies and helped Mrs. Bell lose two of her wings.. On the east side of the building the art department carefully placed some containers, creating a lane Bond's plane could navigate through.



After leaving the airport, move east again. Just next to the airport lies **South Shore Harbor**. It has changed a lot over the years but with a good screen shot you should be able to recognise the area. Here 007 arrived by motorboat, doing a subtle 30 Mph, after the bayou boat sequence. With Felix Leiter and half the Louisiana State Police watching, he's being welcomed by redneck Sheriff J.W. Pepper, who's then kindly informed that Bond is a secret agent on a secret mission. The marina still has the boat houses in the back, but has a totally new promenade, built a few years ago.



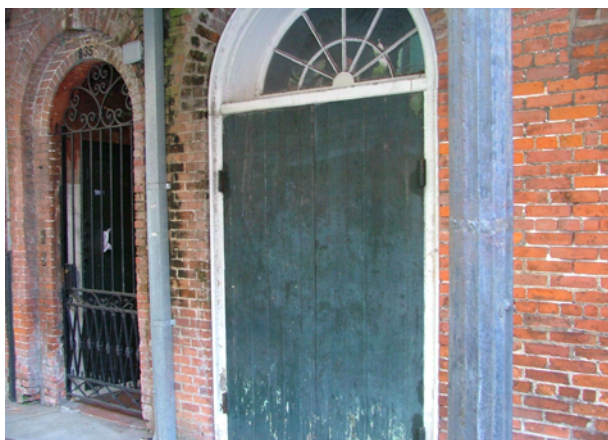
When you're deciding upon where to stay in New Orleans I would recommend the Garden District. This area is within easy reach of the city centre, by car as well as by the famous street car. The St. Charles Street Car runs all the way from the Garden District to the French Quarter which can be called the vibrating heart of New Orleans. Beautiful old buildings along tree covered lanes often offer bed and breakfast and the quiet surroundings take you away from noisy Bourbon Street.

The French Quarter, or *Vieux Carré* in French, was originally laid out by the French and after a fire in 1788 almost totally destroyed. Several fires later a new building style emerged, more fire proof and in a more Spanish style. The Quarter is the place where most tourists spend most of their time in New Orleans, its most notorious street being Bourbon Street, home to many blues bars and strip joints. The heart of the Quarter is Jackson Square, another example of Spanish architecture, with a nice park, bordered by elegant colonial buildings and a church. During the day the park and surrounding streets are filled with street artists, painters and musicians, creating a very friendly atmosphere.

In the French Quarter we can also find the first location seen in **Live And Let Die**: MI6 agent Hamilton carefully watching the Fillet of Soul restaurant from across the street. We all know the rest.. A jazz funeral suddenly appears and while Hamilton is wondering whose funeral it is he is



stabbed to death, answering his question. Although the streets in the Quarter all look very similar, the location is not so hard to find. In the back of one scene we can clearly see a ‘*Dumaine*’ street sign and a careful eye might spot a house number in the back.



The scenes were filmed **on the corner of Dumaine and Chartres Streets**. Standing on the corner you will be very glad the Quarter is an official historic district and hasn’t changed at all. Okay, the cars are different, we’re in a different time, but the corner still looks so much like it did in 1972..! When you lean against the lamp post and look into the direction Hamilton did, there’s the *Fillet of Soul*, on **Chartres Street**. Not a laundry, as said in other sources, but next to the laundry. The three arched windows are still there, so it still wouldn’t take much to dress it up like the *Fillet of Soul* again today.



When you walk past the former Fillet of Soul and look into the first street on the left, you’ll see another location. It was **Madison Street** where Bond and Leiter parked their car later on in the film, when they were about to visit the restaurant / bar. In the back, where the street starts, you’ll see the famous *Café du Monde*, located in the French Market. It’s the market’s oldest tenant and is said to never close. Hop in for quick cup of coffee and some waffles!



When you have a car or rented one, there might just be some interested places around the city. Since all the motorboat action was filmed around there, we suggest you hop into your vehicle and leave the city, taking Interstate 10 Eastwards. Once you have left the city behind you, you are about to cross a small section of Lake Pontchartrain in the direction of Slidell. Just before the bridge starts there’s a small exit which is **Highway 11**. Take this one and use it to cross the lake. The moment you are on the north shore of the lake you are driving the road section the pursuing police cars drove. Immediately on your left is **an old bridge**.



Here ‘the ambush at Miller’s Bridge’ was filmed. Recently a new bridge has been constructed next to the old one which was used in the film. Here the Louisiana Police set up a blockade underneath the bridge to stop Bond. They failed and Bond took his motorboat straight through the ‘carefully’ placed



police boats.. The road next to the bridge still looks similar, but some new houses have been added and it is now not that easy to get the same view of the bridge as you have in the film.

Other locations in Slidell include **the shipyard** where Bond killed Adam (nothing to see there), the roads used for insert shots of pursuing police cars (the roads all look alike.. don't waste your time) and the private estates that featured in the boat chase. The beautiful private houses are almost impossible to find and were discovered by Guy Hamilton from a helicopter one day, while searching for suitable locations. The scene in which a motorboat ends up in the swimming pool was filmed at the then **Baldwin Estate**, a boat went through the wedding cake at then **Treadway Estate**.

We will now travel back towards New Orleans, taking the same road, **highway 11**. Once you cross the bridge stay on this road and cross Interstate 10. You are now entering the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Reserve, an area locally known as **the Irish Bayou**. Here most of the motorboat chase has been filmed. The only problem is that the bayou is an ever-changing environment, its waterways changing every year, depending on the height of the water in both the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain.. Therefore it is almost impossible to find anything exactly matching the waterways used in the **LALD** chase. The first two miles of highway 11 were used to film the sequence in which 007 leads his boat across the road followed by one of the thugs, causing a major collision between the police vehicles in pursue. It's the scene with the grumbling old chicken farmer who's being yelled at by Sheriff Pepper..





The final location we're going to take you to, is the typical hard-to-find location we have in almost every trip.. We are about to travel 20 kilometers, or about 30 miles, south of New Orleans, to **a tiny town called Phoenix**, on the banks of the Mississippi. To get to Phoenix from your last location, stay on the 11 until it meets Highway 90, take a turn towards New Orleans. At exit 2 A/B take the Interstate 510 South, which, once it crosses the Intracoastal Waterway, becomes the 47, towards *Chalmette*. Follow the signs towards *Meroux*, following the course of the Mississippi, eventually driving on **the 39**.

Hardly any of the names of the towns you encounter are mentioned, so there's not much to hang on to, unfortunately. The best clue I can give is that right before Phoenix the main road leaves the Mississippi and curves land inwards. Leaving the exit towards Phoenix town for what it is, you will follow the main road and you will now suddenly have the dike on your left. After some two hundred meters you'll come to the spot where the production designers placed the huge sign saying "Welcome to Louisiana, a sportsman's paradise", where we saw our first glimpse of Sheriff Pepper watching Adam speed by in his car, at the beginning of the boat chase sequence. The sign is not actually there because this is clearly not an appropriate place for such a sign. Signs like these do exist, but only on roads crossing the state border, and that's not the case here.

Some hundred meters further along the 39, a small road leads to the dike on your left, called **Harlem Lane**. Although it does provide a funny, coincidental link with the storyline, it owes its name to the company located behind the dike, The Harlem Levee Company and the waterway, called **the Harlem Levee**. A small land bridge can bring you across the

levee, but it is the land bridge itself that should attract your immediate attention. For it was here the famous record breaking motorboat jump was performed, having two boats jump over the sheriff, Adam and both their cars, ending up on the other side of the land bridge, in the levee, captured on day three of the Louisiana filming.



It was a brilliantly executed stunt that needed meticulous preparation. A ramp was made and placed in front of the land bridge by a huge crane. After several hours of testing, stuntman Jerry Comeaux and his team got in the boats and performed the run twice. The second run, Comeaux himself behind the wheel of the second boat, landed and skidded in the wake of the boat before him, lost control and ended up on the right bank. Since this was the take used in the final print of the film you should look at it carefully. Directly after the boat's landing you can see it making a sharp turn to the right, just before we cut to the next shot. Makes you wonder what happened in the first run and why they couldn't use that..



NOTE: In August 2005, about 5 months after we visited Louisiana for this story, hurricane Katrina created chaos in many Southern States, also hitting the city of New Orleans and surrounding area hard. About 80% of the city stood under water and roads had completely washed away. Now, some years later, the situation is still not how it once was, but a visit to the area is highly recommended as it will bring the people income they need so hard. Almost all of the Bond locations are still available for visiting, only the levees will probably have once again changed their course.

For more details on the filming in mosquito country, I can recommend Roger Moore's own account of the filming of *Live and Let Die*, simply called *Roger Moore as James Bond* from Pan books (ISBN 0330236539). Out of print today, the book still occasionally turns up on auction sites like eBay, where you should be able to pick up a copy for just a few bucks.

We leave you now enjoying some moments on Harlem Levee, still looking very much like it did in 1972, when the action drew a crowd of hundreds to the sleepy little town of Phoenix. When you return to New Orleans, take your time to explore the city, since there is so much to do we couldn't talk about within the limits of this story. Also don't forget to visit some of the marvellous antebellum plantation homes north of the city. They're all worth a visit and it provides a good way to enjoy some of the southern hospitality Louisiana is famous for. And when you end your day sitting on the balcony of your hotel room overlooking the mighty Mississippi while enjoying the sunset, you'll have a bag full of memories of good music, excellent food, beautiful bayous and record breaking motor boat jumps..

The
ACKS
OF
007

Top 10 locations that changed a lot

10. Grand Bazaar, Istanbul (FRWL)

The huge shopping complex where Bond visited Kerim Bey has changed from spices and carpets market to a first class mall, attracting thousands of visitors a day.

9. Conch Republic Seafood, Key West (LTK)

This seafood restaurant is located in an old warehouse where EON filmed some scenes for *Licence To Kill*. The now busy restaurant was the place where Leiter was fed to a shark.

8. The New Orleans bayous (LALD)

Being an ever-changing environment, every year the bayous of Louisiana and around New Orleans in particular change their course, giving the visitor a totally different image than the year before. It is therefore almost impossible to recognize anything at all from the LALD motorboat chase scenes filmed around here.

7. KFC, Miami (GF)

The Kentucky Fried Chicken chain of fastfood restaurants has gotten a new look in recent years and its name is now simply KFC. The Miami restaurant seen in *Goldfinger* can now only be recognised from its building number 701.

6. New Otani gardens, Tokyo (YOLT)

The New Otani Hotel in Tokyo featured prominently in *You Only Live Twice* as the Osato Chemicals building. 007 fought Henderson's killer in the hotel's gardens which have totally changed when a new hotel building was added in recent years.

5/4. Love Beach, Bahamas (TB)

& Laughing Water, Jamaica (DN)

Places 5 and 4 are for two beaches that were unfortunately reshaped by Mother Nature. Love Beach is the place where Vargas 'got the point' in *Thunderball*, while Laughing Water once was the beautiful beach where Ursula Andress emerged from the sea in *Dr. No*. Both beaches were hit hard by hurricanes and their appearance now certainly differs from the way they can be seen in the films.

3. Kobe Docks, Japan (YOLT)

When a major earthquake hit Kobe, the Kobe docks turned into a pile of rubble. Among the devastated areas was Pier 8, where Bond and Aki visited the *Ning-Po* and 007 tried to escape his enemies on the rooftops, in *You Only Live Twice*. The new buildings bare no resemblance to the ones seen in the film.

2. Louis Armstrong International Airport, New Orleans (LALD)

This listing stands in fact for every airport that featured in a Bond film. Aiports seldomly stay untouched and are without exception upgraded to meet new requirements every year.

1. Ginza district, Tokyo (YOLT)

The busy streets from the Ginza district in the heart of Tokyo can be seen in *You Only Live Twice* when Bond arrives in Japan and is looking to meet his contact. Hardly anything can be recognised anymore since the shopping district has totally changed. This listing in fact stands for virtually every city Bond visited.



13 The Big Apple

The origin of the nickname 'Big Apple' for New York is obscure. Some sources claim that it derives from the name of a jazz club in Harlem. Over the years a lot of labels have been stuck on New York: 'Capital of the World', 'Melting Pot of Nations', 'Centre of Finance', 'modern Metropolis', 'World in a Nutshell' are but a few. In his catchy, classic New-York-anthem "New York New York", Frank Sinatra extended the list of praises: 'A, Number One', 'Top of the Heap', 'the City that never sleeps'. There is certainly no superlative that does not fit this urban moloch at the north-eastern corner of the United States. New York is probably the toughest, most unsentimental city in America, but in spite of all its unsolved problems and inconsistencies it appeals to millions of visitors every year, who are attracted by its gigantic dimensions, its open-mindedness and its roaring vitality.

The toughness of the New Yorkers was absolutely essential in order for them to come to terms with the attacks of September 11, 2001. In the morning of that fateful day terrorists crashed two hijacked commercial airliners into the twin-towers of the World Trade Centre and caused them to collapse. More than 3000 innocent civilians died in this atrocious, unparalleled act of violence. This outrageous capital crime marked a watershed in world history on a par with the Japanese air raid on Pearl Harbour or the Downfall of the Berlin Wall. The blow really hit home and not only New York but the entire planet was stricken to the core. The then mayor Rudolph Giuliani became a symbolic figure for the spirit of survival of New Yorkers.



New York consists of the five boroughs Staten Island, Queens, Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan. In 1524 the Italian seaman Verrazano explored the area. The Dutch founded New Amsterdam in 1624 and their countryman Peter Minuit bought the island of Manhattan from the Indians for 24 Dollars in 1626. The English snatched the settlement from the Dutch in 1664 and renamed it New York. During the American War of Independence (1775-83) the city was a main battlefield. New York State became a member of the Union in 1788 as the 11th of the founding states. For about one year (1789-90) New York City was the capital of the USA. The Stock Exchange was founded in 1792. As a gift from the French people, the Statue of Liberty was built in

1886. Another landmark, the Empire State Building was erected in 1931. Since 1952 the United Nations has had its headquarters in Manhattan. With its opening in 1973 the World Trade Centre became the highest skyscraper of the city. It was destroyed in the terrorist attacks in 2001. There are now more than 18 million inhabitants living in the area of Greater New York.



Just when the World Trade Centre was opened in 1973 James Bond came to New York in **Live And Let Die (LALD)**. Directly after the gun-barrel-sequence the city is introduced to the spectator by a bird's-eye view of the **United Nations Complex** on the East River. Unlike in other Bond-movies, in **LALD** it is not the world famous sights of the location, like the Statue of Liberty or the Empire State Building which are featured, but very normal, plain neighbourhoods.

007 arrives at **John F. Kennedy Airport**. His American colleague Felix Leiter has sent him a chauffeur who takes him from the airport to the city. Driving along **Franklin D. Roosevelt Drive and South Street** a white Cadillac 'pimpmobile' catches up with them. Trying to assassinate Bond, the mobster who drives the Cadillac doesn't go the easy way - as is the usual case in Bond-films. Instead of shooting Bond directly, he kills his chauffeur.

When the foot of the dead driver slides down onto the gas pedal the car roars off like crazy. Desperately Bond tries to steer the driverless limousine from the backseat, but when he approaches the **Staten Island Ferry Terminal** a road sweeper crosses his course and the car gets out of control completely. It speeds up the broad stairs in front of the white **Sullivan & Cromwell-Building** (International Law Firm, 125 Broad Street) and crashes into a van, which is parked at the kerb in **Broad Street**. The place has been a bit reconstructed since the filming. The corner of the stairway, over which the car was catapulted, has now been replaced by a stone wall.

After the accident Bond telephones Felix Leiter. From the exterior of Leiter's office we see only a very brief snap shot. It is hard to recognize, because the area has been pretty much rebuilt, but the picture was taken **from South Street looking into Wall Street**.



Leiter gives Bond the information that the Cadillac from which 007's driver was shot is registered to a shop in **33 East 65th Street**. This information is not fictional; it is the authentic location of the **OH CULT VODOO SHOP**. What is untrue is that "it is only one block away from here". Actually it is located in one of the elegant turn-of-the-century mansions on the Upper East Side. Nowadays it houses a fancy jeweller's shop.



From here Bond follows the white Cadillac to Harlem, the African-American, Dominican and Latin neighbourhood north of Central Park. In the



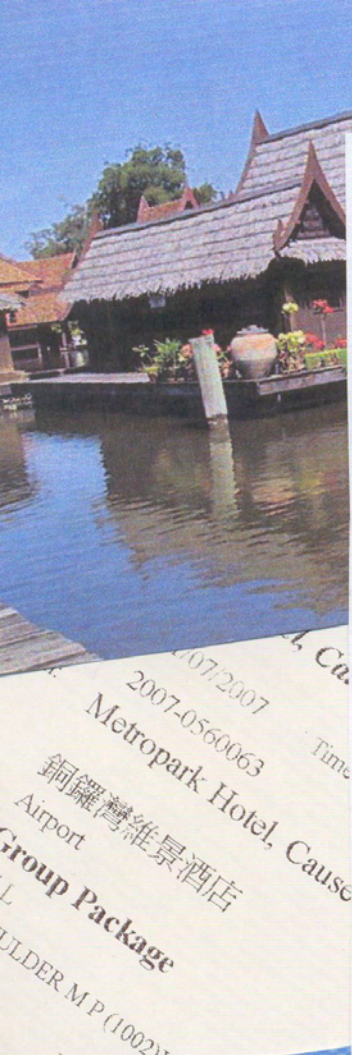
twenties and thirties, black culture blossomed in the dance, drama and music of Harlem. The Cotton Club was the place to hear Count Basie or Duke Ellington while Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong performed in the Apollo Theater. Bond pursues the mobsters to the *Fillet of Soul* Restaurant, the legal façade of their drug dealing. Because of all the difficulties the filmmakers encountered while working in 'hostile' Harlem, they decided to film the exterior of the restaurant in a friendlier environment. They found **the corner of 2nd Avenue and 94th Street** as the perfect place and built a fake *Fillet of Soul* facade here.

Scenes that actually had been filmed in Harlem included the short fight scene, just before CIA man Strutter appears in the film. Mr. Big instructs his thugs to 'waste him', pointing at Bond and **between the buildings on 5th Avenue and 117th / 118th Street**, 007 knocks down his two enemies. Since most of the old buildings were replaced by new apartment blocks during the seventies and eighties this area is no longer recognizable.

If you want a taste of how New York once was, try reading Fleming's (very) short story *007 in New York*, which is basically a summary of the good, the bad and the ugly things the city offered in the 1950s. On your way back south, you might want to spend some time in Central Park and its famous zoo to check if a Reptile House has been added recently.

After walking through these and other neighbourhoods you get a true feeling of what New York is all about. It is these areas that make up the veritable melting pot of cultures from around the world. You can't find a more diverse city in the world today. This is why New York is still New York.

TRACKS
OF
007



14 Faces of Asia

In 1974 it was decided that **The Man With The Golden Gun (TMWTGG)** was going to be Roger Moore's second 007 adventure. Most of the action in Ian Fleming's original novel takes place in Jamaica, which had also been one of the main locations for Moore's previous Bond film.

So it was obvious that for the film, the story had to be transferred to a completely different part of the world. After a search that took them to Lebanon and Iran, the producers finally came up with some unparalleled locations in the Far East.

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The chase of the hit man Francisco Scaramanga (played by Christopher Lee) takes Bond from **Macau** and **Hong Kong** via **Bangkok** to the luxurious holiday resort *Phuket* in the south of Thailand. To visit all these places it would be a good idea to combine sightseeing tours to the above mentioned cities with a relaxing beach holiday in the island of *Phuket*.

Hong Kong and Macau

The island of Hong Kong was occupied by the British Empire in 1842. In 1856 Britain acquired the *Kowloon* peninsula on the Chinese mainland. The Crown Colony of Hong Kong was completed by the lease of the New Territories from China in 1898. This lease was supposed to last for 99 years. In 1984 the governments of Great Britain and the People's Republic of China made an agreement that the British rule over Hong Kong would expire on June 30, 1997. Since July 1, 1997 it has been a 'Special Administrative Region of China'. For the normal visitor and tourist very little, if anything at all, has 'really' changed since then. The British Governor was replaced by a Chinese appointed head of administration, but capitalism still rules and the cars still drive on the left hand side of the street. Only you will get some different stamps in your passport. The urban beehive of Hong Kong is a bonanza of

fascinating sights and experiences and only few destinations yield their treasures so readily like this unique place at the verge of the Middle Kingdom.

Highlights of a visit to Hong Kong would be for example an ascent of Victoria Peak (by funicular railway) from where you have a spectacular view of the whole area, or a meal in the 'Floating Restaurants' at Aberdeen (Pierce Brosnan in the TV-series *Noble House*) or a trip to the outlying island of *Lantau* with the world's largest outdoor Buddha-statue. The most popular novel dealing with Hong Kong is definitely *The World Of Suzie Wong* by Richard Mason. Although the action takes place in the *Wanchai* District, most parts of the film (1960), starring William Holden and Nancy Kwan, were shot in the area around the *Man Mo* Temple at the crossing of Ladder Street and Hollywood Road in the *Sheung Wan* District.

Hong Kong's most famous film star is undoubtedly Bruce Lee (1940-1973). After reaching megastar-status in Asia with his first two films, Lee teamed up with producer Raymond Chow to form Concorde, a production company that set new standards in Asian cinema. Carefully watching how films were made in Hollywood and impressed by the Bond films, Lee filmed his next blockbuster *Way of the Dragon* partially in a, for Asians very exotic setting, Europe.

The Rome Coliseum fight between Lee and Chuck Norris (actually filmed in a studio in Hong Kong) still stands today as one of the best choreographed fights ever captured on film. When the Hollywood movie moguls noticed Lee's success, they interrupted his work on his next project *Game of Death* by offering him a chance to become a worldwide star. Warner Brothers produced what was to become his final film before his untimely death. It was *Enter the Dragon*, a James Bond-like film tailored to fit Lee, shot almost completely in Hong Kong.

When *Enter the Dragon* was still in post-production, Lee heard the news that former 007 George Lazenby was in town and had Raymond Chow arrange for a meeting. The two men got along fine. Lee liked Lazenby's cocky attitude and was thinking of offering him a part in a future film. Unfortunately, on July 20 1973, while Lazenby was waiting with Raymond Chow for Lee to turn up at a dinner meeting at Hong Kong's Miramar Hotel, Lee died suddenly. A recently erected bronze statue can be found at Hong Kong's 'Avenue of the Stars', honouring the life and work of Bruce Lee.

Although brief, Bond's first visit to Hong Kong dates back to **You Only Live Twice**, in 1967. Small second unit shots of arriving Police cars were filmed around *Tsim Tsa Shui* for the pre-title sequence in which when Bond is supposedly killed in bed. In Causeway Bay on Hong Kong Island, you can find the **Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club**. From the club's terrace a second unit filmed the brief scene in which an enemy agent watches Bond's funeral at sea. The sea burial itself was in fact filmed on board HMS *Tenby*, off coast Gibraltar.



When Bond came to Hong Kong for the second time, in 1974, it was still an undoubted outpost of the British Crown in East Asia. He first goes to Macau, which belonged to Portugal from 1557 till 1999. Since then it has been, like its bigger brother Hong Kong, a 'Special Administrative Region of China'. He arrives at the **Casino de Macau** or the 'Floating Casino', which is located on a permanently moored floating barge in the Inner Harbour.

007's spectacular means of transportation to Hong Kong is a **hydrofoil** (or jetfoil). It needs about an hour for the ride and it is a thrilling vehicle for an outing to Macau. On its way it passes the wreck of the cruise liner Queen Elizabeth, which mysteriously caught fire and rolled over in Hong Kong harbour in 1972. In the meantime since 1974 this weird Bond-location has been removed. The hydrofoil reaches Hong Kong at the **Macau Ferry Pier** in the *Sheung Wan* District.



All the way from Macau Bond follows the beautiful Andrea Anders, who is picked up at the pier by a Rolls Royce. 007's Hong Kong-liason Mary Goodnight informs him that this car belongs to the fleet of road cruisers of the luxurious **Peninsula Hotel**. The Peninsula, one of Hong Kong's oldest and finest hotels is situated at **Salisbury Road**, in the very heart of *Kowloon's* shopping, business and entertainment district. Its guests can hire a chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce - one of them a vintage car from 1934 - for a sightseeing tour.



Only a couple of 100 yards to the north, at **Hankow Road 14**, used to be the **Bottoms Up Nightclub**, where Bond witnesses the assassination of the solar energy expert Gibson. Being Hong Kong's first topless bar (established in 1971) it is popular with women as well as men. Four circular bars with individual music are connected by mirrors. Topless barmaids sit in the centre of these round bars on very large swivel stools (and they reveal a bit more than in the film). Furnished with a plush decor the atmosphere is very cosy. The billboards at the entrance refer to the fact that the club had been a film location of **The Man With The Golden Gun**. In 2004, the club moved to Fenwick Street in Wan Chai on the Hong Kong Island side, so this original location is gone forever.



With one location the producers of **Golden Gun** tricked us. The estate of industrialist *Hai Fat*, which comes up later in the film, is supposed to be in Bangkok, Thailand. But you notice on first sight that the style of the buildings is not Thai but Chinese. In reality the estate is beautifully situated along Castle Peak Road, in the western part of *Tsuen Wan*, in the New Territories. This former barren hillside was turned into a classical Chinese garden by Hong Kong businessman Lee Iu Cheung, in the 60's. He called his garden *Lung-Po*, the **'Dragon Garden'**.

Lee Iu Cheung was an incredible man of his times. Newspapers referred to him as a 'tycoon' because of his wealth, but 'philanthropist' would have been more appropriate. He never led a life of extravagance, unlike the tycoons in the news these days. He personally got involved in the community to not only plan, but to implement, charitable projects to help build the Hong Kong community, especially in the post-war years. He was involved in over 50 associations, including serving as a Director of the *Tung Wah* Group of Hospitals for 29 years, building free schools and medical facilities for the Chinese during British rule.



He built low-cost housing for the poverty-stricken to give them a fresh start in life. He graduated from the University of Hong Kong; was the first Chinese to graduate from Harvard; did a special program in River Conservancy at Cornell University (so he could help flood victims in Guangzhou Province); helped establish the Chinese University; served in neighbourhood committees as a community leader, etc. He purchased the land to build Dragon Garden from the HK Government to “beautify Hong Kong” in 1948. He had the vision, not only for the enjoyment of his own family, but for the Hong Kong public, to build an everlasting heritage site.



Designed by renowned Chinese architect Chu Pin, who was involved in the restoration of the Forbidden City in Beijing, the garden is covered with hundreds of species of trees and flowers, as well as ponds, footpaths, bridges and architecture of the Song, Ming and Ching dynasties. Mid 2006, the garden was saved at the eleventh hour from being sold to a developer, mainly thanks to the efforts of Cynthia Lee, Grand Daughter of Lee Iu Cheung, who managed to convince her family and the Hong Kong Government of the historical importance of this cultural heritage. Cynthia even established the Dragon Garden Charitable Trust in July 2006 for the purpose of saving cultural heritage in Hong Kong.

During our first visit to Hong Kong, in the 90's, we had never managed to find this location, so for years we simply described it as ‘remote’, ‘private’ and ‘inaccessible’. In the summer of 2006, while doing research, I stumbled upon the Dragon Garden Charitable Trust website, recently set up by Cynthia. Thank God for the Internet..! When it became clear that a second visit to Hong Kong was possible, I immediately contacted her and we soon agreed on a time and date.

From Hong Kong Island, the best way to reach Dragon Garden is by Metro and taxi. The *Tsuen Wan* Metro Line (direction *Tsuen Wan*) takes you as close as the Metro can, to *Tsuen Wan*. When you leave the station using the southern exits, you will be at Castle



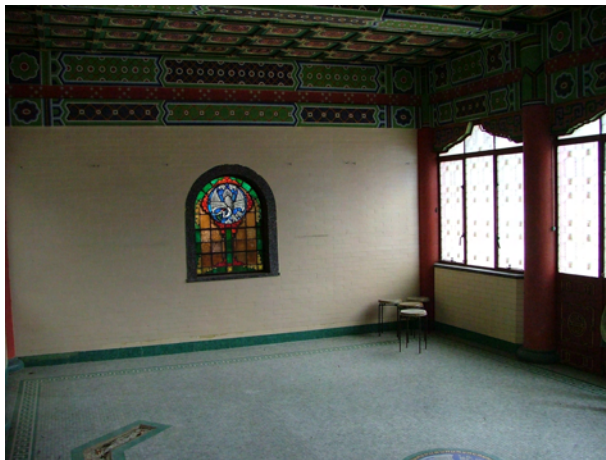
Peak Road, the old road leading from *Kowloon* to Castle Peak at *Tuen Mun*. Outside the station it should not be very difficult to find a taxi, since Castle Peak Road is a busy street. The hard part is explaining where you want to go to, since first of all taxi drivers speak very poor English, and second of all, Dragon Garden is not a destination they are likely to know. Best thing to do is to name *Sea Crest Villa Phase 4* as your destination. This huge luxury apartment block is located just next to the garden and there's a good chance your taxi driver will know it.



James Bond visits Dragon Garden twice in **The Man With The Golden Gun**. The first visit comes as a surprise to Lieutenant Hip who physically supports Bond while the latter is looking over the garden's surrounding wall. Hip suddenly feels the weight is leaving his shoulders and notices Bond climbing over the wall. As soon as Bond lands inside



the heavily guarded area, director Guy Hamilton takes us to the other side of the estate where we see the first glimpse of **the Mausoleum**, built by Lee Iu Cheung for himself and his wife. This elevated part on the north side of the garden still looks exactly like it did in the film. All scenes with Hi Fat and the real Scaramanga were filmed in this area. Later in the film, Hi Fat is shot by Scaramanga in the Memorial Hall, or Hall of Longevity, a beautifully mosaic-decorated room just left of the dome shaped tomb.



When standing in the Mausoleum area with your back towards the tomb, you will be facing a massive **four-columned portal** covered in multi-coloured mosaics in traditional patterns. The view of *Tsing Yi Island*, *Ma Wan Island*, *Lantau Island* and the *Tsing Ma Bridge*, all seen through this portal, is just breathtaking and almost makes you forget the surrounding building developments. Just try to imagine how this looked before Hong Kong grew out of proportion: the atmosphere here is simply amazing.

The garden's main feature is a 50 foot dragon whose body coils through a terraced pond, crossed by arching bridges. The impressive dragon's head is once again covered in colourful mosaics, its scales made from the sides of thousands of bottles. While its body is curving in and out of the various ponds, the water is gushing from its gaping jaws.

In the following shot we see 007 walking across the grass towards the pool where he meets *Chew Me*. This very large pool, also completely decorated with mosaic tiles, was in fact the first and largest private pool in Hong Kong and is still present on the estate, although currently empty, awaiting renovation.



Posing as Scaramanga, Bond is received by Hi Fat himself, who plays his game along and even invites him for dinner. Saying goodbye to *Chew Me*, Bond simply leaves the garden through the front gate, returning to Hip who is waiting near the car parked at Castle Peak Road, opposite of the garden. This area has totally changed from a small, local, dusty road to a modern four-lane road which was widened years ago to better suit the needs of modern traffic. This unfortunately has also caused the demolition of the original stone wall between the estate and the road. There's a new wall now and a new entrance gate. The original red doors are in storage and will hopefully be placed back some day.



007's second visit to Hi Fat's estate is later that day. Around dinner time, Bond arrives, through the entrance gate this time. We see him walking through the garden, past various odd features which in reality were never present. In the end he is attacked by two sumo wrestlers and Nick Nack, all posing as garden statues at first. These scenes were filmed on the grass between the entrance gate and the swimming pool.



After Nick Nack knocks Bond to the ground, Hi Fat himself is just in time to convince Scaramanga's tiny aid to "take Bond to the school", referring to the karate school - scenes filmed in Bangkok. This scene looks strangely similar to the one in Roger Moore's first Bond adventure, filmed just a year earlier, in which Mr. Big orders Tee Hee to "take him to the farm"..

Golden Jubilee Building, built to commemorate Lee Iu Cheung's golden wedding anniversary in 1967, can only be seen in the very first overview shot, introducing Hi Fat's estate to the viewer and setting up the scene.



For some reason the largest and most prominent features in the garden were used very little in the film. The **Pavilion of Leisure** (an eight sided pavilion or house) can be seen in the scene where Hi Fat invites Bond for dinner. The main residence, the

Since the early days of civilisation the Chinese have created works of art from the face of the earth, building a harmony of rock, water and plant in keeping with a highly formalised pattern based on cosmological principles. Commissioned by Lee Iu Cheung, architect Chu Pin designed a garden which conforms strictly to the most ancient traditions of Chinese gardens. And it makes a fantastic Bond location.

Although I can say in all fairness that **The Man With The Golden Gun** is not the best Bond film, the film's exotic locations are definitely among the best of the series. Hopefully around 2008, Dragon Garden's extensive renovations will have finished and the property will be 'returned' to the people of Hong Kong. It will be opened for public visits, just like one of Hong Kong's most influential men, Dragon Garden's founder Lee Iu Cheung, would have wanted it.

More recently, EON made some wild attempts to spice up the Bond films with exotic locations. One of them was a 'return to Hong Kong' in **Die Another Day**. Without actually spending a second there, the film makers try to fool us with a background projection of the colourfully lit skyline of Hong Kong Island, in front of which we can see Bond emerge from Victoria Harbour just to visit his usual hotel, this time dressed in rags.

Thailand: Bangkok

In contrast to its neighbours Thailand, literally translated meaning 'Land of the Free', has never been a European colony. Thanks to the statesman-like skills of its leaders and some concessions, the former Kingdom of Siam has always avoided foreign rule over its territory. During the 19th century the country opened itself up to the west. Especially King *Mongkut* (ruled 1851 -68) became famous because of the Hollywood movies *The King and I* (1956, with Deborah Kerr and Yul Brynner) and its remake *Anna and the King* (1999, with Jodie Foster and *Yun-Fat Chen*). Don't try to find any locations of these films in Thailand, because both were shot abroad.

In 1782 Bangkok became Thailand's capitol. With a population of about 6 million inhabitants it is by far the country's biggest city. At first glance it is a bewildering gigantic urban stew of new and old, East and West, dignity and chaos, exotic and the commonplace. It is everything and yet again exactly the opposite of it. But the more you get used to it, the more you will be enchanted by its Far Eastern ambience and atmosphere.

In Bangkok, as always, Bond lodges in the best hotel in town, **The Oriental Hotel at 48 Oriental Avenue**. Ian Fleming's old pal and neighbour from Jamaica, Noel Coward, spent a lot of time sipping cocktails on the riverside terrace of this more than 100 year old hotel. On this very **riverside terrace 007** has a rendezvous with Mary Goodnight later in the film. Together they watch a traditional Thai dance performance, which takes also place here.



At the Oriental you can arrange a boat trip through the *klongs* (canals) of Bangkok. Zipping along the canals in the same sort of long-tailed boat as Bond did during the wild boat chase is one of the highlights of a Thailand trip.

Leave your boat at *Wat Arun*, a temple with rather phallic looking spires. To get to the centre of Bangkok from there, you have to cross the *Chao Phya* River by ferry, which is an adventure in itself. The main tourist attractions of Bangkok are *Wat Phra Kaew* (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) and *Wat Po* with the Reclining Buddha. These are temple complexes of a splendour you probably haven't seen before.

The kick-boxing competition in **TMWTGG** took place at **Ratchadamnoen Stadium**. Fights are held nearly every evening and the program starts between 5.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. Tourists are not supposed to take the cheapest seats, because there is quite a tumult during a fight. One mile down to the south is **Bamrungmuang Road**, where parts of the car chase were filmed. Walking along it to the west you will get to the temple *Wat Suthat* and the tall, red, gate-like structure known as **Sao Ching Cha or the Giant Swing**. Both sights, the temple and the swing, were passed by Scaramanga's and Bond's car during their wild pursuit through the streets of Bangkok.



In *Samut Prakarn* Province, some 20 miles (30 km) south of Bangkok a tourist attraction is located, that is of special interest for us. **The Ancient City** bills

itself as “the world’s largest outdoor museum”. There are replicas (most full size) of famous monuments and temples from all parts of Thailand. Experts from the National Museum worked as consultants to ensure historical accuracy of the reproductions. At present there are more than 60 monuments, covering 15 centuries of Thai history. In addition to the monuments, there is also a model Thai village, in which you can see artisans at work on various native handicrafts. There are assorted shops for buying souvenirs; a Thai restaurant and the Ancient City also has its own version of the Floating Market, picturesquely staged for photographers. So it was no wonder that the place attracted director Guy Hamilton and his crew to film some outstanding scenes, like the Kung Fu school, the kick-boxing girls and parts of the boat chase on this beautiful location.

The translation of Bangkok is ‘City of Angels’, but even if you don’t agree with this very poetic description, you will be taken in by its Oriental magic and charms.

Thailand: Phuket

The island of *Phuket* in the south of Thailand is still a dream destination. Palm-fringed beaches form its coast-line. The jade green waves of the Andaman Sea (part of the Indian Ocean) wash gently against its shallow shores. But, unlike many islands, *Phuket’s* beauty is not limited to its beaches.

Its mountain backbone is covered in jungle, rubber plantations, coconut groves and picturesque villages. The reefs, beyond the beaches, are teeming with marine life, making them an El Dorado for scuba divers and snorkelers. Thus, the island offers the opportunity to explore a tropical world of surpassing beauty.

Known to only some backpackers at the beginning of the 1970s, *Phuket* has developed since then into a modern holiday resort. Although, fortunately, it avoided the excesses of mass tourism as in the notorious *Pattaya*, a lot of ballyhoo can be found e.g. in *Patong Beach*. But you can escape it, if you want, and find secluded beaches at *Surin*, *Kamala* or *Kata*. *Promthep Cape*, at the southern tip of the island is a popular spot for viewing the setting sun.

Being in Jamaica or the Bahamas, you have to have a bit of insider-knowledge to find the right 007-spots, in *Phuket* that’s not necessary. **‘JAMES BOND ISLAND’**, the place we know as Scaramanga’s lair in **Golden Gun**, is the main tourist attraction of *Phuket*. On the bulletin board of almost every hotel you will find ads for tours to it. So the easiest way would be to go to a travel-operator and let him transport you there. But then you will be in a crowd and you will be on ‘JAMES BOND ISLAND’ around noon at exactly the same time when all the other crowds are also there. The little beach will be crammed with people.





To savour this unique Bond-location fully, you have to go there on your own, very early in the morning, either by rental car or you hire a car with an ‘English-speaking’ driver (don’t expect too much from that term).



‘JAMES BOND ISLAND’ lies within **Phang-Nga Bay National Park**. This extraordinary bay in *Krabi* Province, to the north-east of *Phuket*, is the site of a multitude of peculiar shaped islands. Rising almost vertically from the water, these limestone masses come in all shapes and sizes. Rich vegetation sprouts from all available surfaces while inside the larger islands, there are caves and caverns, full of stalactites and stalagmites. Shortly after leaving *Phuket* island via the *Sarasin* bridge and reaching the mainland you will see more or less prettily painted billboards,

advertising ‘JAMES BOND ISLAND-tours’ arranged by local boat operators. Approach one of them for a charter. Because of the language problems, the negotiations about the fare and the destinations might be difficult. So a picture postcard with the places you want to go to, would be handy.

The trip in one of these long-tailed barges takes you through a very bizarre land-(or rather water)-scape. Surrealistic, Sugarloaf-like mountains rise high from the water everywhere. You can see it pretty well in the seaplane-sequence of **TMWTGG**. The **Tomorrow Never Dies**-scenes, with Bond and *Wai Lin* going after Elliott Carver’s stealth boat in an air raft, were also filmed here. After a ride of about half an hour you reach ‘JAMES BOND ISLAND’. Actually it is called **Koh Khao Ping Gun**, which literally means ‘Leaning Island’, and has its name from a split in the rock face, which is the island’s dominant feature. The smaller rock has slid beneath the surface, but the larger one remains and appears to be leaning. From *Koh Khao Ping Gun* can be seen **Koh Tapoo (Nail Island)**, which has no shoreline, and rises strikingly, straight up from the sea. This tiny island is indeed shaped like a nail, wide and flat at the top, and very narrow where it enters the water.

For us Bond-aficionados the scenery is quite familiar. In the teaser of **The Man With The Golden Gun** Scaramanga and Andrea Anders are sunbathing at the little beach of *Koh Khao Ping Gun* while the Chicago-mobster arrives. Later on Bond lands his plane here and the duel between Scaramanga and 007 also takes place on this very spot. From the top of the ‘Nail Island’ the panels of Scaramanga’s solar power station arise. In the morning the place is marvellous. The light for taking photos is perfect. Because of the early hour, there are only a handful of tourists and some hawkers with tourist stuff. So you have the opportunity to step into 007’s shoes and relive his adventures almost undisturbed.



Once again, **The Man With The Golden Gun's** exotic locations are marvellous, especially Hong Kong's Dragon Garden and the Thai island of *Phuket* with its fascinating *Phang-Nga-Bay*, are second to none.

The
ROCKS
OF
007

15 With the Pharaohs

نم م - قرهاق بشري سن چلا دم - رصم
دل ب اذه ىل اى طعي مميّزة قمال ع , مل اعلا
تار فاسم و تاخر و م ب لى ن ىل ع قديرف
نرق [ت19] المبكرة أنّ امب ضالم ا يف
نم رارسال ا يحل ن ا لولواح اثارى يتعدّد
خيرات قن س 5000
تافاشك تس ا اذه نم قورذلا نك
[نوم هك ن ت ت] ربقل نم فاشك ا ل
1922 يف رتراك دراوه بريطانيّة بالآثارى
ن ب 'اى نموت باح' حقيقيّة قلطاً وه
الكيرم او ابوروا نم متعلّمة فان صال
اقتصاديّة ريح ت العمليّة دع ب اص و صخ
قس ايس م الس ل او برغال ا ىل ا حت فل
ل ا [رفن ا] س ي ر ت حت لى ارس ا و ح ن
رصم بذج , تان ي عب س ل ا يف تاداس
قطبار . مل اعلا لى ل ا و ح اع ي م ج نم تاح ايس
ل ا ضدّ عزان تي ن ا 1977 يف كانه بهذ
لرك [بطق ن حش [ك ي ن م ل غم]
أحبني يذلا سوسا چلا يف [غربمورتس]

Egypt - cradle of mankind, Cairo - mother of the world, labels given to this unique country on the Nile by historians and travellers in the past. Since the early 19th century numerous archaeologists tried to solve the secrets of a 5000-year history.

The climax of these explorations was the discovery of the tomb of *Tutankhamun* by the British archaeologist Howard Carter in 1922. It triggered a real 'Egyptomania' among the educated classes of Europe and America. Especially after the economic liberalization, the opening to the west and the peace policy towards Israel under President *Anwar al Sadat* in the seventies, Egypt attracted tourists from all around the world.

Bond went there in 1977 to fight against the megalomaniac shipping magnate Karl Stromberg in **The Spy Who Loved Me**.

Egypt is a land of many different faces and problems. The more than 4500-year-old pyramids of *Giza*, the temples of *Karnak* and *Abu Simbel* and the tombs of the Valley Of The Kings show you the Pharaohic Egypt. Countless mosques (some are up to thousand years old) embody the Islamic Egypt. The modern Egypt is represented by the high dam and storage lake of *Aswan* and the moloch of the city of Cairo. With its more than 15 million inhabitants (doubling every ten years) Cairo is ranking among the Top Ten of the highest populated metropolises of the world.

For the tourist, particularly the Bond-fan, who is interested in special places off the beaten track, Egypt is not an easy terrain. The classic way of exploring the country is a package tour including some days in Cairo and a cruise down the Nile. The Bond-locations in Cairo may not be included in your booked sightseeing tour. Even if they are, you probably will not have the leisure to enjoy them sufficiently. So you will have to separate from the group and go on your own. There is a public bus and even a metro-system in Cairo, but to save your nerves in the short time you've got there, I would recommend going by taxi. As everywhere else in a foreign country it is prudent to negotiate about the price in advance. Maybe your travel guide can help you with that. It is also a good idea to ask your guide or a hotel clerk to write down your destination in Arabic characters. Be as well prepared for time-consuming trouble when exchanging money, especially with traveller checks. Summarizing you can say: When planning your Egypt-journey make sure that you have enough free time in your schedule for the field trips you intend to do on your own.

Cairo and Giza

Stop No. 1 of every Cairo sightseeing tour is the Egyptian Museum with its most valuable exhibit, the gold mask of *Tutankhamun*. Having a look at this 3000-year old piece of art is a second-to-none experience. Moreover there are thousands of objects that give evidence of Egypt's Pharaohic past. You have to concentrate on the most important ones, to cope with this abundance. The tour continues with visits to some of the most remarkable mosques of the city like e.g. the *Sultan Hassan mosque*, the *Rifai mosque* and the *Muhammad Ali mosque* within the walls of the Citadel. All these buildings border on a square with the name *Midan Salab El Din (Midân Al Qala'a)*. From here turn into a street named *Al-Salbiyya*.

After a walk of about 15 minutes you will see on your left hand side the minaret with the spiral staircase of the *Ibn Tulun mosque*. Built in 879 it is one of the oldest and best preserved Islamic buildings of Cairo and the third largest mosque of

the world. Its spacious inner yard with the impressive well-house is surrounded by an elaborate arcade. Under this colonnade Bond walks after his arrival in Cairo. Don't leave the *Ibn-Tulun-mosque* without climbing upon its minaret. From here you have a marvellous view over the roof gardens of Cairo up to the pyramids of *Giza*.

From the mosque there is an entrance to the adjacent **Gayer Anderson Museum** (*Beit el-Kreatlia*). In 1934 the British army doctor Robert Gayer-Anderson Pasha bought the two Arabic houses *Beit el-Kreatlia* (built 1632) and *Beit Amna Bent Salim* (built 1540). In 1937 he united both buildings to a double house, restored it and furnished its interior with traditional oriental fitments. Today it is a brilliant example of a posh Arabic dwelling house. So it was an ideal location to represent the Cairo apartment of Bond's Egyptian contact *Aziz Fekkesb*. Here Bond meets the seductive *Felica* and later gets into a fist-fight with Stromberg's bald-headed henchman *Sandor*. This scuffle was filmed on the museum's roof garden. Normally there is a guided tour through the house. Make clear to the guide that you want to explore the museum at your leisure.



The Great Pyramids of *Giza* are the only remaining one of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World. They were built during the 4th Dynasty, about 2500 years BC. In an incredible laborious effort they were erected as tombs for the godlike pharaohs. The method how it was done is controversial among Egyptologists. The theory that they were built with the help of a later removed ramp, has been turned down in recent times. This ramp would have been an even more impressive building than the pyramid itself. The *Cheops* pyramid is the biggest one. It is 450 feet (137 m) high. In 1798 Napoleon illustrated its largeness to his amazed officers by saying that its rocks were enough to build a 6,5 feet (2 m) high wall around the whole of France. Only 2 feet (0,5 m) lower is the *Chephren* pyramid. Since it is located on higher ground it seems to be the taller one. The smallest and youngest pyramid is the *Mykerinos*-pyramid (216 feet / 66 m). The *Sphinx* in front of the *Chephren*-pyramid is supposed to be a guardian deity in the shape of a lion. It has the face of the pharaoh.



A visit to the pyramids in the 'living daylight' is part of every sightseeing tour of Cairo. In case that the nocturnal **lightshow at the Pyramids of Giza** is not included in your package tour, you have to do it on your own. The times of commencement are depending on the season and the easiest way getting there is by taxi. The show is called 'Son et Lumière' (sound and light). There are two performances each evening and they are given in English (every night, except Sundays and Tuesdays), French (every night, except Thursdays), German (Sundays and Tuesdays) and Arabic (Thursdays). But even if your appropriate language is not available at the time you are in Cairo, it doesn't matter. What counts are the visual impressions you will have. The majesty of the pyramids is fully brought out when the floodlight illuminates its outlines in all colours. After a probably eventful day you will gradually relax and than you will be caught by the spell of this enigmatic place. With the mysterious incidental music in mind that accompanies Bond's actions at the pyramids this sensation will be amplified. To quote 007 himself you will definitely "*enjoy the show.*"

After leaving Cairo most of the package tours continue with a journey to *Luxor* by train or bus.

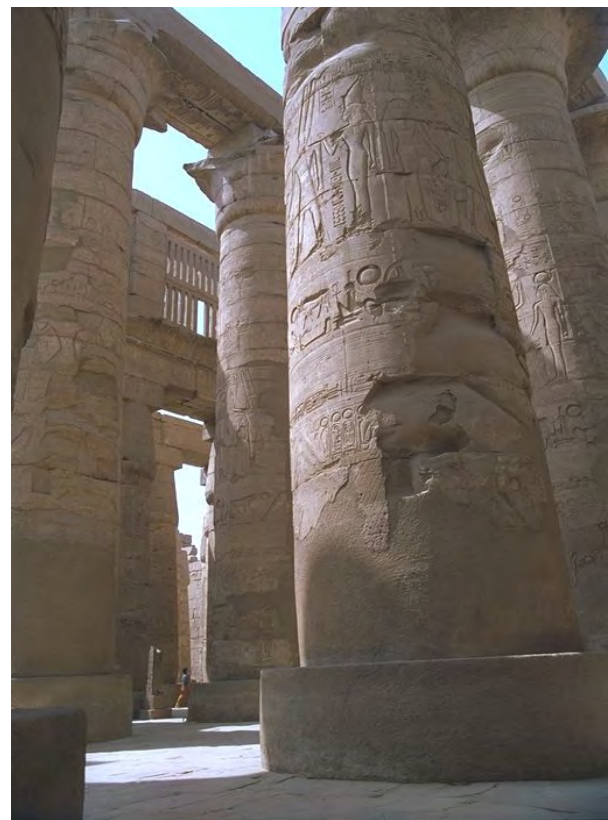
Luxor and Aswan

Luxor lies about 365 miles (675 km) south of Cairo on the east bank of the Nile. Apart from the pyramids the most impressive buildings of Egypt are located here. Between 2100 and 750 BC the temples of *Luxor* and *Karnak* represented the might of the Egyptian Empire. *Theben*, as *Luxor* was called at that time, was the political and religious hub of the country. The ancient Egyptians believed that the east, where the sun rises, is the place for the living and the west, where the sun sets is the place for the dead. According to this belief they buried their kings in the today so called 'Valley of the Kings' on the west bank of the Nile.

The best time to visit it is the early morning, because than it's not that hot. You have to cross the Nile by ferry. They are operating from 6.00h till 18.00h. On the west bank you continue your expedition by taxi

or on the back of a donkey. The first highlights you see are the two *Memmons* colossuses. Following the road westward make a short detour to the ***Medinet Habu* temple**. Here a tiny bit of Bond's walk to the Secret Service HQs was filmed. It is the scene, shot from bird's-eye view, where he passes a row of pillars. Up to now there are 62 tombs found in the Valley of the Kings. But only some of them are accessible for the public. When you are led down to one of them and have a look at the 3000-year old, colourful, artistic paintings you will really get a feeling of eternity.

The second of the 'Wonders of the World' of Egypt is the ***Karnak Temple*** which is also a great Bond-location. It was built by various pharaohs between 1550 and 1100 BC. The ***Great Hall of Columns*** with its 134 gigantic columns is a truly awe-inspiring place. Most of the scenes where Bond and Anya pursue Jaws were shot here. When you are there you may wonder, how did Roger Moore manage to bear it, walking around all the time in a tux and a bow tie? And how did the make-up artists make the sweat on his face disappear? Because the heat there is almost insufferable. The climate in Cairo is fairly tolerable, but each day in the south of Egypt is a real scorcher and in the temples the stone columns act like storage heaters reflecting the heat. For Barbara Bach in her sexy dress it was probably a bit easier.... Also various shots for the Agatha Christie film *Death On The Nile* with Peter Ustinov were taken on this very spot. Some scenes (dropping of the rock, camera-shots from bird's-eye view etc.) are almost identical with **TSWLM**.





From *Luxor* starts the cruise down the Nile to *Aswan*. That is a very relaxing experience. You sit on the deck of the ship in the shade, sipping a soft drink, reading a book and watch the by-passing landscape, where only little has changed over last 3000 years. You will also see a lot of feluccas, the type of sailboat on which Bond and Anya ‘exchanged their bodily warmth’. In *Aswan* the most interesting places are the high dam, the mausoleum of *Aga Khan*, the *Philae*-temple and the Old Cataract Hotel, where Agatha Christie wrote her above mentioned novel *Death On The Nile*.

Abu Simbel

No. 3 (after the pyramids and *Luxor*) in the charts of Egyptian sights is definitely the temple of **Abu Simbel**, about 140 miles (260 km) south of *Aswan*. You can get there by plane and by bus. The temple was built by Ramses II more than 3000 years ago.

Between 1965 and 1968 it had been disassembled and removed to an higher level to protect it from the waters of the *Nasser* storage lake. Although only a second unit shot was taken there of a double of Roger Moore passing the four monumental pharaoh figures, you shouldn’t miss *Abu Simbel* on your Egypt-tour. The best time for a visit is in the early morning, because than the temple is lying in full sunlight.

If you go to Egypt be sure to have good sunglasses with you because the sunlight is very intensive there, especially in the south. Be prepared for the ‘Revenge of the Pharaohs’, i.e. catching a cold (air-conditioning) or diarrhea. Although travelling in Egypt is a bit exhausting, it is worth the effort, because you will return with a bag full of unique impressions of this multi-sided North African country.

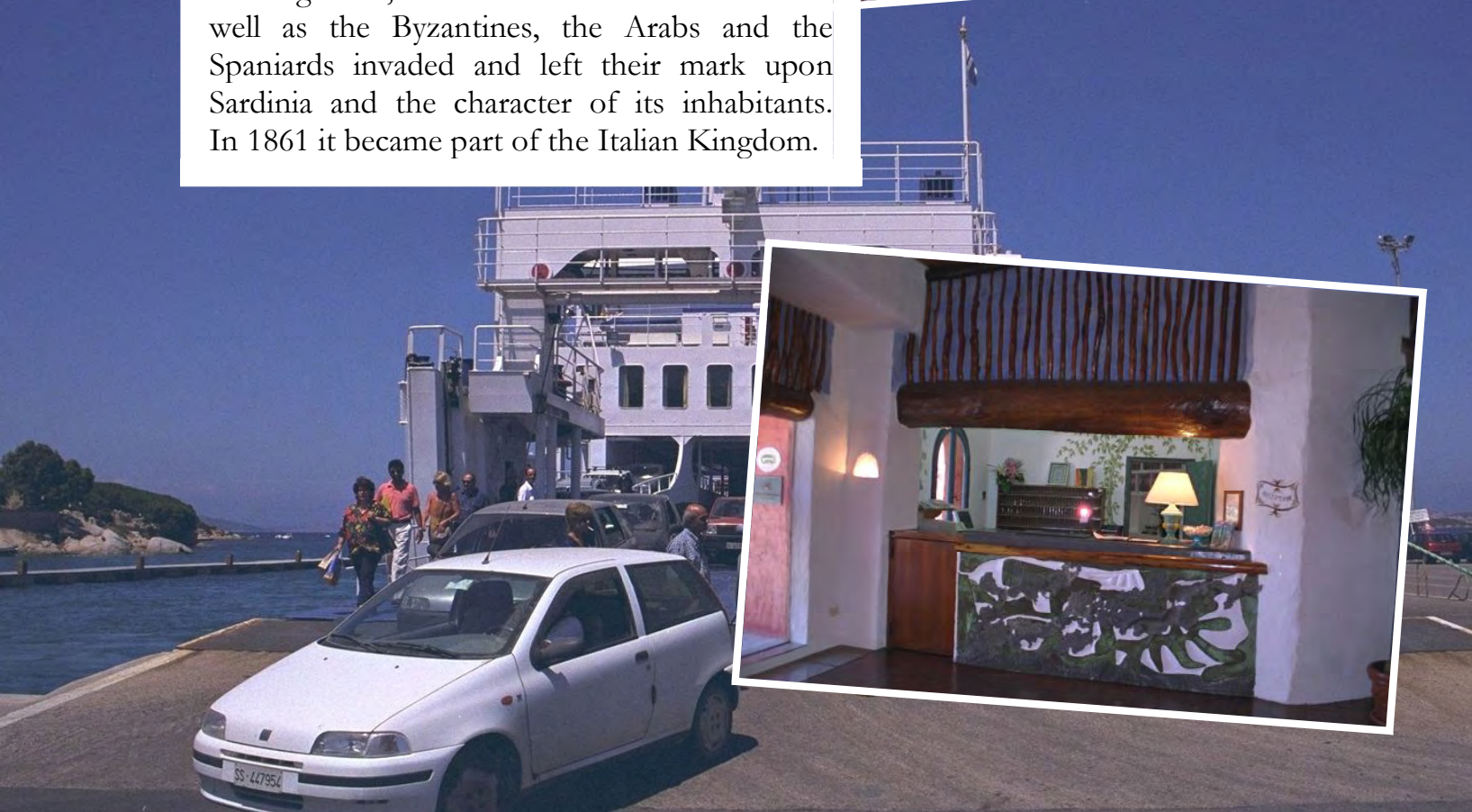


Inside the Gayer-Anderson Museum



16 Heart of the Mediterranean

“Lost between Africa and Europe” is how the English writer D. H. Lawrence described Sardinia in 1921 in his book *Sea and Sardinia*. Throughout its 2500-year history the island was invaded and occupied by foreign conquerors from all corners of the Mediterranean Sea. The Carthaginians, the Romans and the Vandals as well as the Byzantines, the Arabs and the Spaniards invaded and left their mark upon Sardinia and the character of its inhabitants. In 1861 it became part of the Italian Kingdom.





With its 9,309 sq. miles (24,090 sq. km) Sardinia is more than half the size of Switzerland. After Sicily it is the second largest island of the Mediterranean Sea. The coastline is about 1,150 miles (1,850 km) long. It is divided from the French isle of Corsica by the 6.5 mile (12 km) wide Straits of *Bonifacio*. The seat of administration for the 1.7 million inhabitants is in the capital *Cagliari*. Agriculture and sheep-rearing used to be the main source of income of the Sardinians. Increasing tourism today, however, brings a new influx of money into the island.



One of its more notorious visitors is James Bond, who came here accompanied by Soviet agent Triple-X, Anya Amasova in **The Spy Who Loved Me (TSWLM)** in 1977. In the plot of this film their mission is to investigate the arch villain Karl Stromberg's headquarters Atlantis, a huge amphibian structure located off the coast of Sardinia. After leaving Egypt and fighting Stromberg's gigantic henchman Jaws in a fierce train fight, the couple arrives at the little port-town of *Palau* at the northern tip of Sardinia. From here regular ferry services operate to Genoa and Naples on the Italian mainland as well as to the nearby island of *La Maddalena*. A rock shaped like a big bear (*Capa d'Orso*)

is the only modest tourist attraction *Palau* has to offer. Bond and Anya drive along the coastal road in an open carriage backdropped by the beautiful *Isola Santo Stefano*. On reaching *Palau's* jetty they observe Q driving the white Lotus Esprit sports car from a ferry, which lies at **the outermost left moorings**. He parks the car beside a sort of lamp-post and then the usual banter between 007 and his gadget master ensues. Bond's reckless handling of the precious vehicle is obviously a kick in the teeth for Q. All of Bond's following adventures take place at the **Costa Smeralda**, a region in the northeast of Sardinia that defies easy description. A wonderful, untouched area, without any roads, electricity, water or telephones: that was how *Costa Smeralda* appeared at the beginning of the sixties.

In 1960 His Highness Karim Aga Khan IV visited this place where Sardinia is at its most beautiful and realized the potential of this undiscovered, unspoiled paradise at the very heart of Europe's already overcrowded Mediterranean region. In collaboration with some of his wealthy friends he founded the *Consorzio Costa Smeralda*, a non-profit organization, which set itself the task of protecting and planning with care and taste this untouched part of Sardinia.

Over the next 20 years the Aga Khan's plans for a Shangri-La unfolded and one of the most expensive, prestigious and best-cared-for holiday destinations in the world took shape. The project was entrusted to architects and urban planners of international fame, the master plan had to respect nature applying so many precautions so as not to destroy (as it happened in so many other parts of the Mediterranean) this earthly paradise. The result is a harmonious combination of the work of man with nature, so that buildings are not imposed on the landscape but rather blend in with it and enhance it.

A style of building had been developed, which unites elements of rural architecture from around the Mediterranean in an extraordinary elegant synthesis. Most of the houses were constructed with natural material available locally: stone and granite. Although only recently built, the facades are endowed with the pastel-coloured patina usually associated with maturity - they even glow authentically at sunset. The name inspired by the striking colour of the sea, refers exclusively to that particular area, an emerald green sea surrounding 35 miles (55 km) of coastline with sheltered beaches of fine and white sand, rocks shaped by the wind, mild temperatures during most part of the year.

The hub of the *Costa Smeralda* is *Porto Cervo*, a stylish seaside resort with a ritzy shopping mall. Here you will find all the boutiques bearing the classy names like Cartier, Versace, Gucci and Bulgari, to mention but a few. Since a private yacht is the ultimate status symbol on the *Costa Smeralda*, you will find an impressive armada of ships and vessels here. *Porto Cervo Marina* has mooring places for some 650 yachts and is considered to be one of the best equipped marinas in the Mediterranean. A further sight of the town is the picturesque, beaming white plastered church *Stella Mares*.

Other landmarks of the Emerald Coast are certainly its elegant hotels, especially the 'Big Four'. Among them are the *Cervo Hotel & Conference Centre*, the *Hotel Romazzino* and the **Hotel *Cala di Volpe***, where Bond resides while staying in Sardinia.

Situated on the lovely *Cala di Volpe* (Bay of the Foxes), the hotel is a marvellous example of *Costa Smeralda* architecture. It is built like an ancient village with turrets, terraces, porticoes and irregular roofs. Granite paving, a covered wooden bridge and a port complete the picture. The renowned architect Jacques Couelle designed it in 1963 and it was extended in 1974. Over the years many distinguished guests from around the world, like Donald Trump, Mick Jagger or Joan Collins, have made the *Hotel Cala di Volpe* an internationally renowned *rendezvous*.

TSWLM production designer Ken Adam later said that he was inspired by the building style of the *Hotel Cala di Volpe* and the *Costa Smeralda* in general when he planned super villain Stromberg's headquarters Atlantis. "I wanted to get away from my old straight-line structures. This time I was going to use circles and ellipses, a concept partly influenced by our location scouting at the *Costa Smeralda*, where much of the architecture utilizes this style."

When 007 reaches the hotel in his white Lotus sports car we catch a glimpse of the Olympic-sized swimming pool and the anchorage. Bond and Anya cross the white plastered, spacious **lobby** and at the **reception** they check in for their accommodation. "Suite A5, a sitting room - and *two* bedrooms", as the female receptionist coquettishly remarks.





The interior scenes of Bond's apartment come up later in the movie. They were shot in **the lounge bar, the Bar Pontile**, which was transformed into a suite especially for the filming. The name refers to the little, wooden pier (*pontile*), that stretches far into the lagoon from the terrace. The bar remains almost in its original state from the filming. The timbered roof suspended by heavy wooden beams creates a warm, rustic atmosphere. Small columns, pieces of wall and arches divide the large room into cosy niches. The white of the plaster and the brown of the timber are the basic colours. Big windows on each side of the room bring about a bright, airy ambience.



When Stromberg's sultry assistant Naomi dashes into the bay in a zippy speedboat we see a complete panorama of the imposing Hotel *Cala di Volpe*. She awaits Bond and Anya at **the hotel-owned anchorage** to bring them to their audience with her boss.



The couple walks up to her, descending **the stony steps from the lobby**. After returning from the meeting with the super-baddie, Bond wants to have "another look at that Stromberg-laboratory". When the pair leaves the hotel in the Lotus sports car we see an elaborate pan shot of the beautiful *Cala di Volpe* bay, even the far-stretching wooden pier is visible.



In the next sequence the Lotus drives through a little hamlet, where a black clad motorcyclist kick-starts his engine and pursues our heroes. This was filmed in **San Pantaleo**, which is located in the hinterland of the *Costa Smeralda*. Bond's car approaches the **piazza (market square)** from the east, turns left and leaves in a southern direction. You will find a sleepy village which is reminiscent of the lost, pre-tourism Mediterranean. It is drowsing under a radiant sun and an azure sky. The little church, (male) villagers sitting in the shade, discussing world affairs as well as local gossip, the *piazza*, fringed with stately oleander trees - all these impressions carry the visitor back in time.



Most parts of the following wild car chase were filmed **on the country roads around San Pantaleo, the National Road n. 125 and the Panoramica Cugnana SP 94 along the Costa Smeralda**. The most outstanding spot of the hot pursuit is the piece of concrete wall, where the chopper pops up and which is circled twice by the Lotus later in the race. To get to this location you have to drive south from *Cala di Volpe* on the coastal road.



After one odd mile you will notice a **blue signpost with the inscription “per bivio S. PANTALEO km 6”** on the left side of the road. Directly behind that is the piece of wall which divides a little **parking lot and a view point** from the pavement. From here you have a marvellous vista over the shore. In the peak season try to be there before 10 am, because later it gets very crowded.



The chase reaches its climax when Bond plunges the Lotus into the sea. This scene was orchestrated on **the jetty of the Hotel Pitrezza**. The *Pitrezza* is the last, but definitely not the least of the ‘Big Four’ hotels of the Emerald Coast. Set into the granite cliffs of the attractive *Liscia di Vacca* bay, it consists of villas scattered discreetly amongst rocks and flowers. At the centre of the cluster of villas is the club house, with a piano bar, restaurant and a spacious terrace. The sea-water swimming pool, carved out of rocks seems to blend in with the sea. 007 speeds his car along what is now the beach of the Hotel *Le Palma*, then via the narrow road beside the *Pitrezza* and the jetty directly into the water. The following underwater sequences were filmed in the Bahamas.



The largest and most beautiful, public *spiaggia* (beach) of the *Costa Smeralda* is the one at *Cala Liscia Ruia*. But we are looking for another one.



We pass by the Hotel *Cala di Volpe* and follow the road signs to ***Spiggia di Capriccioli***. From the main road we turn into a dusty dirt road. At its end we reach a spacious parking lot. For a fee of less than a Euro we leave the car here and from the right hand exit we get to the nearby beach. On this idyllic, little part of *Capriccioli* beach Bond creates a splash, when the Lotus surfaces from the water, after the adventurous dive. The gag with the dog that takes a flight wouldn't be possible today, because nowadays Sardinian beaches are off limits to dogs.

The *Costa Smeralda* is surely a resort for the well-heeled vacationer, but also the normal traveller will find accommodation at a fairly reasonable price. To get to the Bond locations, which are pretty close together, you have to rent a car for one or two days. Leaving from the *Costa Smeralda* you may not have seen the whole of Sardinia, but definitely the most attractive part of it.

During the filming of the exciting car chase through the Sardinian mountains, assisting local policemen drove away to close off a stretch of road. But when they radioed the road was secure and the scenes were rehearsed, cast and crew were left shaken and stirred when the high speed convoy came face to face with a car, a bus and a truck. A quick investigation led to the discovery of the two police motorcyclists, both closing off the same end of the road! They had been hidden from each other's sights by a bend in the road and had both been convinced all was clear at their end...

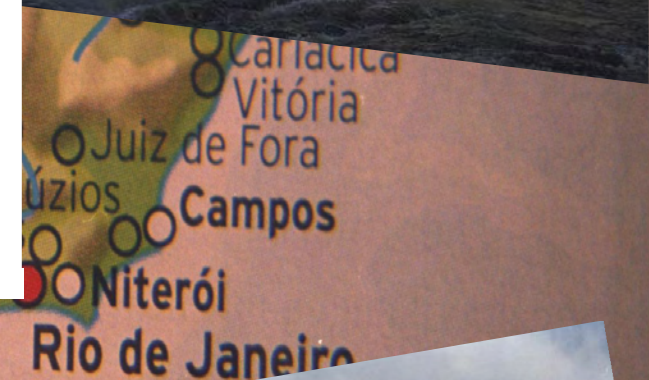
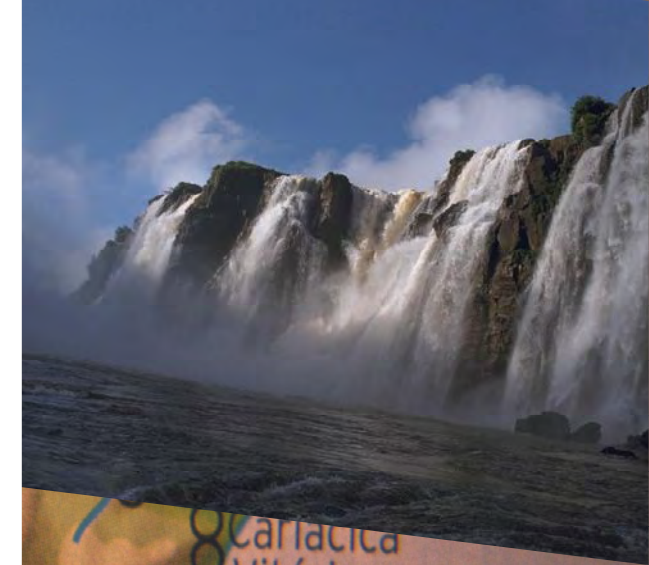
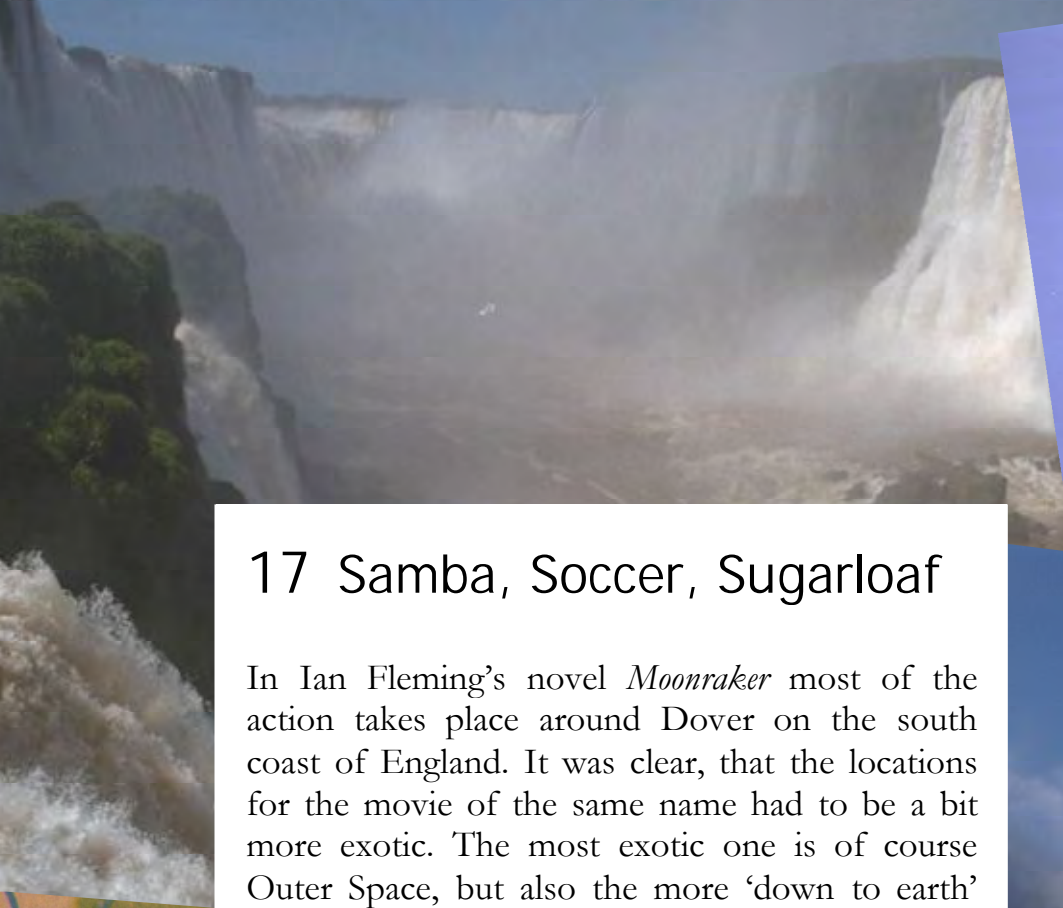


On The
TRACKS
OF
007

17 Samba, Soccer, Sugarloaf

In Ian Fleming's novel *Moonraker* most of the action takes place around Dover on the south coast of England. It was clear, that the locations for the movie of the same name had to be a bit more exotic. The most exotic one is of course Outer Space, but also the more 'down to earth' places have got it all.

For the shooting in 1978/79, the film crew went to Melun near Paris, the canals of Venice and to **Brazil**. In 1979 it was the first time that Bond crossed the equator and he carried out his mission there on some of the most scenically beautiful and fascinating spots of this roaring South American country. In the first place it is **Rio de Janeiro** and secondly it is **Iguaçu Falls**, magnificent waterfalls on the Brazilian-Argentine border.



When you go on a journey to Brazil, you will probably do it on a package tour which consists of several destinations. If you do so, make sure that you have at least two days for *Iguaçu Falls* and three days for Rio de Janeiro, otherwise you will not have time enough to enjoy it entirely.

Iguaçu Falls

Situated on the border between Brazil and Argentina in the state of *Paraná*, *Iguaçu Falls* (*Cataratas do Iguaçu*) is certainly one of the greatest natural wonders of Brazil, if not the whole world. It is surrounded by a national park of the same name, which is run by both countries. Unlike Niagara Falls, which consists mainly of the big Canadian Falls and the smaller American Falls, here it is a huge variety of about 275 cataracts of different sizes. The waterfall is fed by the *Rio Iguaçu*. An average of 15.000 barrel of water per second (1.800 cbm/sec) plunges over a precipice that is about 1.8 miles (3 km) wide.

You will probably arrive from São Paulo or Rio de Janeiro by plane. Try to get a window seat on the left hand side. If you are lucky, the pilot will fly a lap of honour over the falls and you will have a marvellous general view of the entire area and a great opportunity to make photos. If you are on your own, the cheapest way of getting to the falls, is by public bus. It operates from the nearby city of *Foz do Iguaçu* on an hourly base, starting at 7 a.m. and costs about half a dollar. The entrance fee for the national park amounts to 3 \$.

Drop off the bus at the *Hotel das Cataratas*, which is a good starting point for your expedition. There is a footpath that leads along the cascades. The best time to do it, is before noon, since then most of the falls are lying in full sunlight. Some of the larger ones have special names like e. g. *Salto Dos Hermanas* (Two Sisters) or *Salto Ramirez*. The biggest part of the area is on Argentine soil, but the best vista you have from this trail on the Brazilian side. On the whole length of the track there are several viewpoints where you have outlooks upon breathtaking scenery. You will realize that during the shooting of **Moonraker** the water level was extremely low. On your visit there will probably much more water going over the edge.



The range between *Salto Tres Mosqueteros* (**Three Musketeers**) and *Salto Belgrano* is the area where Bond flies along with the hang glider. In the film there are only one or two streamlets splashing out of the wall of rock, while normally



there are at least seven forceful cascades thundering down. Following the path you can watch colourful butterflies, big spiders, lizards, and nose bears.

The best is saved for last: You arrive at *Salto Floriano* where a catwalk leads to a steel platform, from which you have a magnificent view into the *Garganta del Diábulo* (Devil's Throat). But first a warning: Entering this catwalk you will get totally soaked. Make sure that you have something with you to protect your camera from the water (plastic bag). At Devil's Throat fourteen separate, mighty falls join forces, pounding down the 350-foot (90-meter) cliffs. On that platform you are amidst a symphony of roaring water, splashing white foam, omnipresent mist and a radiant 270-degree rainbow. All that is surrounded by the powerful green of the sub-tropical forest - a truly overwhelming impression. On your way back, halfway the catwalk you should look towards **Salto Floriano**. Then you have the same visual angle as the camera had in the scene where *Jaws* went over the edge of the waterfall.

There is a second steel platform where it is possible to get pretty close to the down-thundering masses of water. At the nearby gift shop I would recommend to buy a map of the area. The only thing that doesn't fit properly into this exotic, lush environment is a concrete elevator tower, though it is a convenient means to get back to street level. When you leave the elevator **near the parking lot**, you see the upper region of the river, where the introducing shot of the waterfall was taken. From here you can get back by bus.



A very Bondian way of watching *Iguaçu Falls* is doing it by helicopter. The *Helipuerto* is nearby the *Hotel das Cataratas*. A chopper departs every quarter of an hour. They offer flights over the falls of about 7 minutes. There are also flights of 35 minutes available which furthermore include the Argentine city of *Puerto Iguazú* and *Itaipú*, currently the world's largest hydroelectric power plant. In case you have leisure enough, you can go to the *Hotel das Cataratas* and ask for the *Chefe de Recepção, Senbor Vendolino Feldaus*. He is a very friendly man and was already employee of the hotel in 1979 when *Moonraker* was

filmed. If you let him know that you are a Bond-aficionado, he will tell you what he remembers about the shooting, for example that the film crew stayed in the hotel.

A third manner to explore the falls from the Brazilian side (perhaps on your second day) is by boat. You have to inform the bus driver to stop at the *Macuco Safari de Barco* (Macuco Boat Safari). The opening hours are from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm and they start every 15 minutes. The tour lasts about one hour and a half and begins with a jeep trip through the jungle. An English speaking guide explains the sub-tropical scenery. Then you descent to the canyon floor on foot. The best part is naturally the boating. The boat has a capacity of about 15 persons, life vest are obligatory and plastic raincoats are available. But to get the real feeling you do without and get totally wet.



Approaching the cataracts you 'shoot the (mild) rapids' and are reminded a bit of Bond's wild boat chase in *Moonraker*. The first cascades on the right hand side are **Salto Lanusse and Salto Alvar Núñez**. Here the girl in the white gown walked along, luring Bond into Drax' hideaway. This area is also accessible after an exhausting hike from the Argentine side. The captain steers the boat almost directly below the *saltos*, so you get a gratuitous shower. If you wish to get to the Cataract Hotel area after the end of the tour, the Macuco-Safari-people will take you there for free.

The easiest way to come to the Argentine side is by taxi. But negotiate about the price in advance. From the parking lot near the *Hotel Internacional Iguazú* a footpath leads over several bridges into the very heart of the falls. Again you are surrounded by roaring water and spray, but this time you keep dry. This is the place where every tour operator goes to. More interesting for us Bond-buffs is the **Mirador de Garanta del Diábulo (Devil's Throat viewpoint)**. You have to drive to *Puerto Canoas*, there you must go 0,63 miles (1 km) over a catwalk to a platform at the very edge of the Devil's Throat. Literally beneath your feet the water masses are

plunging down. On the opposite side is **Salto Benjamin Constant and Salto União**. You will immediately recognize the spot where Bond's and Jaws' (fake) boats approach the waterfall. Likewise it's to be seen in the background of the scene where Bond pursues the white clad girl. And also Leslie Nielsen goes over the edge here in the spoof *Mr. Magoo* (1997). Talking of other movies: Many scenes of *The Mission* (1986) with Robert de Niro and the finale of *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* (2008) were filmed at *Iguaçu Falls*.

A good fashion to complete your stay at *Iguaçu Falls* will be, to visit the *Hotel Ortega* in *Foz do Iguaçu, Avenida Brasil*. In 1979 its owner *Senhor Ortega* was involved in the **Moonraker**-shooting. He has got some photos in which he is together with Roger Moore. If you meet him perhaps he will tell you something about it.

By the way: Don't try to find Drax' hideout, the Mayan pyramid in the vicinity of *Iguaçu Falls*. The exterior was filmed more than 3800 miles away in *Tikal, Guatemala* (see 'Discovering Isthmus', about our trip to Mexico).

Rio de Janeiro

What are the associations you have in mind with Rio de Janeiro? Carnival? Football? Zest of living? A colourful, vibrant metropolis beneath an everlasting blue sky? The expectations are very high when you arrive, but I can tell you, Rio delivers. Its name means 'River of January', because the Portuguese discoverers, headed by *Amerigo Vespucci*, who entered *Guanabara Bay* on January 1, 1502, thought wrongly it was a mouth of a river. Although the capital has moved from Rio to *Brasília* in 1960, Rio remains its hub of culture, social life and tourism. Its residents, the *cariocas* claim that Rio de Janeiro is "the most beautiful city of the world", and you can hardly contradict.

You cannot deny that the crime rate in Rio is very high and I truly don't want to play down this fact. An obvious sign of this are the high picket fences that protect the entrances of the apartment buildings and hotels. People will warn you not to be thoughtlessly with your camera or handbag and it's natural that the touristy areas are the main targets for snatchers and pickpockets. So if you are anxious about this, stay in a group. There are lots of tour operators who carry you to every tourist attraction. But on the other hand the situation is not much worse than in other comparable big cities in North America, Asia or Europe. If you keep your wits about you, are cautious and take care of your belongings, you can explore Rio on your own.



The most attractive sights of Rio are Sugarloaf, the statue of Christ the Redeemer atop *Corcovado*, *Maracanã Stadium* - and the beautiful girls of *Ipanema* and *Copacabana*. A stroll along the promenade of this world-famous beach will perfectly attune the newly arrived visitor to this easy-going city. Having the melodic interpretation of the **Moonraker**-theme (played at Bond's arrival in Rio) in mind, this sensation will be intensified for us Bond-fans. Backdropped by cosy cafes, elegant hotels and expensive shops there is a jolly mixture of street-vendors, musicians, jugglers and so on. Pretty exactly half-way up you will notice a three storied building with the blue inscription "**Escola Municipal Dr. Cicero Penna**". That's where Bond's Rolls turned from **Avenida Atlântica** into **Rua República do Peru**.



The peak season for a visit in Rio is before Carnival or the Saturday after it (winner's parade). At that time nearly every hotel clerk and travel guide is a black marketeer for tickets - and they will take you to the cleaners. They will probably demand 120 to 140\$ for the best seats. That's indeed a lot of dough for one night, but I would recommend: GO FOR IT! You will experience an ecstasy of Samba, cheerfulness, imaginative costumes, elaborate street-parade floats, singing and drumming people, confetti - and you will be part of it! Unlike the Carnival scenes in **Moonraker**, the parade nowadays takes place in an especially built *Sambódromo*. The stands that were constructed in 1984 accommodate about 90.000 spectators.

A second 'do-not-miss-this' experience is to watch a soccer match in *Maracanã Stadium*. *Futebol* is rooted in the national Brazilian soul like Samba and Carnival. You are captivated by the elegant ball handling and the virtuosity play-making of the players. While the Brazilian footballers are considered the best of the world, their fans are definitely the most enthusiastic ones in the world. There is singing and sambaing and carnivaling during the whole game. Starting as a neutral observer you will finish the match as a hot blooded supporter of the home team and the party goes on the ride in an over packed bus back to the city.

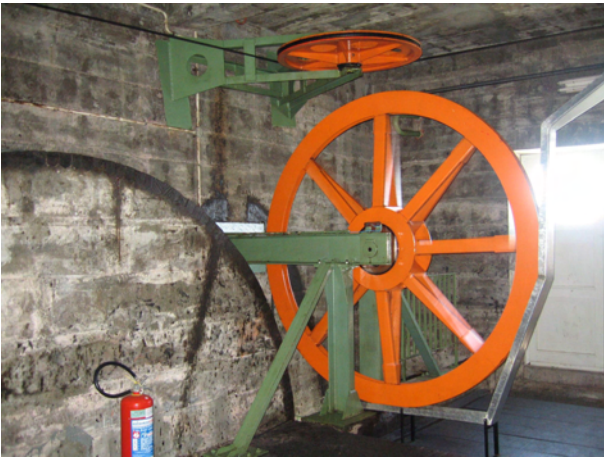


The No. 1 under Rio's attractions is of course **Sugarloaf** (*Pão de Açúcar*), and not only the Bond-fans go there. The bus lines 501 *Urca Circular* and 511/512 *Urca-Leblon* are serving it. As we all know, you reach its top by **cable car**, which runs uphill in two stages. Around noon you will be in a car together with 74 other sweating tourists. Try to be there for the first departure at 8 a.m. and you will have Sugarloaf almost for you alone, like Bond and Holly. You start at the base station in *Praia Vermelha* and go upwards to the first stopping at **Urca Mountain** (*Morro da Urca*). Here the action in **Moonraker** starts. Approaching the **wheelhouse** of the second stage, you will recognize it without problems. Only the Seven-Up billboard is gone, the window frames are now green instead of brownish and it's totally undamaged.

At this station a scene was filmed where Jaws' future girlfriend introduced herself to the big man. The words "Hi, I'm Dolly" and Jaws' grumbling reply were deleted in post-production and this is the reason we only know her name from the end credits.

You may wonder where Bond might have come from, climbing up the stairs beside the entrance, because they only lead to maintenance facilities. You should also take a look at **the switchboard** where the bald headed crook sabotaged the installations.





For the ride to the peak the 007-buff takes undoubtedly Bond's cable car on the right hand side. Inside it the ladder to the hatch in the roof is hanging under the ceiling - only the iron chain is missing. From the top of Sugarloaf visitors have second-to-none views of the Rio's skyline and its beautiful beaches, from *Ipanema*, via *Copacabana* and *Botafogo* to *Flamengo*.



The outlook platform has changed a bit, there is now an open bar, which wasn't there in 1979. But the stone benches are still in the right place and so is the **telescope** (not the original one from **Moonraker**). By means of it you can try to find the street-corner in the suburb of *Urca* (house with curved roof, gable to your side) and then pan to *Aeroporto Santos Dumant*, like Bond did.



Before leaving the observation platform 007 and Dr. Holly Goodhead, played by Lois Chiles (originally tested for the role of Anya Amasova in **The Spy Who Loved Me**), stood at the railing beside the barrier. From here you have an excellent view upon *Urca Mountain* and the two cable cars zipping past each other in the middle of the ride. In your mind you literally will see Bond and Jaws fighting on the roofs of the cars.



If you are still in the mood to saunter a bit after leaving the base station, you should cross the square with the digital clock (*Praça General Tibúrcio*) and the adjacent small parking lot. Here is the beginning of **Trilho Claudio Coutinho**, a footpath that runs for about half a mile beside the sea along Sugarloaf. Though it is a military area, access is allowed. It is a pleasant walk, with the wooded hill on the one side and a pretty high cliff on the other. From here you have great views of the cable cars in front of an azure sky. **At the end of the trail, a bit up the hill** is the area where Bond and Holly dropped down and were captured by the fake orderlies.



Back at *General Tibúrcio Square* taxi drivers will probably chat you up to offer you a ride to the Christ statue on *Corcovado*. It is a pretty good manner of getting there, because the driver will take you to some nice places. He also stops at **Parque Izahk Rabin**. The area is totally remodelled and you won't recognize anything, but it's where the ambulance drove up the meandering street.



The classic way to ascend *Corcovado* (Hunchback Mountain) is by railroad (*Estrada de Ferro Corcovado*). After your visit to this second most interesting sight of Rio and leaving the train at the base station at *Rua Cosme Velho*, you are supposed to walk this street a bit westward. After about 1000 foot (300 meters) there is *Beco do Boticário* on the right hand side, which is a little cobble-stoned alley that leads to ***Largo do Boticário*** (Druggist's Square). The colourfully painted terrace houses at the background of the square double as the façade of the monastery that accommodates the HQs of the Secret Service. Bond and his two companions arrive there after their *Magnificent Seven* ride.

The houses are now even more colourfully painted than while ***Moonraker*** was filmed. The yellow house with the elegantly curved gable, balustrade balcony and dark blue window frames is especially beautiful.

On a metal plate you can read about the history of the square. A second board tells you (in Portuguese) that in former times the indios used to bath in the nearby streamlet. That was supposed to enhance the women's beauty and the man's manliness.

After Bond enters the house next to the yellow one (it's now painted pink) the scene of action switches to Venice (see our story *Venetian Affair*). Who may wonder whether the residents know that their dwellings were already to be seen on the cinema- and TV-screens around the whole world.

Carioca Aqueduct and the beach of *Ipanema*, where Vinicius de Moraes and Tom Jobim wrote and composed their evergreen *The Girl from Ipanema* are some further features of Rio de Janeiro, that contribute to her reputation, being the capital of relaxing lifestyle and careless ease and you will have become addicted to her charms when you leave.

Corfu Island



ΠΑΛΑΙΟΦΡΟΥΡ ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ

18 A drive in the country

On the Northern shores of the Mediterranean Sea you can find one of Europe's most interesting countries: Greece.

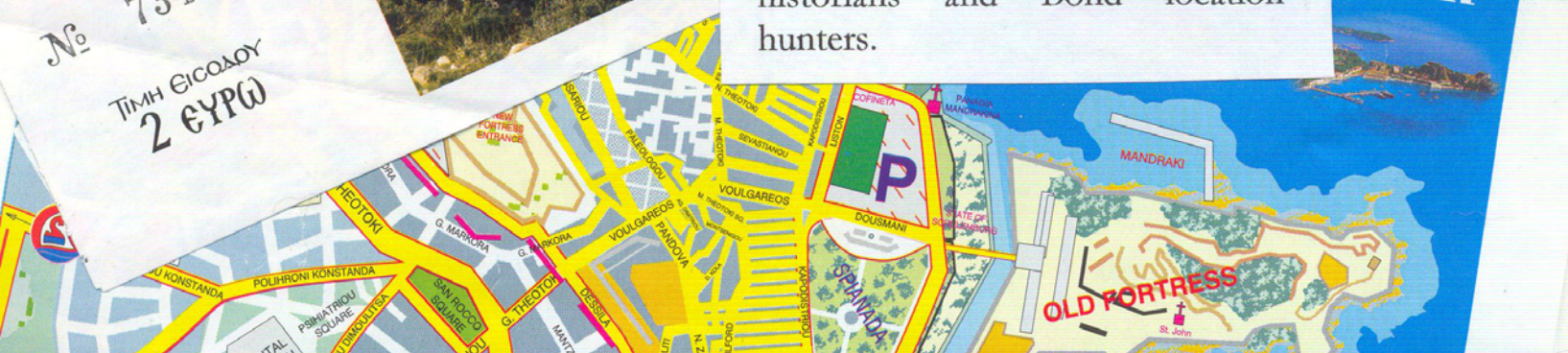
Its mainland surrounded by thousands of islands, Greece played an important part in European history. It also provided dazzling filming locations for James Bond's 12th adventure, **For Your Eyes Only**, which brought Roger Moore's Bond back to reality.

It is possible to talk for weeks about Greece's rich history, but that would be too much to discuss in this book. We will limit ourselves to the main tourist attractions and Bond locations which combined make this country even more attractive to tourists, historians and Bond location hunters.



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The mainland

Athens, the country's capital, is a good place to start touring Greece. Being one of the most polluted cities in the world, Athens has a difficult time to prove herself. But don't let the extremely busy streets scare you away from the beautiful and quiet spots that still exist here. Take your time to look around and you will undoubtedly discover them!

The heart of the city is the *Akropolis*, probably the best known monument from ancient Greece. The name, meaning 'high city', says it all. On this hill, a huge fortress surrounded the actual city for thousands of years. All that remains nowadays are some temple structures, of which the *Parthenon* is the most famous. Around the hill, the *Plaka*-district is well worth a visit. The area is a pedestrian zone and offers many restaurants and small squares. The best way to tour the mainland, is by renting a car. The well maintained roads and excellent road signs guide you past some of the world's most interesting excavations. Two of those places we will briefly discuss here.

Olympia, on the western side of the *Peloponnesus* peninsula, is where our modern Olympic Games found their origin. The excavations attract busloads of tourists each day, and give you an idea of the importance of sports in the ancient Greek society. Driving to the north of the peninsula, at *Patrai*, you can take a ferry that takes you 'back' to the actual mainland. From there it is only an hour to *Delphi*, situated in one of the most impressive areas of the country. High up in the mountains, this was once the most sacred place of the Greeks. For those of you who are not much into ancient architecture, the remains of Delphi might resemble those of any other excavation in Greece. One temple structure might ring a bell, on the other hand. In the lower part of the Delphi area, **the three remaining pillars of the Tholos Temple** where cleverly used as a background for the end credits of **For Your Eyes Only (FYEO)**.

The island of Corfu: Corfu Town

Corfu has a lot to offer, from beautiful beaches to magnificent landscapes. For the Bond location hunter, it has even more to offer. In **For Your Eyes Only** it was used by the film makers not only as the island it is, but also as the area around Madrid (Spain) and Albania. Director John Glen wanted to return to the style of the earliest Connery films and present Bond as a more realistic hero who gets hurt every now and then. The storyline was roughly based on two short stories by Ian Fleming, *For your Eyes Only* and *Risico*. With a script ultimately written by

Michael Wilson and Richard Maibaum, **For Your Eyes Only** had a budget of 28 million Dollars and called for mainly European locations. Greece was soon decided upon, since it was a country Bond had not visited before. While scouting for possible locations, Michael Wilson and John Glen instantly fell in love with the island of Corfu, realizing its beauty had a lot of potential.



Corfu Town is a busy place. In the heart of the city, a pedestrian area called 'the Old Town', is crowded with tourists trying to bring home some souvenirs from the many shops. Here you should take your time, sit down somewhere and relax a bit while enjoying a glass of *Ouzo*, the national drink. In this area you will also find the **Agios Spyridon Tower**, which could be briefly seen in the film, when Bond and Melina go 'shopping'. A big park on the eastern side of the city is called the *Spianada*. Here the Greeks play...cricket, a sport introduced here by the British around 1850. In the park, you can also find a **round temple-like monument**, also briefly visible in the film.





One of the most exciting Bond locations in Corfu Town is undoubtedly **The Old Fortress**, built by the Venetians. This fortress served in fact as a background for more than one action sequence. It is already visible in the beginning of the film, when Gonzales flies Melina towards her parent's boat. Later in the film, it is supposed to be close to Kristatos' Albanian warehouse. This 'warehouse' is located on the northern side of the fortress, and is in reality a **small harbour house**. When Bond and Colombo's men arrive at the warehouse at night, they come from the north.



Time to enter the fortress. The admission fee is only 5 Euro. When you walk into the recently restored area, you will not immediately be reminded of the exciting scenes in which Bond follows Locque on foot. But if you know where to look for, you can find all locations! To avoid unnecessary and time consuming searching, the best thing to do is to go to the left when you are facing the 'British barracks'.



Following this path will lead you through **the tunnels** in which Bond was almost run over by Locque's Mercedes. There are in fact only two of these tunnels inside the fortress, and again this shows how clever filmmakers can be. It is amazing to see, that they ingeniously used every remarkable spot inside the fortress, and made it look like one big car-foot chase.



The road and tunnels eventually lead to the most eastern side of the fortress, an area where not many tourists show up, fortunately. Here you will find the still very recognisable **stone gate** from where Bond finally shoots Locque. In the film, Bond appears from the right side of the gate. In reality there is only a very small space here, mostly filled with rubble. Again this space was very cleverly used.



After Locque is shot by Bond, the former's car spins and crashes into a low brick wall. We all remember Locque's car standing on **the edge of a high cliff**. This cliff is in fact not in front of the stone gate, but behind it.

Although in this scene Roger Moore finally brought back something of Bond's original harshness, he reportedly had big difficulty playing this. In the scene, Bond avenges his murdered Italian contact Ferrara, by showing killer Locque no mercy and kicking the latter's car off the cliff. This kind of ruthlessness had in fact not been seen since the earlier Bond films.



Recently, access to this area has been restricted, but there's always the possibility to climb some fences on the south side, or climb some walls and hills on the north side to get to your destination. Be careful though, the area hasn't been taken care of for a while and is not in a very good state.

The island of Corfu: Kanoni

Only a stone's throw away from Corfu Town lies the crowded Kanoni peninsula. Once the most beautiful corner of the island, it attracted too many

tourists, and now it is almost completely filled with hotels. A narrow one-way street leaves from the most southern part of Corfu Town's boulevard and takes you up the hill to some marvellous views. Just follow the road and the signs to *Vlacherna* and *Pondikonissi*, better known as 'Mouse Island'. You will end up at the monastery of **Vlacherna**. This little church is on almost every postcard and is the most famous site in Corfu. Here, on **the concrete road towards the monastery**, Melina arrived by boat, after the action in Cortina d'Ampezzo.



Driving back, up the hill, this time taking a sharp turn to the right, you will head towards a great viewing point. Here you have a marvellous view of the monastery and 'Mouse Island' in the background. To your right you can see the lagoon of Corfu Town, with the runway of Corfu Airport. It's hard to imagine why so many hotels offer a room-with-a-view of this dirty lagoon.

Following the road up the hill, you will pass the entrance of the Corfu Palace Hotel, where you can find the casino nowadays. Time to slow down. Immediately past the Corfu Palace entrance, also on your right, you will find a metal fence. Next to it is a name plate: **Villa Sylva**, one of the most hard to find Bond locations. If you're lucky, the gate is wide open and it is totally up to you whether you want to ignore the sign "*Beware of the dogs*" or drive on. I can tell you, it is worth to take a look inside.

Bond 'had Gonzales perforated by Miss Havelock'. Things have changed a bit around here, but people with a good memory can still recognise the pool area, the diving board, the outside bar and the garden area around the house. If the place is still as abandoned as it was when we got there, take your time for a small walk through the garden and discover some beautiful views. Not a bad place for a villa, right?

Villa Sylva was also used in the film *The Executioner*, starring George Peppard and Joan Collins, in 1970. Situated next to *Mon Repos*, the summer home of the King of Greece and the birthplace of Prince Philip of Great Britain, the villa can be rented, if you're interested. During the high season, the villa rents for just 26,000 Dollars a week. This might give you a clue of the luxury and views you can expect inside.



Driving through the gate, you will find yourself on a bad road, but don't let this scare you off. Follow the road past a small house on your left, until you enter a small roundabout. In the middle of this roundabout there's a statue of a dog. Is this the dog you were supposed to beware of?

Park your car somewhere and walk towards the house. Does it already look familiar? When you see the pool, you must finally realize that you have found the 'Spanish' villa of hired hit-man Gonzales. Here the memorable scenes were filmed wherein

The island of Corfu: The north

When you leave Kanoni and Corfu Town and head towards the north, you will pass some very touristic towns, like Gouvia and Dassia. At Gouvia, a few kilometers more inland, lies **Danilia Village**, a specially prepared village that served as some sort of open air museum. Mainly due to financial problems, the village was closed, and is not accessible for us anymore. This keeps us from visiting the church where Bond met Q, who informs him about the amount of 'St.Cyrils' he had discovered in Greece.

This scene, as well as the Greek wedding scene, was filmed in Danilia Village. A very funny sign at the entrance gate tells us it will re-open in 200... The last number has been removed and visitors have taken this opportunity to fill in the gap and leave comments like “September 2004, still not open!”



The stone entrance gate to the village was also used as the gate around Gonzales’ Spanish countryside villa. On the road in front of it, we saw Bond drive his Lotus while passing Locque in his Mercedes. The latter can then be seen turning into the gate and driving on to the premises. Although the area in front of the gate has clearly been altered by Mother Nature in the past years (trees now almost hide the complete entrance), it is still not hard to recognize the location.

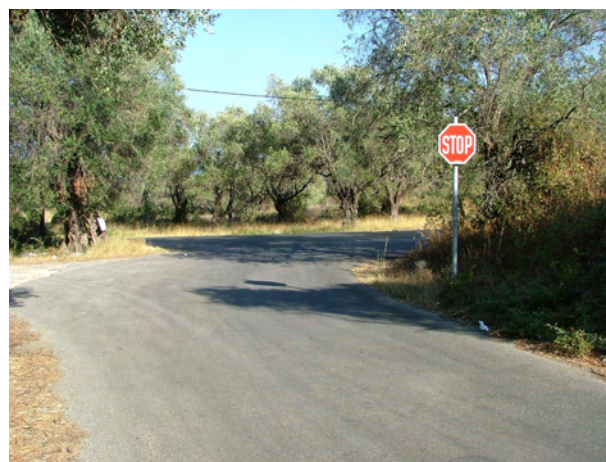


If you keep following the coastal road, driving through Ipsos and Pyrgi, you will also get to **Kalami Bay**, where marine archaeologist Sir Timothy Havelock and his wife were stationed by the British to try to recover the ATAC computer. Here, Melina is dropped off by Hector Gonzales, after which he takes off, flies away and turns his plane around to assassinate the Havelocks. On the right side of the bay, you might be able to see the square white house where writer and poet Lawrence Durrell lived in the ‘30’s. Now known as ‘the white house’, Durrell called it *Prospero*, and it was in this house he wrote his most famous work *Prospero’s Cell*.



For those interested in staying at historical places, the current owner rents ‘the white house’ for a thousand Euros per week.

When you return from Kalami, following the road back to the busy tourist towns, try to find **the exit on the right towards *Spartilas***. On this small corner, you can probably recognise the place where Bond stopped his Lotus to look at his road map, while searching for Gonzales’ villa. Following the road up the hill brings you to an awesome view of Corfu’s east coast. And even though you might think the sharp curved road was used in the 2CV chase, this is not the case. These roads will be our next stop.



You will find yourself on a maze of roads, and sometimes there aren’t even any road signs. Best fun you will have at the crossings, where you can always find a couple of people desperately trying to figure out which way to go. As it turns out, most of the time the necessary direction signs are behind some bushes or even a few meters behind the actual crossing! At *Kastellani*, start following the signs towards *Agios Georgios Beach*. This is the road used in the 2CV car chase scenes. During their location scouting on Corfu, the film makers noticed the local farmers collecting the olives from the trees, which inspired them to incorporate the winding roads and cascading olives in the car chase.

Often, ideas like these are written into the script at the last minute and sometimes whole scenes are changed after coincidental encounters with local habits.

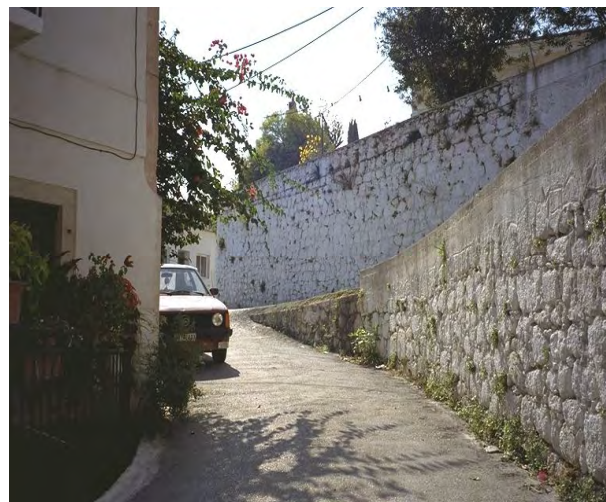
Before we get to one of the most interesting locations on the island, we approach a tiny town called *Vatonies*. **The last curve before town**, recognisable from a stone bridge, was used in the first scene after we see Bond leave Money Penny's office. Bond drives his Lotus through the (Spanish) countryside and we see him accelerate into the hills. Two Cypress trees, visible in the film as tiny trees, are still recognisable here in front of the bridge, now 25 years later...



Directly after passing *Vatonies*, you will enter the town of *Pagi*. **Pagi** can easily be called the smallest and least interesting town on the island. Except for us! *Pagi* overwhelms you when you look at the town more carefully. In this town, Bond and Melina's yellow Citroen 2CV had its finest hour and raced some mean looking baddies in Peugeots. **The roads surrounding Pagi**, whirl themselves through the immense fields of olive trees and were also used in that same car chase, brilliantly staged by French stunt co-ordinator Remi Julienne. He would later also work on scenes like the May Day chase around the Eiffel Tower in **A View To A Kill**. Filming started on Wednesday September 24th 1980 and took nearly 12 days, using a total of 5 Citroens for the various scenes.



The main road through *Pagi* leads you past some recognisable landmarks, like the town's church tower. In the **heart of the village**, you will immediately recognise the famous place where Bond advised Melina to 'take the low road', after which the 2CV ended up on its roof. Nothing has changed a bit since those days, and it seems as if time has stood still in *Pagi*. Best thing to do, is to park your car somewhere and stroll around this lovely and quiet place. I can assure you that images of a yellow 2CV will keep bothering your mind... From *Pagi* it is only a few kilometers to *Agios Georgios*, where you can spend some time on the beach. The town itself is filled with hotels, so this could be a good opportunity to relax and perhaps even spend the night.





The Island of Corfu: The Achilleion

Our next goal is to visit the palace of Empress Elisabeth of Austria, better known to the world as *Sissi*. Impressed by the beautiful view, she bought the land in 1890 and ordered the construction of her palace **Achilleion**, where she was to spend many springs and autumns. In the early 60's, the Greek government rented the palace to a German consortium, who totally refurbished and remodelled the top floors, and turned them into the island's first and only casino. It was here where the casino scene in **For your eyes only** was filmed.



From Corfu Town, you should drive to the south, towards *Gastouri* and *Benitses*. The palace is mentioned on the road signs immediately after you pass Corfu Town's outer areas. Just follow the signs, and you will be taken up a hill, straight to the Achilleion. The admission fee for the palace is about

3 Euro. When you walk through the entrance gate, you will see what many believe is one of the ugliest mixtures of architectural styles. Whether you like it or not, of course, is purely a matter of taste, but it sure brings back some memories. **The entrance** of the building was briefly visible in the casino scene. On the eastern side of the building, you will find a **beautiful square, paved with black and white stones**. Here Bond had a delicious dinner with Kristatos, while observing Colombo and Countess Lisl.

Walking northwards you will get one of the best views on the island. A serene **balcony terrace** offers an absolutely marvellous view of Corfu Town and of Albania and the Greek mainland on the other side of the sea strip. Here, later in the film, Bond and Melina share a romantic moment together, Melina relating how much 'her father loved this view'. In fact, this view and the gardens surrounding the palace make it very worth while to visit the palace. Take your time.



The island of Corfu: The south

The southern part of Corfu differs from the rest, mainly because it is much flatter. Only in the most southern corner a small mountain rim is present, but most of the south is reasonably flat. A major touristic area you will find around *Kavos*. If you like going out to bars and discotheques, you should not forget to visit this town. Another interesting place is *Lake Korission*. This huge lake provides home to many interesting bird species. A small gap in the dunes leads directly to the Ionian Sea, and it is this gap that divides the area into two parts. The southern part of this area has only recently been discovered by the tourists, the main town there being *Agios Georgios*. Although we have mentioned this name before, it is a totally different place.

In this southern *Agios Georgios* you will find excellent space for water sports and the beaches are hard to resist. When you walk on the beach, you should walk northwards, towards *Lake Korission*. Once you will notice **the sandy dunes**, you should take some time to look around. Doesn't this area ring a bell somewhere?



Since this is the only place on the island where you will find dunes, it will not take very long for you to realise that here on these dunes Countess Lisl von Schlaf was murdered by Locque. In the film, Bond and the Countess spend the night together and early in the morning decide to go for a walk on the beach. When Locque appears in his dune-buggy, Lisl runs away and gets run over by the buggy. The actual bungalow where Bond and Lisl spent the night was just a fake façade, put there for the filming. You will understand there's not a trace left of it.



The Greek mainland: Meteora

When you're looking for an interesting excursion, you should consider taking the ferry to the mainland. From Corfu Town, the ferry leaves every hour. You can either walk onboard (6 Euros) or take your rental car (27 Euros). The boat trip takes about 1,5 hours and will bring you to *Igoumenitsa*. From there, it's a 200km ride to Meteora, mostly on small curved roads over some of the highest mountains of Greece. The ride takes about 3,5 hours, but once the newly constructed *Ignatia* Road is ready, your ride will be both much more comfortable and faster. At the time of writing, most parts have been opened, but some are still on the drawing table. From *Igoumenitsa*, follow the road to *Ioannina* and *Metsovo* and finally to *Kalambaka*. Here the real adventure begins, since it is virtually impossible to miss the mysterious, huge cliffs at the horizon...



Still following the road signs *Meteora*, you will be taken through the small town of *Kastraki* and then immediately up to the mountains. After a lot of curves, you will discover a road sign bearing the names of all the monasteries in the Meteora region. Since EON used **Agia Triada (or Agios Trias, the holy trinity) Monastery** for the long shots of Kristatos' hideout, called St.Cyrils in the film, best thing to do is follow the sign that leads to this beautiful site. The moment you see this monastery (or any other monastery you will come across) you will not believe your eyes! From the mountain rim you have a clear view on the valley, and in the middle of this unimaginable landscape stand these huge rock pillars, many carrying a monastery on top.



In 1334 the monk *Athanasios* came to this region destined to build a monastery. Together with fourteen other monks he climbed *Platys Lithos*, one of the rock formations. There he started building the first monastery, *Megala Meteora* and others were soon to follow. The reason for building these holy monasteries on top of rocks was to be closer to god. When the region was attacked by intruders from other countries, the monasteries seemed untakeable fortresses. Their location only became a disadvantage in WWII, when Nazi bombers found the monasteries very easy targets, and did destroy some of them.

From the road to *Agia Triada Monastery* you have a beautiful view of the rock. This is definitely the right place to take some photographs! Remember to go there either early in the morning or late in the afternoon, because only then you will have the advantage of not being overran by busloads of tourists, who come in every day around 11.00h to get a quick view and leave around 16.00h to be back on time for their dinner.

From the entrance of the monastery it's a small walk downhill, until you reach the path they cut out of the rock. Climbing up the stairs, you will have a great view of the base of the rock, the place where the Bond/Colombo party arrived and had a first look on 'St.Cyrils'. Truth is, John Glen didn't use much of

the actual monastery, but had a more usable monastery-set built on the rock next to *Agia Triada*. This rock was also used for other close-ups, and is now not accessible for us. To enter a holy monastery requires proper clothing. Women are supposed to cover their legs and shoulders, and the monks have therefore all sorts of skirts and scarves available. It sure makes great pictures!



After a small tour of the monastery, you can walk outside to the 'garden'. You will then also pass the pull-up basket the monks use to pull up all the items that are too heavy to walk up. Although situated in a similar wooden cabin, this is not the same cabin used in the film. EON reproduced a cabin at the studio for the filming of the sequence where Bond pulls in



Colombo and Melina. Outside the monastery is a great look-out. A dazzling cliff without any fence offers a magnificent view of the villages below. It's this same area where Bond throws away the ATAC, and calls it "detente, comrade."

During the filming at Meteora, the producers had a very hard time dealing with the Greek monks, as the latter were not too impressed by the violent image of the series main character. Despite the brilliant comment by Roger Moore, who told them politely that he 'once was a saint himself', the monks tried to sabotage the filming by hanging out their white laundry as a protest. After some negotiation, the film crew rapidly started working on the dangerous climbing scene, performed by Bond-veteran-stuntman Rick Sylvester, who earlier jumped the Asgard Mountain in the pre-title sequence of **The Spy Who Loved Me**. The smart direction of the stunning climb ensured that this scene is still being regarded as one of the series' highlights.

All in all, Greece is tremendously exciting. Whether you come for the Greek temples, history and culture, the sun, the night life or the beaches, you will not be disappointed by the splendour of this cradle of European civilisation. The people are very friendly, helpful and always willing to tell what they remember of the Bond filming. The filming locations are somewhat scattered across the mainland and Corfu, but touring them like we just described here, will definitely leave an indelible impression on you, and will make sure that you absolutely will return to Greece one day.

On The
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007

कितने बजे हैं?



19 The jewel and the clown

India is a fantastic country to visit, full of unique colour, smells and flavours. Its rich history and interesting culture instantly gives you the feeling of being in a different world. And you are. James Bond visited India once, back in 1983. Tracing the buyer of a Fabergé egg, 007 ends up in the city of Udaipur where he finds more than just his nemesis Kamal Khan. He also finds the stunning **Octopussy**, living on a lake island palace, guarded and surrounded by an army of beautiful women. This sounds like the kind of location we are dying for to explore. So off we went to India.

After several Islamic invasions, the stability in the country disappeared and Portuguese, French and English traders took advantage of the fractured kingdoms to colonise India around the year 1600. The British East India Company became very powerful, but their policies caused widespread resentment resulting in 1857 in an insurrection popularly known as the First War of Indian Independence. After the revolt India came under the crown of the British Empire. Subsequently, the Indian independence movement began its struggle for independence.

On August 15, 1947 India was granted independence from British rule, becoming a secular republic in 1950. The Republic of India now has a population of over one billion, the Indian economy being the fourth largest in the world in terms of purchasing power parity and is the world's second fastest growing economy. India also has a huge film industry, often referred to as 'Bollywood', producing thousands of films each year, grossing much, much more than the average Hollywood film..

Visitors generally enter the country either by Mumbai or New Delhi. We decided to start our tour in Delhi and work our way through the state of Rajasthan, finishing in Mumbai. We stayed for two weeks in total which was sufficient time to cover the main attractions of Rajasthan but did not leave much scope for unscheduled stops.



We took a train from Delhi to our first major port of call at Agra where we spent the night. After visiting the magnificent **Taj Mahal** we visited the Red Fort of Agra where we find our first Octopussy location. **At the highest point of the fort there is a terrace** that offers a sweeping view across the river to the Taj Mahal beyond. It was from this point that the shots of the Taj Mahal were taken when Bond initially arrives in India. From Agra we took a train to Jaipur, the largest town in Rajasthan, for a couple of days before moving on to Johdpur and finally Udaipur, which is 300 miles further away from the Taj Mahal than the film makers want us to believe.



Having to compete with Kevin McClory's **Thunderball** remake **Never Say Never Again**, which would see the return of Sean Connery, John Glen was re-hired as director for **Octopussy**, after his excellent work on the previous Bond adventure **For Your Eyes Only**. While film distributor United Artists was going through a rough time after the financial disaster *Heaven's Gate* and was ultimately taken over by the MGM company, Glen was therefore forced to work with a tighter budget than before, but was very pleased with the choice of actors, actresses and filming locations.

Udaipur was the ancient capital of the kingdom of Mewar, ruled by Ranas of the Sisodia Rajput clan. Under British rule, this was a prominent Rajput state. The legend goes that famous Maharana Udai Singh came upon a hermit, while hunting. He blessed the King and asked him to build a palace right there and it would be well protected. This is how Udaipur was established. The city is famous around the world as *City Of Lakes* or *Venice of the East*. The Pichola Lake, Udai Sagar, and Fateh Sagar, all in this city, are considered among the most beautiful in the state.



We stayed at the wonderful **Lake Palace Hotel**, a familiar sight to Bond fans. For visiting Lake Palace locations from Octopussy it is easiest to stay at the hotel itself, which is reasonably priced by Western standards. For those on a tighter budget it is possible to visit the hotel for dinner if you have a reservation.

If you are staying at the hotel, the romantically inclined can have dinner on a pontoon on the lake. It sure is a great experience.



After settling into our room a stroll around the hotel brings back immediate images for fans of Bond. The swimming pool area has superb views of the City Palace, and an angle that is featured in the film. **On the upper level is a terrace** that the hotel uses as a dining area. This is where Octopussy and Bond share a romantic drink. From here you can also see the Monsoon Palace in the hills beyond the new Oberoi hotel on the opposite side of the lake to the town. **In the centre of the complex is the beautiful lily pond** that Octopussy emerges from after Bond infiltrates the island.



The next morning we took a boat from the hotel to the town of Udaipur. On the trip to the town we were excited to see that the boat used in the film by Kamal Khan and on which Bond recuperates at the end is still in use by the hotel and was anchored on the lake.



At **the jetty** we arrived at **the base of the wall of the City Palace and Shiv Niwas Hotel**, close to the place where Octopussy's boat docks. Looking up we could see the veranda of Bond's hotel room, exactly as is shown in the movie. A visit to the City Palace gives lovely views of the lake and the Lake Palace Hotel.



Next to the City Palace is the **Shiv Niwas Hotel** itself. The hotel has built a new reception area since 1983 but **the old entrance** is very recognisable from the film by the elephant sculptures either side of the gates.





Through the bar area leads to **the swimming pool** that is seen in the film and is unchanged. Unfortunately we could not find any retired Majors to challenge to a game of backgammon but later in the day we had dinner at the restaurant next to the swimming pool, re-enacting a scene from the film ourselves.

After looking around the Shiv Niwas we set out around the town of Udaipur itself and soon came across more familiar sights from the film. The tuk-tuk chase was filmed in the town and several moments are recognisable. The shot of Bond's modified tuk-tuk jumping was taken against a background of **the Jagdish Temple** that can be found on the left a few hundred meters down the main road leading from the City Palace.



The chase itself had been difficult to film because of the thousands of extras that turned up uninvited each shooting day. It turned out the hired extras invited all their friends and family to show up, and this caused quite some problems on the narrow Udaipur streets. And even though every crew member worked hard to control the crowd, no one had expected nor foreseen a cyclist to drive straight through the car chase action. **This guy was not hired** and just imagine him riding to the market wondering what all these people were doing here.. It made a fantastic scene though and fortunately stayed in the final print!

We had stills taken from the movie with us and our guide helped us find the next location. If you walk back up the hill from the Jagdish Temple towards the City Palace and take a right down towards the lake you will be able to find **a stepped street** that Bond races down with Vijay. This is close to the walls of the City Palace in a back street and quite hard to find. We would not have found it without local help. So don't be afraid to ask around. The Indian people are extremely friendly and helpful and since most part of the population still is very poor, a little cash here and there might also help a lot.



The next location we were looking for was easier to find. We walked back to the main street, back past the Jagdish Temple and bore left continuing away from the City Palace and towards the lake. There we found **the Gangor Ghat (washing area)** where Bond first arrives from his helicopter in Udaipur.





The large gate of the Ghat is where Bond encounters Vijay as a snake charmer. Vijay was portrayed by Indian Davis Cup star Vijay Amritraj, a house friend of the Broccolis, whose tennis skills proved extremely effective during the tuk-tuk chase. His skills as a snake charmer were less developed; he hated working with them and set a new speed record completing these scenes.

The final location in the city turned out to be the hardest to access. We were searching for the place used as the rear of the Monsoon Palace and the start of the elephant hunt sequence. Again, we would not have found this location without local knowledge. It is at **the end of the dam** that runs alongside the Lake as you go away from the town and keep the lake on your right. It is a private area and not open to the public.



It is leased by the *Maharana* of Udaipur for films and weddings. However in India most things are negotiable and we were able to gain access. At the end of the dam is a building that was used as the rear of the Monsoon Palace. It has been developed since 1983 and is not easily recognisable but can be identified by some of the windows and lattice work.



Unfortunately and to our great frustration we were not able to find any more of the locations from the elephant hunt sequence. This sequence was filmed in the gardens below the dam but this area now contains the private residence of the current Maharana's brother (who was the Maharana himself previously). Our guide told us that these gardens contain the overgrown temple seen in the hunt but we were unable to gain access and verify this.



The next morning we hired a driver to take us to **the Monsoon Palace**, about 30 minutes out of town. The Palace itself is in a state of disrepair and we know it was only used in the movie for long shots. All the interior shots were filmed at Pinewood; even 007 climbing around Magda's window was studio work. However it is an interesting place to visit as it was used in the past for the Maharana and his family to get away from the lake and town in the monsoon season. The shot in the film of the Monsoon Palace with **the winding road** leading up to it can be found on the way to the palace.

In the afternoon we took a cruise on the lake. I would highly recommend this as it provides wonderful views of the Lake Palace Hotel and the town of Udaipur as well as better views of the Ghat. It will also provide you with an opportunity to see the gate from the start of the elephant hunt if you are unable to gain access to the grounds there. As you will immediately notice, the tour boats are the same type that picked up 007 after his escape from the elephant hunt. A cruise will also give you access to the other island on the lake that features in the film, **Jagmandir Island**. The two lake islands combine in the film to form Octopussy's home and Jagmandir Island itself is very beautiful.

Octopussy became an instant box office hit, grossing even more than the Connery rival, and also made Udaipur suddenly a desired holiday destination. The country is now developing at a rapid pace and it can only be a matter of time before Udaipur becomes much more crowded with tourists.



On The
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OF
007

Jüdisches Museum Berlin

Zwei Jahrtausende Deutsch-Jüdische Geschichte



Welcome to Berlin

20 Writing's on the Wall

Unlike so many other European capitals, Berlin can not be found in the heart of the country. Close to Germany's eastern border, almost in Poland, lies a hidden gem. A city tortured by its past, struggling to recover from the depths of history, about to emerge and flourish like never before. There is so much to tell about Berlin, one simply does not know where to start!

Let's see where we can fit in 1983's James Bond film **Octopussy**, starring Roger Moore, partially filmed in this beautiful city.

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STORISCHES
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...the Bernauer Strasse opened
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Berlin was the capital of Nazi Germany during the Second World War and it took until 1945 to force Nazi leader Adolf Hitler to capitulate by taking his own life, but only after him taking the lives of so many others. While the city of Berlin clearly struggles with its past, it also makes sure this period will not be forgotten: Not an easy task..



For obvious reasons various streets that were named after Nazi leaders changed names, and the city also offers many silent witnesses to remember those who have suffered their lives in what can be called one of Europe's darkest times. A fine example of these tactics is the construction of the amazing '*Holocaust Mahnmal*', a huge Jewish cemetery-like monument between the famous Brandenburger Tor and the Potsdammer Platz, on an area that used to be no-man's land. It was on this giant piece of land that former Pink Floyd front man Roger Waters held his famous 'The Wall' concert in 1991. The no-man's land can also be seen in the back on various promotional stills taken of Roger Moore for the release of **Octopussy**.

The city was completely devastated during the last years of the war, due to the constant bombing by allied planes. It will be very hard to find any pre-war structures that haven't been touched or reconstructed in the post-war period. The good thing about this is that the city doesn't suffer from the same problems so many other cities do. Since it had to be rebuilt from scrap, urban designers could rework bad planning and fix whatever had to be fixed. That's one of the reasons everything goes rather smooth in Berlin. The underground metro system, or U-bahn, works extremely well and the stations are well designed. When you walk the streets, you still see loads of building going on and most of the new buildings are true architectural masterpieces.

Although Berlin played an important part in the war, it is probably best known because of what happened during the years after WWII ended. It was split up and divided into four sections: The north became

French territory, the West became British, the South came under American supervision and the largest, Eastern half became Russian. In retrospect this can be called a very unwise and naive way of keeping all the allies happy. This system kind of worked during the first post-war years, but the situation became troublesome when the tension mounted between the communist East and the capitalist West.

During this cold war, on August 13, 1961, the Russians decided they had to protect their citizens from the West and started closing off their border with barbed wire, only a few days later to be followed by the building of the Berlin Wall, which became the city's most infamous symbol. In the years that followed the wall was fortified and then consisted of a high fence on the Eastern border, a wall on the Western border and a no-mans land filled with guard towers in-between. Obviously many escape attempts were undertaken, mostly very resourceful, sometimes successful, often resulting in death.

Although very little travel was permitted, there were some border crossings in the city, **Checkpoint Charlie** being the most famous one. One the border of the American and the Russian Sector, halfway the *Friedrich Strasse*, the former checkpoint nowadays survives as a tourist attraction, complete with dressed up soldiers. The *Checkpoint Charlie Museum* there can be recommended. It focuses primarily on the Wall and the many escape attempts. Also at this checkpoint the scenes were filmed in which M drops Bond off by car and sends him into East Germany to track down Octopussy's Circus in Karl Marx Stadt.

For obvious reasons, remember the Wall still stood in 1982/83, the crew could not film in East Berlin. They were only allowed to drive the Mercedes into no-man's land, and when John Glen shouted "Cut!", the car stopped just meters before the curious and puzzled East-German border guards, turned and drove back into West-Berlin.





The site itself has changed a lot. Looking at images from **Octopussy** one instantly notices that almost every building is different now. The wooden guard house is a replacement and the famous sign, proclaiming in various languages that you are about to leave the American sector, has also been replaced many times. The checkpoint we see today remembers the past and that's all there is to say about it really..



While I personally think former East-Berlin is more beautiful and interesting, the movie forces us to get to the West where the Berlin establishing shot was filmed in the city's most famous shopping street, the **Kurfürstendamm**. The camera mounted on top of the southern U-bahn exit, also named *Kurfürstendamm*, we see a shot into north-eastern direction, landmark *Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche* in the background. The street offers many exclusive stores and rivals Paris' Champs-Élysées when it comes to designer shops.



In **Octopussy**, after Bond kills Mishka and Grishka on Octopussy's train, 007 finds himself in the German countryside looking for a ride. The hitchhiking scenes, including him ending up in a VW Beetle, were filmed close to Pinewood Studios, on the roads around Black Park in the UK. Dropped off on a typical German town square, 007 runs over to a telephone booth, eventually stealing a German lady's Alfa Romeo. This scene was filmed on the lot of Pinewood, where a German village had been recreated for another film that had just finished shooting. John Glen was lucky to stumble upon the village set and we were just very lucky Glen mentions this fact on the Special Edition DVD commentary tracks, otherwise we would probably still be looking for it in the German countryside...

The car chase that followed did take place in Germany and for this the crew used a former famous racetrack-turned-highway.



The **Automobil Verkehrs und Uebungs-Straße**, better known as **AVUS**, once was a motor racing circuit on the south-western outskirts of Berlin, between *Charlottenburg* and *Nikolassee*, leading through the *Grinewald* forest. Nowadays it is an important part of the public highway system, as *Autobahn A 115*. While normal for a road, it is unusually shaped for a race track as it is essentially just two long straights in the form of a dual carriageway, with a hairpin corner at each end. The round race control tower still remains at the north end, and is used as a public restaurant and motel. The old wooden grandstand is now protected as a historic monument.



For various reasons the original length of the race track was shortened a few times in the past and a new southern corner was constructed, which can still be seen just before **the exit at Hüttenweg**, roughly halfway. At this exit, facing the city, we can see Bond being chased by German police in Octopussy. He then takes the before mentioned exit following the USAF Feldstadt signs (the base does not exist in real life), turning left at street level, speeding away underneath the highway and railway bridges.



The exit itself has not changed a bit, and neither have the parking and street, also both visible in the scenes. It is important to know they are only accessible when you are travelling out of the city, so you might need to turn somewhere..

In the years after the filming, the citizens of Berlin and Germany still had to live with the division and it would take until the end of 1989 for the tide to change. On November 4, the uprising of angry and frustrated East Germans reached a peak and within a week the government gave in. On November 9, 1989 the travel restrictions were lifted, enabling East Germans to travel to the West and back for the first time since 1961. The celebrations were worldwide news and images of people demolishing the Berlin Wall with sledgehammers made the front page on every newspaper. A year later, on October 3, 1990 the unification was complete, giving the people of Berlin the opportunity to rebuild their beloved city, turning it into the modern metropolis it is today.



And what a splendid job they've done. When you are walking today on the totally remodelled Potsdamer Platz, between the recently erected, modern office buildings, don't forget to look down to see **the course of the original wall** embedded in the modern asphalt. A unique and sophisticated way of preserving the city's tragic past..



One of the few remaining parts of the original Berlin Wall

21 Back to an Age of Elegance

Also known as the 'French Riviera' and 'Côte d'Azur', the southern coast of France is a very popular tourist destination for Europeans and Americans. There, the beautiful French country landscape meets the blue Mediterranean, and the large beaches give you that inviting look we all know from the Caribbean. In the 1950s the area established itself as one of the most elegant places on earth and since then it has always been like a second home for many of the world's rich and famous.

For various Bond films, the EON crew travelled to this part of the world to shoot some memorable scenes, the most important filming location undoubtedly being the city state of Monaco.




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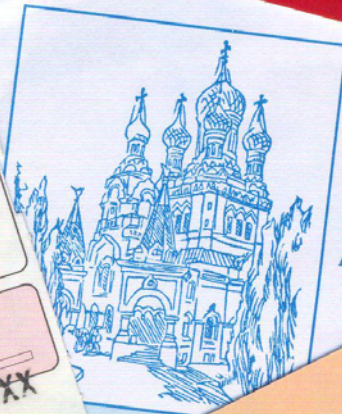
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LES PIRATES
JUAN-LES-PINS



As one of the world's smallest states, Monaco has long been a famous resort. Although it maintains its independence, it is closely tied to France. With its beaches, well-known gambling casino, and luxurious hotels, it offered a nice setting for James Bond's 1995 comeback, **GoldenEye**. Entering from the surrounding mountains, you should take the *Grand Corniche* to find the exact spot where Bond brought his Aston Martin to a sudden halt after racing Xenia.



From the *Route de la Turbie* you will have an excellent view of Monaco. Its **port** is always filled with the most luxurious yachts, and it is here where EON filmed the scenes featuring the *M.S. Mantecore* and the stealing of the Tiger helicopter. You will really be overwhelmed by the extravaganza and richness once walking through the streets of *La Condamine*, as this area is called.



On the opposite side of the port you can find other **GoldenEye** related film locations, such as **Teatre de Fort Antoine**, an open air theatre through which we can see Bond walk while observing Xenia. At the view point the actual observation takes place, and we can see Xenia leave by motorboat.



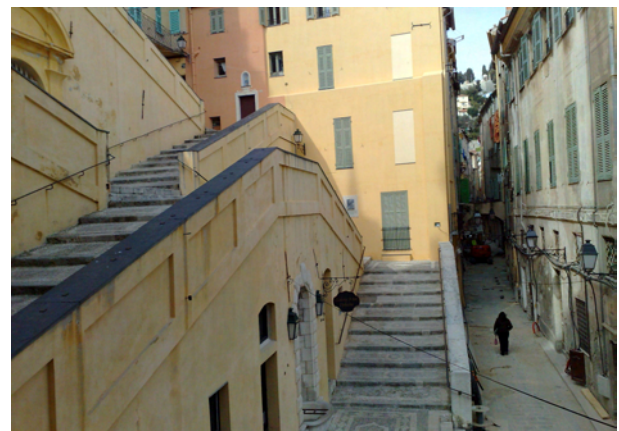
The state of Monaco consists of three towns, Monte Carlo being the most important. This really is the tourist centre of the state. Ian Fleming wrote an essay about it for the Sunday Times, and included this in his *Thrilling Cities* book. In Monte Carlo you can find the famous **Casino de Monte Carlo**, which not only featured in **GoldenEye**, but also in **Never Say Never Again**, Kevin McClory's 1983 remake of Thunderball.



It was in the Casino de Monte Carlo where Bond tricks the guard by giving him his cigarette case instead of the exploding device he said it was. When you enter the Casino without the intention to gamble, don't fear to be disappointed. **The entrance hall after the lobby** is easily accessible for non-gamblers throughout the day. You might recognise the black and white tiles on the floor from the marvellous tango James Bond danced with Domino, in **NSNA**. Unfortunately, photographing is not allowed, so you should enjoy and remember this remarkable hall during your visit to the Casino. More recently, in **GoldenEye**, we can see Pierce Brosnan enter the Casino for some gambling with Xenia.



From Monaco, it's only a few kilometers to the Italian part of the Riviera, but the main reason we take you there is the small but attractive town of **Menton**, the last stop before the border. As the famous French artist Jean Cocteau described the town: "The houses are like eminent small fortresses in pastel shades, their asymmetric facades resembling the human face."



Menton prominently featured in **NSNA's** car vs. motorbike chase that took place after Bond caught villainess Fatima Blush killing around in his apartment. One of Menton's highlights is the *Église St. Michel*, a 17th century church. The church is situated on a hill in the old part of town, and therefore cannot be missed (you can also follow the signs).

Around this church, the first part of the chase took place, when 007 took a short cut, trying to capture Fatima in her Renault 5 Turbo. He ends up on **the square in front of the church**, after riding multiple stairs. The mosaic tiles on the ground are considered of great value, and it makes one wonder how on earth the filmmakers ever got permission to film these scenes there.. After crossing St.Michel's square, Bond drives his motorcycle down **a maze of stairways**, also dating back to the 17th century. He then spots Fatima's Renault and jumps the last stairway in effort to catch up with her. He finally reaches what we now discovered to be the *Promenade de la Mer*.



The chase continues along this promenade, which eventually leads to the Italian border. Past the town's centre, they take a sharp left, where Bond is trapped inside a tunnel, being forced to drive his motorcycle into the back of an awaiting truck. We are now at **the tunnel underneath Menton**, leading from Square Victoria to the old town. This underground passage enables the old town to keep her appealing character and leads all the traffic away from serenity. Above the tunnel is Menton's old cemetery, which is another place worth visiting, because of its marvellous tombs and burial chambers.



Driving back from Menton towards Monaco, you should take the lower roads, closest to the sea. These roads are a joy to drive and lead you through a chain of small but very attractive towns that all featured in different parts of **Never Say Never Again**.

Between *Beaulieu-sur-Mer* and *Villefranche-sur-Mer* you will find road signs leading to **Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild**. Situated on a peninsula called *Cap-Ferrat* lays this architectural marvel, built for the baroness of Rothschild, from 1905 to 1912, surrounded by 7 different theme gardens. The Villa now serves as a museum, displaying the late baroness' impressive art collection. **The entrance hall** was used in **NSNA** for the interior shots of Largo's Palmyra hideout, notably the scene in which Largo unmasks Domino's love for Bond after capturing the latter and bringing him to this prison.



Returning to the coastal road, you will enter the touristy town of **Villefranche-sur-Mer**. This one is filled with Bond locations, so park your car and travel by foot! The town's old port is called '**Port de la Santé**' and it's here where Domino comes ashore to pay a visit to the health club, only to find herself being massaged by our hero instead of her usual masseur.

The town is divided in two by a huge fortress, called **La Citadelle**. Nowadays a collection of museums, much used as a congress centre, it also partially served as Largo's Palmyra. When you walk on the stone entrance bridge and look down to your left, you will be looking at the place where a fake

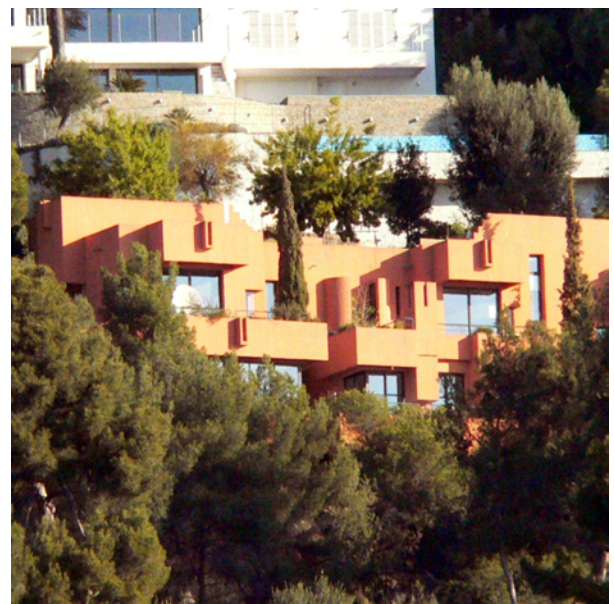


entrance was built (in front of the sea). Directly below the stone bridge you're on, the fortress' main square was situated where Domino was going to the highest bidder. The low area to your right is the road leading back to town, where nowadays cars are parked. This area is also visible in the film, in the scene in which Bond and Domino escape on horse back.



The other side of town offers us the modern port, called *Port de la Darse*. Among the many buildings surrounding this marina, we also find the spot where the Bond/Fatima chase ended. Bond is being chased into **an old storage**, where he is being thrown off his motorcycle. After a hilarious dialogue with the villainess, Bond kills her with his bullets-firing pen. Felix Leiter suddenly shows up out of the blue and the two escape the alarmed police, pretending to be sportsmen working out.

Last but not least, Villefranche is the town where we can find Bond's luxurious villa. Because of its location high up in the hills and its unique stone red colour, this villa can be spotted from any part of town. Looking at the picture of the quay storages (below left), you can make out some villas in the upper right corner. This is where Bond stayed during his **NSNA** adventure. The villa is situated in a secluded **residential area called 'Le Castellet'**, so you might find it extremely difficult to actually approach it. The residential area can be reached from the top road going through Villefranche, and just outside town you will find an entrance to the area.





By far the most important city in this coastal area is Nice. Its airport brings in millions of tourists every year and also brought in James Bond. In **NSNA** Bond comes in on **l'Aéroport de Nice** where he meets his long life pal Felix Leiter, portrayed this time by actor Bernie Casey. This is a good place to start or end your trip to the south of France. Other possibilities are combining your trip with a visit to Italy, or coming here by car perhaps in combination with a visit to Paris. In that case, you should know that a trip from Paris to Nice will take about 9 hours. But it is definitely worth the trip. This area surely is a great place to mix your business with pleasure.



Also nearby is the very popular town of *Cannes*, worldwide known for its annual Film Festival. During this festival, film stars, directors and producers from all over the world come here to promote their latest work. On your way to *Cannes*, you pass a small city called *Antibes*, that hasn't got much to offer, apart from a small Bond location. The 16th century fortress **Fort Carré** was also partially used for exterior shots of Largo's hideout Palmyra. The fortress is only open to public during the high season: July and August.

It was also in this area, at Hotel du Cap / Eden Roc Restaurant, where the EON crew shot a scene for **Diamonds Are Forever**. In this scene from the pre-title sequence, Connery returns as 007 and is looking for Ernst Stavro Blofeld, the murderer of his wife. In Cairo he's told to go "ask Marie". Well, he finds Marie.....in the South of France. It is a short but memorable scene where Bond strangles the young woman with her own bikini top. It remains a mystery why the crew went all the way to the South of France for just that small scene though.



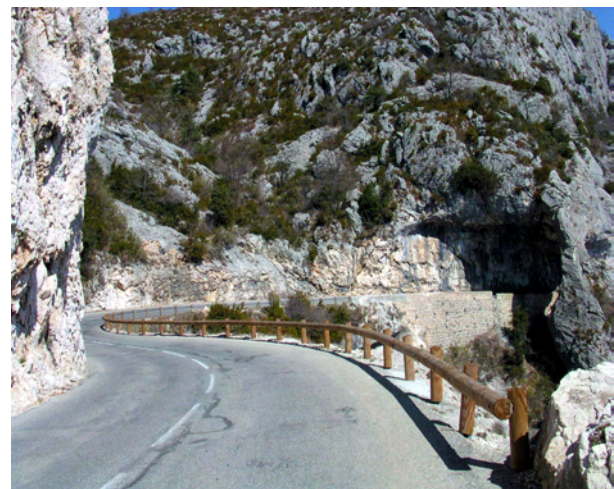
Hotel du Cap and nearby Eden Roc Restaurant can be found on the *Cap d'Antibes*, a peninsula stretching out between Antibes and Cannes. It's only open during the summer but you can always have a clear view of the rocky sun bathing area when you take the small stairs right next to Eden Roc. In a curve at the most western part of the peninsula you can park your car on a small parking lot, cross the road and take the stairs down to a beach area. Follow the path around the walls of the hotel grounds and climb the rocks towards the sea, just like the always present, local fishermen.

Gréolières: A race through *Les Alpes Maritimes*

From Grasse, north of Nice, we drive north along the road D2085, after 6 kilometers you will find signs to *Gourdon* and *Gréolières* (D3), from now you will start climbing the scenic route of *Le col du Loup*, and the road now becomes pretty narrow and steep.



When you have reached the medieval village of Gréolières, which is set on *La Vallée du Loup* (Loup Valley), follow the signs to *Gréolières-les-neiges*, this road will immediately look familiar to us Bond fans as it is the place where Bond and Xenia conduct a high speed game of cat-and-mouse. Ignoring the rocks and tunnels, which appear in the film first, you should follow until you reach a side road on your right leading to the ski resort of *Gréolières-les-neiges*. This road meanders up to an altitude of 1450 meters. After about 10 kilometers of serpentine shaped curves you will reach the ski resort, small but very chic.



Now turn your car around, and drive back towards *Gréolières*. This is the road on which **GoldenEye** opens with the new James Bond driving the legendary DB5 and where Xenia's Ferrari passes Bond's car. His passenger is the sweet Caroline who has been sent by his new female boss M to evaluate him. Descending the road you will see some other spots that are passed during the exciting race.



When you have passed the white rocks visible in the film, you will descend until the last sharp curve before getting to the picturesque small village *Gréolières*, also visible in the film.

Try to leave your car there and walking along the road, further down on your left, you will recognize the medieval ruins, which are also visible when Caroline orders Bond to “stop the car at once!” The beautiful view over Monte Carlo’s shimmering sea was not filmed here, as you will now immediately understand.. In reality the distance between Gréolières and Monaco is about one hour and a half. You will not find too many places to leave your car. Be very cautious when leaving the car and walking along the narrow and sometimes busy road... especially on the weekend.



With this spectacular side trip you will have even more reasons to visit the exciting 007 locations in the South of France. Take your time to explore the coast and, if you have the time, make sure you visit *Les Alpes Maritimes* as well!

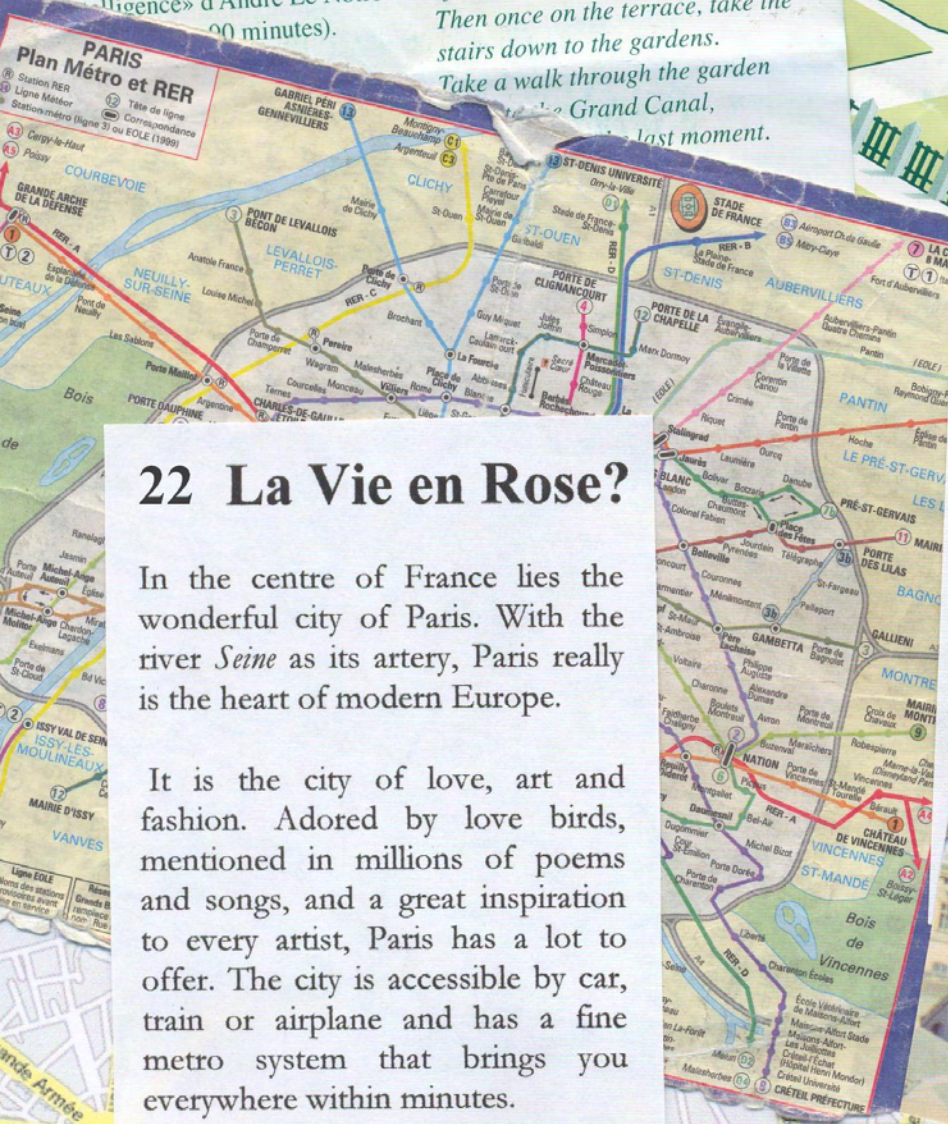


Bienvenue à Vaux le Vicomte

Welcome to Vaux le Vicomte

Pour votre visite, nous vous conseillons de commencer par la visite des trois étages du Château : les petits appartements, les salons d'apparat, les superbes cuisines et enfin l'exposition «les jardins d'ingénierie» d'André Le Nôtre (90 minutes).

For your visit in the château begin with the private apartments, followed by the stately rooms, then the beautiful kitchens and finally the exhibition on André Le Nôtre, the well known genius gardener of the Sun King (about 90 mn). Then once on the terrace, take the stairs down to the gardens. Take a walk through the garden to the Grand Canal, and finally to the last moment.



22 La Vie en Rose?

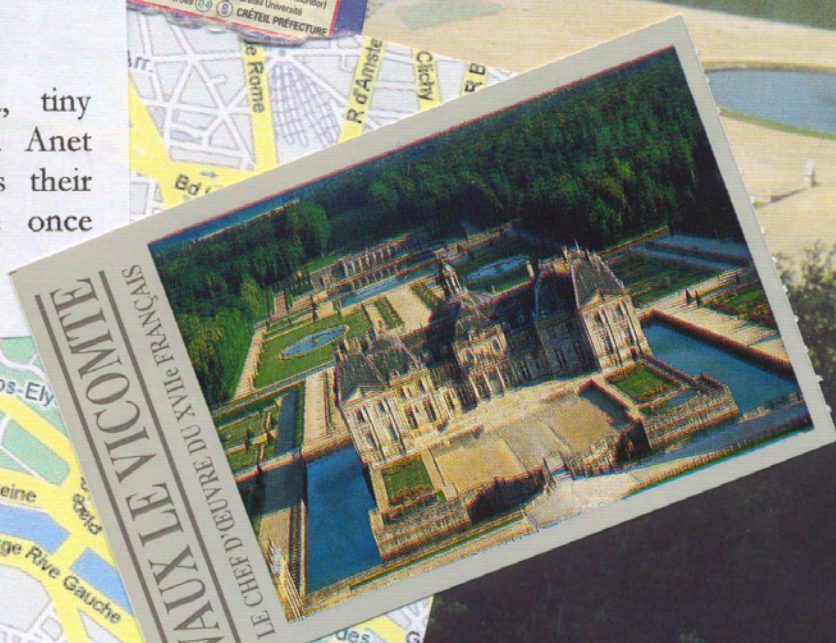
In the centre of France lies the wonderful city of Paris. With the river *Seine* as its artery, Paris really is the heart of modern Europe.

It is the city of love, art and fashion. Adored by love birds, mentioned in millions of poems and songs, and a great inspiration to every artist, Paris has a lot to offer. The city is accessible by car, train or airplane and has a fine metro system that brings you everywhere within minutes.

In the surrounding area, tiny hamlets like Chantilly and Anet surprise us even more, as their magnificent chateaus were once used in various Bond films..



Château et parc de Chantilly



Paris

Paris has been vividly described by Ian Fleming in his short story *From A View To A Kill*. Bond hates it; “The tourists ripped the heart out of the city, and he never enjoyed a single happy day in Paris since the Second World War.” Whenever in Paris, Bond always stays at the same hotel, *Hotel Terminus Nord*, near the train station *Gare du Nord*. He would have lunch in *Cafe de la Paix*, *la Rotonde* or *Dome*, because he liked the food there and he could spend quite some time observing people. Because Bond’s character has been much based on Fleming himself, one can assume Fleming wasn’t very fond of Paris.

When you go to Paris, be sure to know what you want to see there. One can enjoy beautiful architecture practically everywhere, of which the most famous churches, the *Notre Dame* and the *Sacre Coeur* are a must. Quite popular is the grave of Jim Morrison, lead singer of the Doors. He is buried at the huge cemetery of *Pere Lachaise*. Many people come there each day to sing, drink and smoke whatever is available. Fleming tells us that Bond often went to *Place Pigalle* at night, just to see what would happen to him. Visiting this square, you will instantly notice all the nightclubs and nude bars surrounding it. The *Boulevard de Clichy* is filled with bars like this, and when you start walking in western direction, towards *Place Clichy*, you will pass the famous *Moulin Rouge*. Streets like these are often crowded with tourists, so beware of pickpockets.

Another building of great splendour is the world-famous museum *Le Louvre*. Situated at the exact centre of the city, it is the home of the *Mona Lisa*. This painting by Leonardo da Vinci alone is already worth the visit. At the entrance of the museum you will see a recently built, glass pyramid. After visiting the museum, a walk towards *Place de la Concorde* with its huge obelisk is recommendable. This obelisk was found at the entrance of the Luxor temple in Egypt, and was donated to France by *Pasja Mohammed Ali* in 1836. Since then, it has become a highly remarkable landmark in the French capital.

Crossing the square, you will reach the *Avenue des Champs-Élysées*. This is the most famous street of Paris, and also the most expensive. Whenever you feel like sitting down on one of the many terraces, it is a good thing to realize that the closer you alight to the street, the more expensive the drinks will be. Most cafes handle different price lists, depending on your position inside the cafe. A small beer that costs 10 Euro is not unusual.

Travelling along the *Champs-Élysées* will bring you to the *Place Charles de Gaulle*. In the middle of this square another landmark, the *Arc de Triomphe*, is

situated. Visiting at ‘normal’ hours, you can climb to its top and enjoy a beautiful view of the many busy streets surrounding this monument. Also worth watching, is the moment the traffic lights turn green, and the traffic speeds up around this square. It is amazing that only a few accidents happen here. Although many cars are damaged, this is mostly due to the Parisian way of parking. The French are able to squeeze their cars into the tiniest free parking space, and even if it wouldn’t fit, they are very inventive with the use of their bumpers.

During the filming of **Thunderball**, Sean Connery drove around here in the famous Aston Martin, trying to attend the French premiere of **Goldfinger**. This he will never do again, since a female fan threw herself in front of his car and jumped on his passenger seat, determined never to get out!

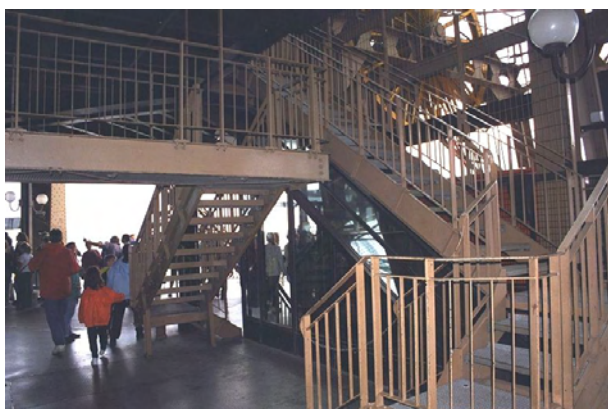


The main tourist attraction of Paris is, of course, the Eiffel Tower. It was prominently depicted in **A View To A Kill**, Roger Moore’s last assignment as James Bond. Before we focus on the events of this film from 1985, let’s wander some 20 more years back in time to the fourth 007 movie **Thunderball** (1965). The Eiffel Tower is visible in the background of that tiny scene directly after the main title sequence. SPECTRE agent Emilio Largo parks his car in a no-parking zone, right under the watchful eyes of a

policeman. Reprimanded by the *flic* he turns around and gives him an arrogant look. He then crosses the street and enters the building vis-à-vis to attend a SPECTRE meeting. This took place on the **Avenue d'Eylau in front of house no. 35**, just some steps from the *Trocadéro* metro station.



Back now to **A View To A Kill** and the **Eiffel Tower**. From the *Trocadéro* you walk past, or rather through, the *Palais de Chaillot* in the direction of the *Seine*. From here you have a marvellous view upon this immense tower of exposed latticework supports made of iron. Designed by the French structural engineer Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, it was erected for the Paris Exposition of 1889. Although there are several restaurants, especially the exclusive *Jules Verne Restaurant* on the second floor, Bond's lunch with French detective Archille Aubergine took place in one of Peter Lamont's studio sets.



The real action on the second level starts when May Day leaves 'the restaurant' (actually the passage to the elevator!), knocks down two guards and runs towards **the steps beside the souvenir shop**. Bond's pursuit of May Day was filmed on **the stairs between the second and third level**. Unfortunately they are not accessible for tourists. You can only get a glimpse of them from the lift to the top floor. From there you have a magnificent view over Paris. This ride costs about 12 Euro.

The first and second platform can also be reached by stairs, for only 4 Euro. The second floor was also



used in the video that accompanied Duran Duran's brilliant title track. The telescopes are also there, although it is extremely hard to find the one that fired bullets...



Walking back from the Eiffel Tower, after crossing the street, you will be at the (pedestrian) bridge called *Pont de Iéna*. On your right you will notice **a stairway that leads to the river Seine**. After Bond hurries down the Eiffel Tower, he 'acquires' a blue Renault from a local taxi driver, and spins it down these stairs. At the base of the stairs is a common starting point for boat tours. Here you can enjoy Paris from the river Seine, even at night, when the riverbanks and streets are all illuminated.



Following May Day's parachute, Bond races along the embankment of the Seine in an easterly direction. **In front of *Pont de l'Alma***, just before his vehicle gets back onto the lower part of the ***Quai Branly***, it slams into a barrier and is relieved of its top.



The barrier is still there and looks as if it's the original one. It is located at the entrance of a small driveway to a storage area. Right behind the Alma Bridge, the street changes its name into **Quai d'Orsay**. Here 007 leaves the tarmac again and drives **to the left upon the unsurfaced embankment** where he chases the pedestrians out of the way.



The rear of his car is driven off when he returns to the street not far from the **Pont des Invalides**. Just behind this very bridge May Day lands upon the roof of a tour boat on the Seine. The bridge where Bond ends his car chase and jumps after May Day, is the **Pont Alexandre III** (in front of *Les Invalides*). It is just one of the many beautiful bridges you can use to cross the river Seine.



After Bond is arrested, he was supposed to be taken to prison. Upon his release, his personal belongings were being given back to him. These belongings included various Q-branch items, which would have caused the cinema audiences a good laugh. It is a pity that this scene landed on the floor of the cutting room. Fortunately it is however included on both the Special and Ultimate Edition DVD.

For **Moonraker**, extensive sets were built in Parisian film studios, while Pinewood was hardly used at all. For one scene in this film the crew went on location in Paris. It's the scene in which Bond meets Holly Goodhead for the first time. This scene was filmed on the second floor inside the modern **Centre Pompidou**, an arts centre in the heart of the city.

Château Chantilly, Chantilly

French noblemen and kings from the past built their residences outside of Paris. Beautiful structures in immense gardens nowadays seem an oasis. As you walk around them, it feels as if you wander back through time. The most famous example is probably the Palace of *Versailles*, located south-west of the city. For over one hundred years (1682-1790), this palace was the official residence of the French kings. In its heyday, it was the most elegant palace in Europe. The Versailles complex was rebuilt and greatly expanded by King Louis XIV, who desired a palace that could provide a suitable setting for the ceremonies of the royal court. A visit to this magnificent place is highly recommendable.

The beauty of the palaces had also been brought to the attention of the various EON production teams, desperately searching for suitable locations. The best part about the Châteaux is that they virtually remain unchanged through the years, which makes these Bond locations extremely easy to recognize. **Château de Chantilly** is one of those locations, situated in the north of Paris near the A1 highway.



Coming from Paris you should take exit nr.7, at the point where the highway becomes a turnpike.

Travelling to Paris, you should take exit nr.8, at the point where the turnpike becomes a normal highway again. Following the signs ‘Chantilly’ and eventually ‘Château Chantilly’, you will drive the same route as Tibbett and Bond did, when they attended Max Zorin’s horse auction in ‘A View to a Kill’. The chateau is nowadays better known as ‘*La Musée Condé*’ and serves as a museum. The various chambers are filled with paintings, made by 17th and 18th century painters. The building even housed an Allied conference at the height of the First World War. During that period extensive fighting took place in the area.



It takes a little stroll to get to the stable area, nowadays known as the *Musée Vivant du Cheval*. The huge palace-like building is divided into three sections. In the first part are the stalls, the Dome is in the centre and behind that follows the exhibition ‘**Equestrian Disciplines**’. Here Bond and Scarpine walk along some life-sized horse models towards the **Dome**, where Ithacus (“the full brother of Pegasus”) was being auctioned.

Coming out of the woods, the splendid chateau looms up right in front of your eyes. It is open every day, except Tuesday. The whole tour, which includes the stables, the park and the Chateau itself, costs 10 Euro. Tickets are available at the little box-office just behind the **elaborate iron entrance gate**. It is here where Zorin’s deputy Scarpine kindly explains Bond the difference between **the servants’ quarters** and the **main stables**.





In the **Box yard** behind the main building, Tibbet observes Dr. Mortner leading Pegasus through a **passage to the Kennel Courtyard**. On the **left side of this passage** are the stables to which Pegasus is brought.



Inside the castle only a few scenes were shot. Tibbet totes Bond's luggage up the **Grand Staircase** at the left hand side of the main entrance. Here is also the meeting point and start of guided tours.



Next to the museum is **the racetrack**. In its **grandstand's last but one section to the west** Zorin awaits General Gogol and his associates later in the film. Here the memorable scene was filmed in which May Day lifts one of the KGB buffoons above her head to show off her strength.



While Bond's chamber's interior was a studio set, **the balcony** on which 007 and his partner step belongs to the **Minerva Rotunda**. From here they observe the landing of Stacey Sutton's chopper, on **the spacious area in front of the moat**.



Now back to the Château itself. Bond's Rolls Royce (actually Cubby Broccoli's own Rolls) passes through the picturesque **entrance archway** and drives an elegant curve into the **main courtyard**. In the opposite corner at **the foot of the stairs** 007 and Tibbet are welcomed by the gorgeous Jenny Flex.





Downstairs in the **château shop** a brief scene was filmed where Bond spies on Zorin and Stacey as they enter Zorin's office to sign the check. At the **wooden/glass door** (looking into the direction of the *Captainerie Courtyard*) Bond is initially sent away by May Day. When he finally manages to break into the office, he is caught by Dr. Mortner while leaving the place. Exactly vis-à-vis is the exit to the **Aviary garden** where Zorin's garden party was filmed. You will recognize **the stone pedestrian bridge** where Bond tries to impress Stacey during the party. They are standing on the part that can be swivelled to make way for the boats on the moat.



The main garden area is north of the castle, the vast *Jardin Français*. Descending the stairs towards it, you will immediately spot on your right the place where Tibbet washed the Rolls Royce. While the whole Chantilly location is easy to make out, you won't find any drawbridge. The one which Bond jumped upon was especially constructed for the film at the entrance of the *Captainerie Courtyard*.

All in all, this is a nice trip away from the crowded streets of Paris. When you pass the highway exit and you have the time, don't hesitate to leave the highway for a 10 minute ride through the countryside. Château Chantilly is only 25 kilometers away.

Before leaving the area though, you should fill up your car at the **BP gas station du Parc Aumontin**, in the nearby village of Chantilly. It is located **on the main street Avenue du Maréchal Joffre, at the corner of Rue de L'Embarcadere**. While you are on the premises of this gas station be aware of its lethal carwash...



Château d'Anet, Anet

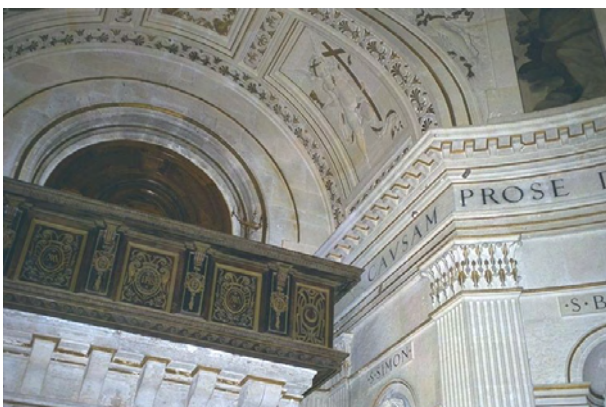
The ring road around Paris is called the *Périphérique* and on the west side you will find an exit that leads to the A13 highway, going to *Rouen* and *Le Havre*. After about 45 kilometers you will pass a town called *Mantes-la-Jolie*, with an accompanying exit. Leave the highway at this exit, and keep following the signs directing to a town called *Dreux*. This road leads you through very small villages and after 25 kilometers you will ride through the little town of *Anet*. The main road guides you past a building you will instantly recognize, **Château d'Anet**. Here the exciting teaser for **Thunderball** was filmed, back in 1965.

The Château was built in order of King Henry II, by Philibert Delorme (or de l'Orme), one of the most important architects of the French Renaissance. It was constructed between 1547 and 1552 for King Henry's mistress Diane de Poitiers, who lived there most of her life. When Diane died she was also buried on the chateau grounds, in the chapel. The entrance gate is named 'Le Portail' and is in fact not the main entrance. Le Portail serves as tourist entrance; the driving lane is situated on the other side of the building and is not accessible for us. You will find a public parking lot 100 meters before you approach Le Portail, on the left side of the street. This is approximately the spot where Bond's Aston Martin was parked, visible at the end of the pre-title sequence when Bond escapes from the guards.

After paying an entrance fee of 6 Euro you can enter the premises. On your right is '**La Capelle**', a little chapel used as the setting for Colonel Jack Boitier's funeral service. The crew, consisting of 58 men,



started filming here with the Aston Martin (which had only just returned from the worldwide **Goldfinger** promotion tour) on February 16. The beautiful architecture inside the chapel instantly attracts attention. When you look behind you, above the entrance, you will notice **the balcony** Bond and his French assistant stood upon while watching the funeral. **The outside balcony**, on which Bond watched his enemy's widow open the car door herself, is not accessible (the door is locked).



Unfortunately, unlike the other châteaux, you are not allowed to stroll inside the castle on your own. You must join a guided tour to get into the building (45 minutes, starting on the hour at the right hand side of the building). The tour is given in French only, but leaflets are available in various languages. On the admission ticket is a note that you are not allowed to take photos inside.



Via a small staircase the tour leads to Diane de Poitiers's bedroom on the first floor. After that you will see a room used in **Thunderball**, the **Salle des Gardes** (Hall of the Bodyguards). Here the fight between Bond and Jacques Boitier was filmed. You enter into the room through Bond's escape door on the left hand side of the huge fireplace, which bears a painting of King Henry II.

In the **Thunderball** teaser, the widow, here still played by actress Rose Alba, enters on the opposite side of the room. Bond is waiting for her in one of the armchairs. During the ensuing fight between

Bond and the 'widow', now played by stuntman Bob Simmons, 007 tears one of the heavy tapestries from the wall onto his enemy. These tapestries burned in 1997 and are now replaced by huge paintings.



After leaving the Salle des Gardes you reach the **Grand Escalier** (Grand Staircase), where the 'black widow' enters the building. After visiting the Red Drawing Room and the Dining Room the tour comes to an end.

Followed by the Colonel's guards, he runs over the wall towards **Le Portail**, where his Bell Textron jet pack was hidden. Seconds later the guards can only watch him fly away towards his waiting car. This stunt was in fact performed by Bill Sutor, an instructor from the US Army, who was especially assigned to watch over this hi-tech jet pack. Bill was supposed to make the small flight without wearing a safety helmet, but he refused. This is the reason a small insert was later filmed in the studio of Connery strapping on the helmet in front of a projection of the château roof.

Château d'Anet is a truly remarkable place, where you can walk around and enjoy the still very recognizable areas. Not much has changed here since Sean Connery threw his bunch of tulips on his enemy's dead body. By car it is a one hour ride from Paris, but you will experience the romance of the 16th century mixed with the excitement of the early Bond films, which is a remarkable combination and definitely worth the trip.



From the inner court you can easily follow Bond's escape route. Standing with your back to the chapel, you can see a **small wooden door** at the left side of the main building (totally right on the above photo). This door proved to be Bond's way out.



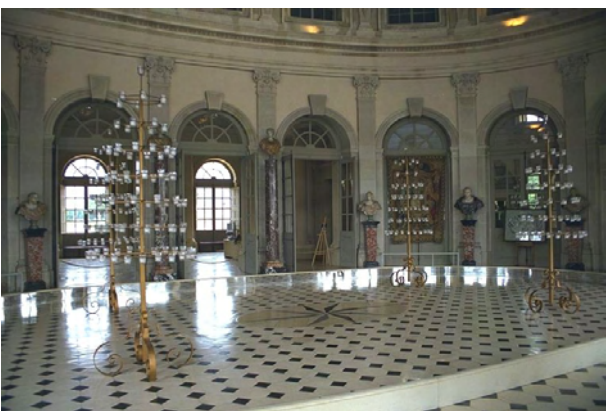
Vaux-le-Vicomte, Melun

In 1979 **For Your Eyes Only** was supposed to be the next Bond film, but after the immense success of films like *Star Wars* and *Close Encounters Of The Third Kind*, EON decided the time was right to launch James Bond into space. In **Moonraker**, the first Anglo-French co-production, 007 investigates the mysterious disappearance of a Moonraker Space Shuttle. The trail leads him to California USA, where he visits the owner and builder of the shuttle, Hugo Drax. Being flown there by Drax' personal assistant Corinne Dufour, Bond has an excellent aerial view of the magnificent estate. This estate is in fact situated south of Paris, and is called **Vaux-le-Vicomte**. The château was built in the period 1657-1661, for Nicolas Fouquet, minister of finance for King Louis XIV.



Designed by Louis Le Vau, Charles Le Brun and the well known garden designer André Le Notre, the château and its grounds became the model for the famous château *Versailles*.

Driving on the southern part of the *Périphérique* around Paris, turn on to the A6 highway, in the direction of *Orly Airport* and *Lyon*. At *Evry* you should turn on to the A5 towards *Troyes* and then follow the directions to a town called *Melun*. When you enter the town and reach a roundabout, follow the signs 'Vaux-le-Vicomte'. A nice little road through fields and woods leads you to the château. Opposite the huge building, on the other side of the road, is a small public car park and from there it's only a few meters to the entrance building. The entrance fee is 10 Euro and allows you to enter the building and walk through its garden.



When Bond's helicopter lands, it lands inside **the courtyard** that you pass as you go to the entrance. This is in fact the back of the building (the road side). When Bond is being welcomed by Drax' butler, he is inside the **round entrance-hall**, recognizable from its black and white paved floor.

Since 1998, the château offers an interactive audio-guided tour. You will receive a portable CD-player with headphones and a CD in the desired language. The various rooms are numbered, and these correspond with the CD tracks. Without the audio system it is also worth walking the well chosen route that leads you through all of the prepared rooms. This will take about half an hour.



Don't forget to take a close look at **the library**. Here Bond opened Drax' safe and found the *Venini Glass* logo on some documents, which eventually lead him to Venice, Italy. In 1998, extensive filming took place here for the movie *The Man In The Iron Mask*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio in a double role. The tour ends in the souvenir shop. After this exciting walk, it is time to have some fun in the château garden.

The immense garden leads all the way from the front of the main building towards a small hill, some 1500 meters away. On this hill, a statue of Hercules guards the area, and a trip to it, provides you an excellent view of the château and its grounds.



By foot it will take at least an hour. But there are more ways that lead to Hercules. The best way is to follow Miss Corinne Dufour's footsteps. Remember her small meeting with Drax where she is being fired, right before she gets killed by Drax? Dobermans? She arrives there in a golf cart. Well, such golf carts are for hire! For about 14 Euro you can spend 45 minutes behind the wheel. This is a very convenient way to take you to the Hercules-statue. When you start driving **in front of the main building**, you are at the exact place where Bond saw the astronauts-in-training, when he flew over the estate.



Once you have reached the hill, **standing next to the statue**, you will be taken back to the moment when Drax invited Bond to shoot some pheasants (or did Drax say: "Peasants"?). The hunting scene took place on top of this hill. Later when Bond leaves, Corinne Dufour arrives here in her golf cart. The scene with the Dobermans chasing Miss Dufour was also shot here, **in the woods on the hill**.



Standing next to the statue, you have a clear view to take some beautiful pictures. It makes you realize the actual size of these grounds is very impressive. No wonder King Louis XIV didn't trust his minister when he saw this magnificent building and its gardens. He instantly ordered for a thorough investigation into Nicolas Fouquet's sudden wealth.

Fouquet turned out to have made quite some money from dubious investments and was sentenced to life-long imprisonment. In more recent years, the château served as a military hospital for the Alliance in the early days of WWII, since Melun was situated at the western front.

You have to be a bit lucky with your arrival timing, because busloads of tourists come and go here each day. When you pick your moment, remember that the crowds usually have lunch together somewhere, so visiting châteaux in privacy will work out nicely around noon. The château's modest but cosy restaurant offers a nice location to enjoy your lunch. All in all the visit can keep you occupied for over two hours, and really shows you the wonders of the French Renaissance. This place is a 'must' for every lover of (Bond) history.

The Paris region offers history, art, leisure, landscapes, architecture and last but not least, James Bond locations. Because of the abundant presence of interesting sites, in and around the French capital, there is always something for everyone. It's life at its best!

Pyénées

As a surprise ending to an already amazing trip through France, we will now take you away from the capital region, all across the country, to the south. Not to the *Côte d'Azur*, that's covered in another trip, but to the Spanish border region: the Pyénées Mountains... a small bonus story.

Representing the geologic renewal of an old mountain chain of south-western Europe, The Pyénées Mountains form a high wall between France in the north and Spain in the south. Consisting of flat-topped massifs and folded linear ranges stretching 270 miles (430 km) from the shores of the Mediterranean Sea on the east to the Bay of Biscay of the Atlantic Ocean on the west. Its range has a maximum width of about 100 miles (160 km) at its centre. The approximately 9,000 foot (2,750-meter-) high wall of the permanently snow-capped central Pyénées includes the highest point - the Aneto Peak at 11,169 feet (3,404 m) on the Spanish border. In the heart of The French Pyénées at over 5,000 feet lies one of the few operational high-altitude airfields in Europe. The airport location in the ski resort of Peyresourde doubled for the Khyber Pass on the Afghan-Pakistan border in **Tomorrow Never Dies** (TND).





Coming from *Toulouse* (A-64 highway) you should take exit nr.16 *Lannemezan*. Follow the signs to *Arreau* (D-929), getting the small village of *Arreau* you should follow the signs to *Col de Peyresourde* (D-618). From now the road becomes pretty narrow as you will start climbing, after 15 km you will reach the *ski resort of Peyresourde*. You should follow the signs '*vers Altiport*', after a few kilometers you will find the place where the exciting pre-title sequence was filmed, under the supervision of second unit director Vic Armstrong.

Filming took place in January-February of 1997 to make best use of the snow and ice. Unfortunately, there's never enough snow when you're making a movie and the Bond films have a history of bad weather. So truck loads of snow had to be brought in and even fake snow was used to give the scenes that extra glow it needed..

At Peyresourde, Bond infiltrates a terrorist arms bazaar. When he notices nuclear missiles are being sold as well, he steals a L39 combat fighter, escapes and destroys the bazaar.

It is worth visiting this breathtaking place in Winter or Spring season when all mountains are covered by snow. I can also recommend visiting the town of Luchon, nine miles down the mountain, where the crew was based. An old thermal bath centre which is now an important seasonal tourist resort can be found here. *L'Observatoire du Pic du Midi* de Bigorre, at 2,877 meters, is another place which is worth paying a visit. You would have to take the cable car from *La Mongie* to get there. A ride departs every 15 minutes and costs between 20 and 23 Euro per person, depending on the season.



Top 10 locations that doubled for other countries or places

10. Bangkok for Saigon (TND)

For various reasons it was impossible to film necessary scenes in Saigon as planned for *Tomorrow Never Dies*. Roger Spottiswood turned to nearby Bangkok where he found all the locations he needed to shoot the scenes.

9. Dam of Lake Verzasca as Russia (GE)

Doubling for a nuclear facility in Archangel, the stunning dam was an excellent choice for the record-breaking bungee jump in *GoldenEye*'s exciting pre-title sequence. Only too bad the exploding facility-miniture at the end of the scene failed to match any of the other footage.

8. Peyresourde as Khyber Pass (TND)

When it was decided the pre-title sequence for *Tomorrow Never Dies* took place high in the snowy mountains of Pakistan, at Khyber Pass, it made sense this location would be filmed elsewhere. EON found the French mountain region of Peyresourde with its high altitude airport.

7. Mexico as Isthmus (LTK)

I have never been fond of fictitious countries in films and unfortunately for some reason *Licence to Kill* required one. I wonder why they didn't simply call the country Panama or Colombia instead of coming up with Isthmus. Mexico was a good location choice though.

6. RAF Northolt as South America (OP)

When EON needs to shoot scenes at an airbase they usually turn to a well secured RAF base. RAF Northolt in Ruislip is close to Pinewood and featured in many Bond films. For *Octopussy* the base got a South American makeover, complete with fake palm trees. It worked well for the pre-title sequence.

5. Corfu as Albania (FYEO)

While most of 1981's *For Your Eyes Only* would already be filmed on Greece's Corfu Island it made perfect sense to film the Albanian scenes on the island as well. The Old Fortress in Corfu Town served as Kristatos' Albanian warehouse and the many underground passages were perfect for the Bond vs. Locque chase.

4. Vienna as Bratislava (TLD)

The grim and grey atmosphere of Vienna's apartment blocks and the presence of an old tram line made it very clear: Parts of Vienna look very much like an East Block city. Since they needed to be in Vienna anyway, it was a good choice to shoot *The Living Daylights*' Bratislava scenes here as well.

3. London for Russia (GE)

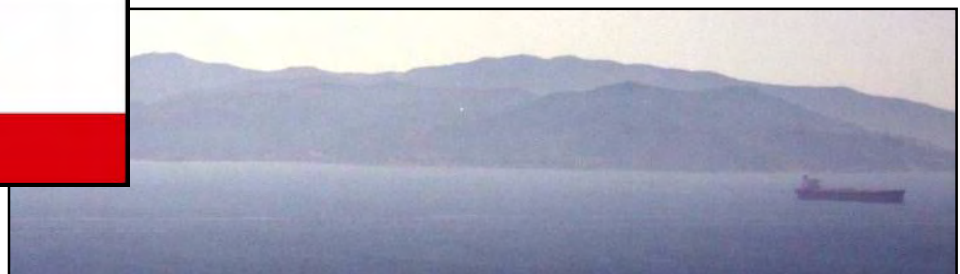
When you assume most people don't know London very well (and I suppose this counts for 99% of the world's population) it is apparently very easy to make the city look like Russia. I was surprised to see just how much of London was used in *GoldenEye*, from Wade's car trouble to Natalya's meeting with Boris in the Russian orthodox church. Exceptionally done.

2. Cadiz as Cuba (DAD)

It wasn't until I saw a photo and map of Havana that I realised just how good the decision to film the Cuban scenes for *Die Another Day* in Cadiz had been. The layout of both cities is exactly the same: Beaches, harbour, island fortress, etc. It also worked very well in the film.

1. Black Park as whatever

EON first used Black Park (next to Pinewood) in parts of the Aston Martin chase in *Goldfinger* where it doubled for a Swiss forest. It doubled for Eastern Europe in *Octopussy*, Azerbaijan in *TWINE* and most recently as the African military camp in *Casino Royale*. Worth a visit! Black Park can be anything, anywhere.



23 The Rock

“For as long as the apes are on the Rock of Gibraltar so will the Brits be there, too.” This English superstition was so strong that Prime Minister Winston Churchill was moved to pass a regulation in the mid-1940s that the rock's population of Barbary-apes should never fall below a minimum of 24.

James Bond's first, unofficial, visit to Gibraltar, appears in 1967's *You Only Live Twice*. After the title song fades away, we are attending 007's fake funeral. For some reason, which probably had to do with money and logistics, the filmmakers decided to film this funeral on board the *HMS Tenby*, a British naval vessel stationed at Gibraltar at the time. But James Bond would return..

Because of its strategic importance on the strait between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, the Rock of limestone at the southern most tip of Spain was always a place under siege. In ancient times it was supposed to be one of the mythic Pillars of Hercules. After the Muslim general *Tarik Ibn Sijad*, who invaded Spain in 711, it got its name *Dschabal Al Tarik* (Mountain of *Tarik*) = Gibraltar. In 1704, during the War of Spanish Succession it was conquered by English and Dutch troops. After the 'Peace of Utrecht' (1713) it officially belonged to the Kingdom of Great Britain. In 1830 it became a British Crown Colony. The Spaniards closed the border when in 1967 the inhabitants of Gibraltar decided in a referendum to remain in the British Kingdom. It was not before 1985 that British-Spanish relations improved and the border was re-opened.

In an area of 2.24 sq. miles (5.8 sq. km) some 32,000 inhabitants live. Most of them are of British, Spanish, Portuguese or Moroccan descent. The Crown Colony is ruled by a governor representing the English Queen. Because of its strategic position the British enclave is an important naval base. British and NATO forces employ 50 percent of the workforce. Gibraltar's main tourist attraction is the 1,400 feet (425 m) high Rock itself, with the Great Siege Tunnels, the Moorish Castle and St. Michael's Cave. You can do the 'Rock Tour' by your own car, taxi or cable car.

After the retirement of Roger Moore from Her Majesty's Secret Service in **A View To A Kill** (1985) the makers of the next 007 film had the problem to introduce another actor - Timothy Dalton - as the new James Bond. This was superbly solved in the stunning pre-title sequence of **The Living Daylights (TLD)** in 1987. Here the mission is not a real one but an exercise. The objective of James Bond and two fellow double-0-agents is to parachute from a plane and penetrate the **military installations of Gibraltar** while its personnel - the Special Air Service (S.A.S.) - is on full alert.

For the normal visitor too, it is not that easy to penetrate Gibraltar. First you have to get through the entry formalities (about 45 minutes), then you will make the unique experience of crossing the runway of the airport by car (further delays). The driving in the small, narrow streets together with lots of other cars, coaches, taxis and motor scooters is organized chaos. Apart from the fact that not all areas are accessible for private cars there is a second reason why it is difficult to give advice on how to make your route through this place. The various scenes of the whole Gibraltar-sequence were shot all over on the spectacular Rock. The locations are not really related to each other; on the contrary, sometimes there are pretty big distances between them. So we will introduce them in their sequence as they appear in the film, which in the geographical sense might not be logical.





The opening scene shows us the impressive Rock. This snapshot was taken from the Spanish mainland. Approaching Gibraltar you have to go the following way to get to this point: About 50 yards (55 m) behind a roundabout a road on the right leads to Gibraltar, but stay on the road on which you are and after another 350 yards (390 m) you will have the same angle of view as in the film.

When the three black clad skydivers jump from the cargo bay of the transport plane, we see a striking aerial view of the peninsula of Gibraltar. They float down beside the westerly side of **the northern peak of the Rock**. You have an excellent view (although from the opposite direction) of it from the observation platform of the **cable car top station on Signal Hill**. This white plastered building is briefly visible in the background when one of the parachutists glides past it in one of the next scenes.



Bond's colleague 004 lands on a **stretch of sand directly above the huge water catchments at Sandy Bay**. Several of these sloping concrete areas were built at the beginning of the 20th century to collect rainwater. Since the introduction of desalination plants they are no longer in use, but they still dominate the landscape. You can see them very well from St. Michael's Road.

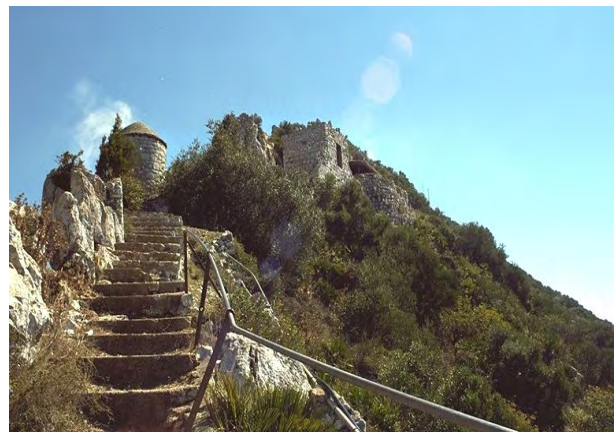
After touching down on **St. Michael's Road south of the cable car top station** Bond's other colleague 002 is immediately captured by S.A.S. defenders. In the meantime, 004 starts climbing up the **easterly side of the southern peak**, backdropped by Sandy



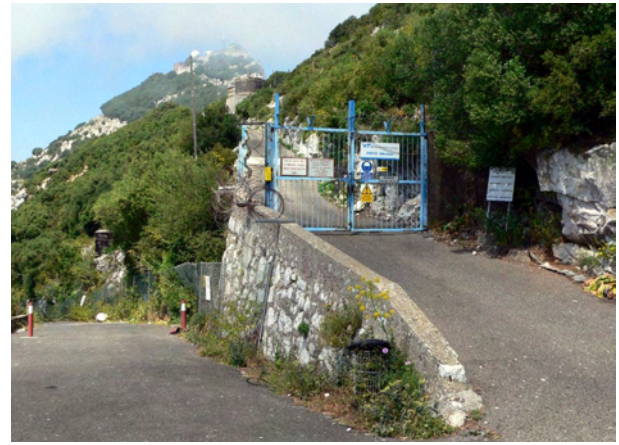
Bay and Catalan Bay. What the double-0 agents don't know is that an enemy agent has already infiltrated Gibraltar. He awaits 004 in the **area between Douglas Path and the Mediterranean Steps** and kills him by cutting his climbing rope.



While 004's body slides down the slanted surface of the water catchments we see the new James Bond - Timothy Dalton - for the first time. He runs towards the scene of the crime over some **steps in front of the Ancient Moorish Outlook**. Follow the signpost 'Douglas Path, Ancient Moorish Outlook, WWII Observation Post' on St. Michael's Road and you will get to the place.

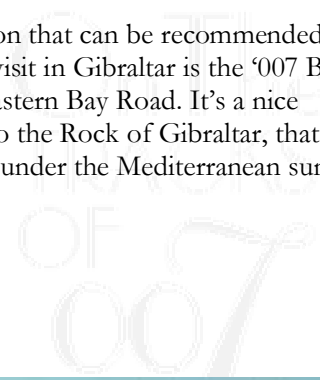


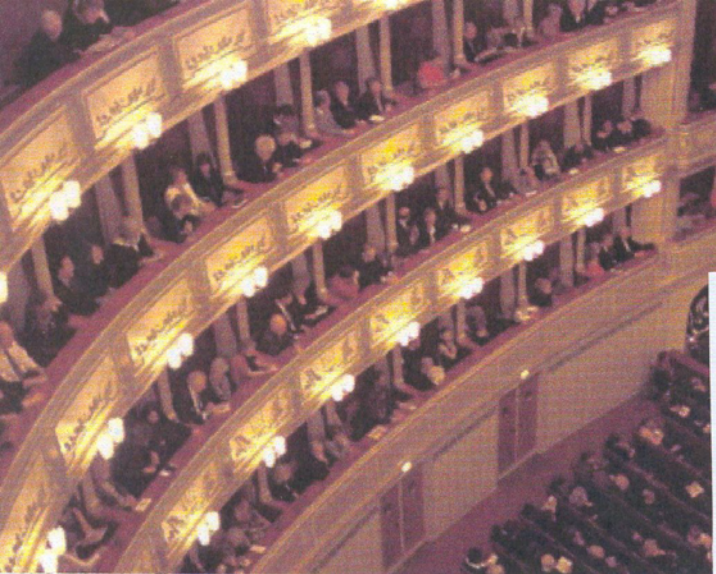
The assassin makes his escape in a stolen Land Rover. Having found 004's body, Bond goes after the killer - eventually jumping on top of the Land Rover as it speeds down the mountain side.



The vicious fight atop of and inside the cab of the racing Landrover was mainly filmed in the maze of narrow streets on the western slopes of the Rock. It ends when the vehicle smashes its way over a cliff and plunges down into the sea with Bond escaping it by means of his pilot parachute. This takes place (filmed from behind the windscreen of the car) at **Apes Den close to the cable car mid station**. There is a **little convexity in the stone wall beside the road** where the Land Rover breaks through.

The final Bond location that can be recommended to Bond fans to go and visit in Gibraltar is the '007 Bar and Restaurant' on Eastern Bay Road. It's a nice place to bid farewell to the Rock of Gibraltar, that tiny piece of England under the Mediterranean sun.





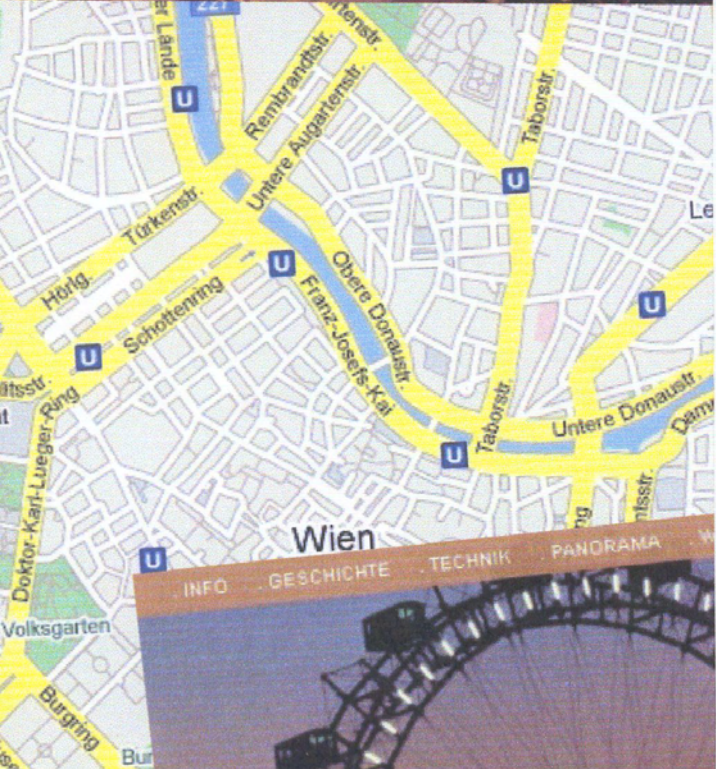
GIENNA
AMSTERD



24 Where East meets West

Looking for a romantic weekend destination, I often opted for Paris. Until I discovered another gem in Europe. A destination that combines easily with some genuine Bond location hunting: Vienna, the capital of Austria and home to the Habsburg dynasty.

While the country itself is mostly known for its mountains (Europeans like to hike and ski in the Alps), Austria has much more to offer. This is the country that gave us romantic, classical music. Birthplace of famous composers like Mozart, Haydn, Schubert, Mahler and Strauss, Austria leans heavily on its cultural heritage. And for a good reason. Even though Salzburg is Austria's musical capital, Vienna is a good second, beating the other cities on many other territories. All in all it makes a great holiday destination and the fact that a large part of 1987's *The Living Daylights* was filmed here, only adds to it.



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Austria's central European location has always made the country an interesting ally and many powers have successfully tried this tactic over the years. After being part of the 'Holy Roman Empire' until the early 1800's, Austria formed a dual-monarchy with Hungary in 1867. In this form it joined forces with Germany in World War 1. After the defeat of the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Turkish *Ottoman* Empire), the country became a republic until 1933. Once again, Austria turned to Germany and was annexed in the Greater German Empire. The country fought alongside the Axis Powers (Germany and Italy) in World War II, and after the end of war it was occupied by the Allies until 1955. Austria then became an independent republic and joined the United Nations. In 1999, the country became part of the European Union.

While I have to admit this story's title fits the city of Berlin better, it does just as much apply to Vienna. Due to its proximity to the former Eastern European border (Hungary's Bratislava is only 60 km away), Vienna has a certain Eastern European atmosphere. This was very well understood by EON's film crew back in 1986, when they were in full preparation for their latest James Bond film **The Living Daylights (TLD)**. In Ian Fleming's original short story, the main location is Berlin, but since Octopussy had recently been filmed there, director John Glen had to look elsewhere. In Vienna he found two cities he needed for the newly written script: romantic Vienna and dark Bratislava.

Dalton was found, considered earlier to replace Sean Connery. Dalton now felt he was up for the job and became the fourth actor to fill the shoes of secret agent James Bond. From the start, Timothy Dalton wanted to return to the grittier and darker James Bond from the Fleming novels, and this fitted in perfectly with Cubby Broccoli's need for a fresh approach.

In *Thrilling Cities*, the collection of travel stories written by Ian Fleming for the Sunday Times, the author also visits Vienna and it is interesting to read how little changed since Fleming visited the city. True, while the largest part of his story deals with his car journey from Germany to Austria, he only describes two major attractions, but still these attractions are today exactly like in Fleming's days and well worth visiting. The world famous Sacher Hotel, opposite the *Staatsoper* at *Albertinaplatz* is still a very recommendable hotel (though very expensive) and the Spanish Riding School is simply a must-see!

Today, most visitors arrive by plane at *Schwechat Airport*. You can either take a train or a taxi to the city and the best thing to do is to take a hotel in the *Innere Stadt*, the old city centre, with postal code 1010. That way you will be centrally located and enclosed by many of Vienna's most interesting buildings. The subway, or *U-bahn*, is located at Stephansplatz and will bring you to all the Bond locations in just a few minutes.



The script, originally full of witty one-liners written for Roger Moore, had to change drastically when it became clear that Moore would not return as 007. Producer Cubby Broccoli wanted something new and fresh and had a desire to bring Bond back to reality. The search for a new 007 initially brought the producer to Pierce Brosnan, who signed for the part but was not released from his contract with Mary Tyler Moore. The search went on and Timothy

Around the city centre, defence works used to protect the city, but were torn down by Emperor Franz Joseph I in 1857 to make place for a beautiful boulevard running all the way around the old town. This *Ringstrasse* can be best explored by *fiaker*, a carriage ride, just like Bond and Kara did when they got to Vienna. It's expensive (90 Euros for a 45 minute ride) but an experience you won't forget fast! We will explore the Bond locations by U-bahn.



In **TLD**, the first glimpse of Vienna can be caught after the title sequence and A-ha's catchy title tune. The camera zooms in on a Bratislavian concert hall from where KGB agent Georgi Koskov will defect to the West. The concert hall in this scene is in fact the **Volkoper** in Vienna, located on the **Währinger Strasse**. When you take U6 towards *Florisdorf*, your exit should be *Währinger Strasse - Volksoper*. When you leave the subway station you will find yourself behind the Volkoper. Cross the street and walk some 200 meters into the *Währinger Strasse*. The first street on your right will be the **Schlagergasse**. **On this corner you will find the little shop** used by 007 and Saunders to hide Koskov. The shop can easily be recognised, since the small window left of the entrance door is filled with photographic evidence of its location history.



This photo above, on display at the shop, is great to compare today's situation with the way it looked in **TLD**.





The Volksoper itself is a round, modern building, still in use today for opera and music performances. Standing in front of the shop while looking towards the opera building, it's easy to spot **the window on the left side** from where Koskov escaped his KGB guards.



Also **the windows on the top floor** from where Kara was to shoot her blanks towards a running Koskov is easy to recognise. The film crew simply replaced the building's name, as they did with all the other shops in the street, as one can tell from the photographs in the shop's window.



When you return to the U-bahn line 6, go one station back, towards *Siebenbrunn*. Exit at station *Michelbeuern - Allgemeines Krankenhaus*. Leave the station and do not cross the street towards the hospital, but go to the other side of the street. There you will find the **Antonigasse** where Kara's apartment is located. The *Antonigasse* is a long road and it takes about 30 minutes to walk to the apartment, since it is located all the way at the other end. But it's worth the walk.



You might remember the old Eastern European look the street once had, with its cobble stones. These have mostly disappeared and can only be found on the parking spaces on both sides of the modernised street. You will also remember the tram line driving past Kara's apartment, and you will probably wonder, like I did, why there is no visible tram line track on the Antonigasse. Are we on the wrong road then?



Truth is, as you will notice, the tram line actually runs through *Kreuzgasse*, the street running parallel to the *Antonigasse*. But all the way at the end, the tram line leaves the *Kreuzgasse* and runs for just one block through the *Antonigasse*, to return to the *Kreuzgasse* immediately afterwards. Here's where you will find Kara's apartment. The reason for the strange diversion becomes clear once you know about the nearby **tram depot**. The diversion enabled the trams

to enter the depot and it enabled the film crew to use a piece of tram line without disturbing the normal tram schedule.



Kara's apartment can easily be found at **number 92** and is a simple door in a typical Eastern European-style apartment block. It's sober, it's grey.. It has Bratislava written all over it. Therefore it was a good choice. **Tram line 42** was used in all scenes and even the tram depot gets a cameo. It's where Bond gets out with Kara's cello case and enters a public toilet. Today this depot is not in use anymore. It has been transformed and now has a SPAR supermarket in its left wing and a gym in its right. It can be found in the **Kreuzgasse**, just follow the tram tracks from Kara's apartment.

A modern apartment building has been put in front of it, covering most of the tracks leading towards the former depot, but the public toilet entrance is still there! On the right of the depot, next to the gym, an old building now serves as a music school and you can find **the two doors on the left side of this building**. Although not in use anymore, the doors are still very recognisable and still invite you to come in and check what's inside your cello case...



For our next stop, we walk back to the U-bahn station and get on to line U-6 in the direction of *Siebenhirten*. At *Langenfeldgasse* we change to line U-4 in the direction of *Heiligenstadt*. We exit at *Karlsplatz*.



From here it's a small but pleasant walk to *Schwarzenbergplatz*, where you will find the entrance to a large park. While this park is mostly famous for the *Belvedere*, a former summer palace located on a hill overlooking the city, you can also find **Hotel Palais im Schwarzenberg** here. This is the hotel Bond and Kara checked into when they arrived in Vienna. The beautiful and stylish hotel is one of Vienna's best and is superbly located in the park, away from the usual city upheaval. While we were there, the hotel was temporarily closed for renovation works which will last until 2010. So if you're there, you might want to check it out yourself.. Returning to *Karlsplatz*, we take U-1 towards *Kagran*. We exit at *Praterstern* and now find ourselves at the entrance of the *Prater Park*.

When you cross the busy road towards the park, look to your left. There you will see the **Reichsbrücke** crossing the Danube River. On that bridge, part of the pipeline was constructed for **TLD**, which helped Koskov escape.

The Prater Park with its world famous **Ferris wheel** is best known from the film *The Third Man*. While many of its key scenes revolved around the park and its wheel, we are more interested in finding back elements from **TLD**. In the park, immediately to your left, you will find the fun fair section. This busy and crowded part is only interesting to quickly walk through, unless you are interested in doing the things Bond and Kara did..



The most interesting thing at the Prater is to take a ride in the Ferris wheel. You might want to consider taking a ride in the **number 10 cabin**, since that was the one used in the love scene between 007 and Kara. It is unlikely though that you will be in there alone and making it stop at the top just for that ultimate Bond fan-feeling is totally out of the question. Still it is a very enjoyable ride, offering fantastic views of Vienna! If you have the time you might want to consider walking around the park for a while. It is really beautiful and tranquil (except on Sundays) and it feels good to relax every now and then. The Prater Cafe where Bond met with Saunders can not be found in the park since this was a studio set built at Pinewood.





After Bond helped Koskov escape, he puts him in ‘the pig’, the oil-pipeline repair-device built to fit just one man. After Koskov has been launched and taken across the border, the pig ends up at a strange looking, round structure, where Koskov is greeted by Q. Koskov is taken up the stairs and put in a Harrier Jet which takes him further into the West. **This strange building is the Gasometer**, one of four similar buildings constructed in 1896 and used to store gas. Around the time of filming **TLD**, the gasometer had lost its primary function and therefore could be used in the spectacular escape scenes. It was **Gasometer B** that was used for interior shots of Koskov climbing the stairs.



In 2001, after years of renovation works, the four buildings were re-opened and today have a totally different function. One has become an apartment building, one houses an entertainment centre complete with concert hall and there’s a shopping mall attracting thousands of people to the Gasometer. The U-bahn exit *Gasometer* stops directly in front of the first building. To return to the city centre, simply take the U-3 towards *Ottakring* and exit at *Stephans-platz*.

If you are interested in seeing more of Vienna, you should really take your time to explore many of the beautiful buildings the city has in store for you. You might want to consider taking the U-4 towards *Hütteldorf*. Exit at *Schönbrunn* to visit the magnificent **Schönbrunn Palace** and gardens, once home to Empress Elisabeth, better known as *Sissy*. Or visit the marvellous **Summer Palace Opera House** and enjoy an opera, like Bond and Kara did. The exterior of the palace was used for the film’s end credits. In the surrounding gardens you can also find the world’s oldest zoo. Apart from the Bond locations, there is a lot to see and do in Vienna and that makes this city a very recommendable and enjoyable holiday destination.



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25 Discovering Isthmus

Our search for the heart of Franz Sanchez' drug empire, starts on the airport of Mexico City, because we are visiting Mexico, the country EON used as fictional Isthmus in their 16th Bond film, **Licence To Kill**.

Our journey takes us from busy Mexico City to the tropical beaches of Acapulco, and from the desert of Mexicali all the way in the North to the archaeological zones of the Yucatan peninsula in the South. Prepare yourself for an exciting, highly cultural tour of Sanchez' Isthmus..!

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 Südkalifornien
 Sonora
 Chihuahua
 Hermosillo
 Chihuahua
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 Coahuila
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 Saltillo
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 Ciudad Victoria
 Tamaulipas
 Sinaloa
 Culiacán
 Durango
 Zacatecas
 Zacatecas
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 Veracruz
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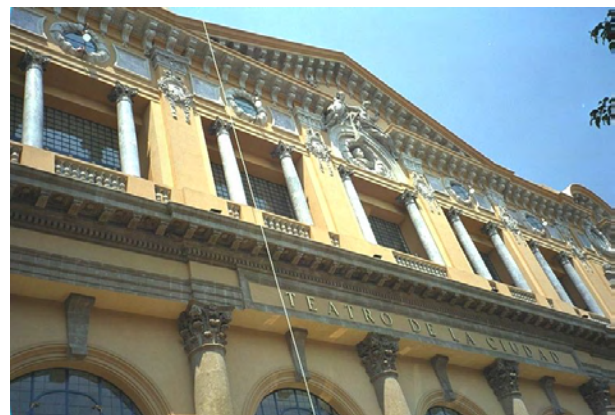
Since almost all of Fleming's original novels had been used, including most titles, a new story had to be written. This was done by Richard Maibaum and producer Michael G. Wilson. The film title would be 'Licence Revoked', but only a few months before filming wrapped (promotional posters had already been printed), this was changed into 'Licence To Kill', leaving the film company with the dilemma of which language to choose (US: License, GB: Licence). In the end, they decided to stick with the Queen's English.

Around the city

Mexico City is a huge city, providing a home to an estimated population of 19 million. Like in so many Middle American countries, the Mexican economy leaves an immense gap between a relatively small group of rich people, and a huge group of poor people. This latter group is clearly present in the capital and the 'rich' foreign traveller will undoubtedly suffer the inconveniences of attempts of pick-pocketing and swindling. But don't let this spoil your enthusiasm, because Mexico has far too much to offer to just ignore this country.

Around the *Plaza de la Constitución* you find the old centre of Mexico City. This is the typical touristy area, with beautiful buildings, ancient excavations, museums and lots of craftsmen shops. In this highly interesting area the attentive Bond historian might stumble upon two locations worth mentioning.

First we have the city theatre, or *Teatro de la Ciudad*. Its monumental facade was used in the exterior shots of Sanchez' casino headquarters. Because the theatre is located in a very narrow and busy street, the facade was rebuilt in the studios for use in the close up sequences, when Bond climbs the building to attach an explosive substance underneath the windows of Sanchez' office.



Also close by, is the *Casino Español*, nowadays a restaurant. The beautiful interior of the upstairs hall is much used as location for wedding parties, but back in 1989 EON was allowed to film all the casino scenes here. Downstairs is a 'guard' who likes to be involved in everything that happens here, so don't try to take photographs without consulting him. You will probably be asked to leave. If you do ask him, he turns out to be very co-operative and you will be granted permission to do whatever you want.



Walking around the huge, empty hall it is hard to recognise it as the casino room where Bond played against house dealer Lupe Lamorra. Only the chandeliers might give it away.



There are of course many low-budget hotels in Mexico City, but if you are looking for the most recommendable place, you will need to spend some money. Remember James Bond walking into his Isthmus' hotel with Miss Pam Bouvier? A huge chandelier in the background, a modest reception counter in a beautiful, but hardly visible hotel lounge, and a colourful elevator, are just some of the hard to ignore impressions left by Bond's hotel arrival-scene in **Licence To Kill**. This hotel is in fact **Gran Hotel Ciudad de México**. Situated in the heart of the historical centre, in a street called *16de Septiembre*, opposite the *Plaza de la Constitución*, this hotel offers all the luxury you will need to relax from

walking around the busy streets. The magnificent lobby roof, built in 1908, consists of thousands of coloured glass panels, and will be the most impressive hotel roof you will encounter. A 'modern' elevator, completely rebuilt in the same old colonial style, will take you to one of the 124 modern rooms the hotel has to offer.



Another building you do not want to miss is **El Correo Central**, or The Main Post Office. To reach this, you have to leave the hotel and follow the *16de Septiembre* to your right (western direction). Once you come to a big street called *Sn. Juan de Letran*, you should turn right and follow this road for the next 200 meters. After passing *Bellas Artes*, a museum situated on your left, you will find the Post Office on the corner of the street you are currently on and a street called *Tecubes*.





This impressive building was in fact used as the *Banco de Isthmus*, where Bond comes in to deposit a large sum of money to impress Sanchez, who owns the bank. When you enter the building, your eye will be instantly caught by the big stairways leading to the first floor. Bond walked these stairs, carrying his millions of Dollars. Another funny thing is the marble tables inside the building, normally used by the people to stamp their mail on. In **Licence To Kill** these unmovable slabs of stone were cleverly turned into desks for the bank employees.



The smartest thing to do is to rent a car and leave the city. There are still many things you can visit without immediately thinking of Bond, so we take a little side step here. Leaving the city to the north you cannot miss the road signs leading you to *Teotihuacan*. Here you can find some of the most famous of all Mexican pyramid sites, located about 50 kilometers north-east of Mexico City.

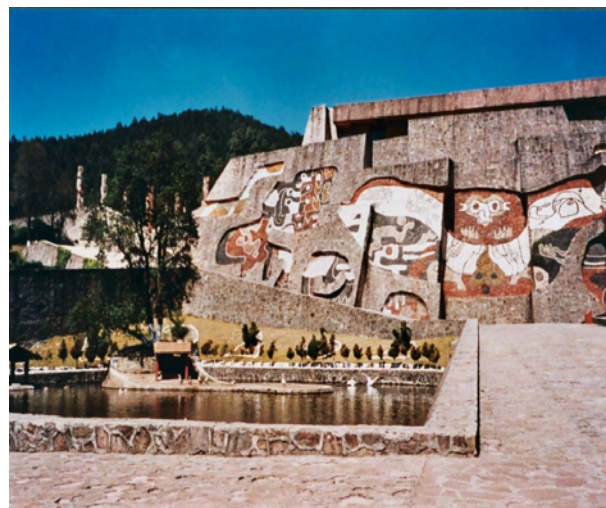


The area is filled with monuments and temples, but is dominated by two giants, the 'Pyramid of the Sun' and the 'Pyramid of the Moon'. Connected by a former waterway, called 'the Way of the Dead', which leads to the *Citadel*, a temple structure containing the 'Pyramid of Cuetzalcoatl'. The most intriguing fact about this area is that no one has yet been able to determine who the builders were and when exactly it was built. The Aztecs once lived in this area but they were not the original builders, as scientists have proved. The Aztecs also gave the above mentioned names to the monuments, and when the Spaniards came to conquer Mexico, these were the names they heard, and that's why we still use them.

Returning to the city, you will enter the *Periferico*, the highway that leads around the city. Following this road from the north to the west, you will eventually encounter an exit leading towards *Toluca*. After an hour ride, you will arrive at the ring road of *Toluca*. Taking the northern side of it, you will immediately see signs directing you towards **Parque Centro Ceremonial Otomi**. Right after you passed a Nissan manufacturing plant, you have to take the exit on the right, leading towards *Temoaya*. Take your time for this road, because it is filled with speed bumps.



After you have passed the town of *Temoaya*, the road leads into the mountains, and after a few kilometers you will reach the park. This is, or rather 'was', Franz Sanchez' drug laboratory. In normal life, it is a recently built park to commemorate the Otomi Indian culture. It is also very often used by sportsmen for training purposes, because of its high altitude location. The main building is next to the huge square, which in real life does not house a helicopter platform. The building is on both sides surrounded by the typical tipi-style, cone shaped buildings, in **Licence To Kill** used by Professor Joe to seduce the 'innocent' Pam Bouvier, who pretended she came to donate money but actually came to rescue Bond.



Although all the interior scenes were filmed in the studios, the exterior of the buildings inside the park are easy to recognize. The site offers an amazing view of the mountains and the surrounding forest. Together with the quiet atmosphere this visit is definitely worth the ride! The entrance fee is only US\$ 1.00, and the park is open from 10.00h till 16.00h.





The west coast

Mexico's west coast is attractive to both beach lovers and water sports fanatics. The warm climate together with the beautiful ocean makes millions of tourists spend their time and money here. One of the most popular places nowadays is *Puerto Vallarta*, but our attention goes out to the town that even inspired Elvis Presley, *Acapulco*. The magnificent beaches are daily filled with people from all over the world, but Mexicans also love to visit this town. Huge hotels dominate the coast line, and the nightlife here is the best Mexico has got to offer. Bars, restaurants and nightclubs are making every effort to persuade people to enter their premises and, I have to admit, you can have a great time if you know what you are looking for.

Acapulco can be reached by bus directly from Mexico City. Although it's a 4 hour ride it is probably the easiest way to get there. The bus station is located in the centre of Mexico City. From the hotel you walk southwards (*5 de Febrero*). At the ninth street you will cross, you should turn right (*Frey Servando*). After a hundred meters, you will find the bus station on your right.



On the south side of Acapulco, you can find some of the finest houses and bungalows. One of these villas is the **Villa Arabesque**. Located in the *Marina* residential area, it is accessible from the side road next to the Kookaburra Restaurant. Don't let the road barrier and on site guards scare you off: Everyone is allowed into the area. Just ask for 'Villa

Arabesque' and people will show you the way, since it is a very well known villa. The villa was the home of Franz Sanchez in **Licence To kill**. This is the place where Bond was brought to, after Sanchez rescued him from his 'ninja' attackers. Everything you see in the film is actually there: The beautiful view, the swimming pool with the weird looking fish, the posh bedroom and of course the outdoor elevator, located on the far right of the picture below (right), leading straight downwards to the sea. Although you will not be allowed inside the premises and will therefore miss the extravaganza on display, you can always come to *Acapulco* just to relax on the sunny beaches and have a drink with the locals in one of the many bars. You won't regret it.

The east coast, Yucatan

Although the whole east coast has its attractive places, we will take you to the Yucatan peninsula. Famous for its various temples and pyramids, it is also the area where you can find that other worldwide known holiday destination, *Cancun*. Built around a lagoon, *Cancun* offers you everything you desire. Here too, there's an endless line of huge hotels, bars, restaurants and nightclubs all centred on the outer land strip, east of the lagoon. On the actual mainland you will find the old town of *Cancun*, filled with small shops and local craft markets.



The peninsula itself is best reached through the air. Book one of the many domestic flights directly to *Cancun* if you want to enjoy some days at the beach or to *Merida* if you want to see Mexican ancient history first. Notably in *Tulum*, *Uxmal* and *Chichen Itza* you won't be disappointed when you're looking for Mayan cultural remains. If you're interested in these sites, best thing you can do is to rent a car or go with one of the many tours that are being offered.

If your main interest is sun and beach, you should stay in *Cancun*. One little trip is worth mentioning though. For the pre-title sequence of **Licence To Kill**, the underwater sequences were filmed in the waters surrounding *Isla de Mujeres*, a small island off the coast of *Cancun*.



Tikal, Guatemala

From the Yucatan, trips are also being offered to neighbour countries like Belize and Guatemala. This last one is particularly interesting, because this gives us the rare opportunity to visit a tiny but impressive Bond location from **Moonraker**. After Bond gets rid of Jaws in the Brazilian jungle, he lands his hang glider, straps off his helmet and notices a beautiful blond girl at a waterfall. He follows her while it is obvious she wants to bring him somewhere. Well, she does.

She brings Bond and the viewer all the way to Guatemala, to the famous **Mayan ruins of Tikal**. Although only one of Tikal's pyramids is briefly visible (**Temple I**), it is still well worth a visit. The huge area consists of thousands of buildings, temples and pyramids, all in the middle of the jungle. The many typical Mayan step pyramids carry small temples that tower above the trees in a way you are not likely to forget easily. The entrance fee to this park is US\$ 10.00 .

The easiest way to reach the ruins is to travel as part of a group. Most travel operators will be able to arrange the trip for you. Another, less expensive way to get there, is to arrive at the border early and catch the bus or a so called 'collectivo', a private bus service. When you take the bus, you should get off at 'El Cruce', from there you have to wait for another bus or catch a 'collectivo'. The third way is to fly there from *Cancun*. Airlines with imaginative names like 'Maya Mungo' offer good services and fly you directly from *Cancun*, Mexico to Santa Elena Airport in *Petén*, Guatemala.

The northern border area

Finally we turn northwards, to the area close to the American border. In this area, that is in fact too far away to really include it in a round trip, you can find two Bond locations, of which **Rosarito** is the



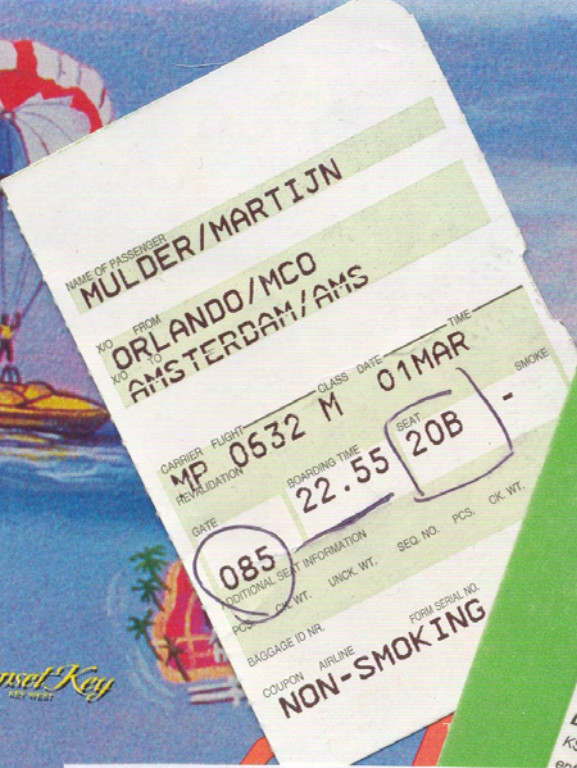
smallest. Here, aerial footage was filmed for the High Altitude Low Opening (or HALO) parachute jump, performed by stuntman BJ Worth, for **Tomorrow Never Dies**.

The other location is more recognizable. In the **Mexicali Desert**, near *Mexicali*, the tanker truck chase from **Licence To Kill** was filmed. These scenes come directly after the scenes from the before mentioned Centro Ceremonial Otomi. Bond escapes on a tanker truck, filled with cocaine dissolved in gasoline. After a devastating chase with the various tanker trucks, Bond finally gets his hands on Franz Sanchez. All this was filmed in the rough parts of the *Mexicali* desert, around the **Rumarosa Pass**, an impressive area worth paying a visit to... if you're in the neighbourhood.

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KEY WEST

- Reef Snorkeling • Ch...
- Snorkel Sunset Sail



26 The Sunshine State

Apart from a very brief intermediate stop in 1964 in **Goldfinger**, it took James Bond 'till 1988/89 until he found the occasion to have a closer look at one of the USA's most attractive holiday destinations.

Florida, or rather the **Florida Keys** and **Key West** were the marvellous settings for Timothy Dalton's second outing as 007 in **Licence To Kill (LTK)**. Since in **LTK**, unlike in **Goldfinger**, everything was really shot on the spot in southern Florida, for us Bond fans America's Sunshine State is a superb location hunting ground.



KEY WEST LA...
 Lighthouse was...
 tower on Whitehead Point...
 The present location, 14...
 constructed from a similar...
 with a...
 MUSEUM



Miami

On Easter Sunday 1513 the Spanish conqueror *Juan Ponce de León* first set foot upon the peninsula at the south-eastern most tip of the newly discovered continent. He named it *Pascua Florida*, which means in Spanish 'Blooming Easter'. *Hernando de Soto*, another *conquistador*, claimed the land for the Spanish Crown in 1539/40. The first European settlement in North America was St. Augustine (1565) in northern Florida. Spain handed over Florida to the United States of America in 1819 and in 1845 it became the 27th state of the USA.

During the American Civil War (1861 - 1865) Florida was on the side of the Confederates, but only minor skirmishes took place here. The building of the Kennedy Space Centre on Cape Canaveral in the 1950s contributed enormously to the state's economic growth. Natural wonders like the Everglades and the opening of mega amusement parks like Disney World, Universal Studios and Sea World in the Seventies and Eighties in the environs of Orlando turned Florida into one of the world's most popular holiday destinations, attracting more than 30 million visitors every year.

If you are travelling from outside the USA, a good trip suggestion is to fly to Miami and rent a car. Driving around Florida is a true pleasure, especially by European standards. The Miami Beach Art Deco District makes an excellent home base from where you can undertake various trips in the neighbourhood during the days and have a good time in the evenings. Show yourself on Ocean Drive or simply enjoy a great meal in one of the many good restaurants the area has to offer.

Below is a list of all you can do by car, if you want to see some of Florida's highlights and Bond locations.



The Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach

Although not the capital, Miami is Florida's hub and its most vibrant city. Divided from the mainland only by Biscayne Bay lies the humming spa Miami Beach. The **Fontainebleau Hilton** is its most renowned landmark hotel. Situated about two miles north of the famed Art Deco District of South Beach, every American President since Dwight D. Eisenhower has called it home and legendary stars including Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and Elvis Presley performed there. So it was the appropriate place to stay for James Bond. The impressive crescent building is first seen in **Goldfinger** from an aerial view as a plane tows a promotional banner proclaiming "WELCOME TO MIAMI BEACH". Then the camera focuses on the **pool area**, where Bond's American associate Felix Leiter makes his introductory walk-by. The following scenes with Sean Connery and Gert Frobe were shot on a studio set in Pinewood and in front of a back projection. So the Fontainebleau Hotel is only a minor Bond location, but it is worth a visit. The public-baths-like pool area of the Sixties has been transformed into a lush tropical garden where palm trees give shade to a lagoon style rock grotto pool with cascading waterfalls.



Downtown Miami

When Mr. Solo departs early from Goldfinger's Kentucky ranch, in 1964's **Goldfinger**, Odd Job supposedly drives him to the airport. Although the ranch was built and filmed at Pinewood's lot, a second unit crew filmed doubles driving around in a Lincoln Continental in... Miami! The scenes in which Felix Leiter and his colleague follow the moving homer signal coming from Mr. Solo's pocket where all filmed close to Miami International Airport.

A funny anecdote about this location comes from director Guy Hamilton who went to Miami, desperately looking for places that resembled Kentucky: *"I was driving around Miami one day, looking for locations and there I saw: Kentucky Fried Chicken and I thought 'the God's are smiling on me'... I mean, this is Florida, but it says Kentucky! So we could have the two CIA agents standing beneath the KFC sign! But, of course, what I didn't know then was, that Kentucky Fried Chicken... there are 50 million of them in the United States, they hadn't reached Europe yet.. and I happened to believe that I had luckily come across the one sign in Florida that said Kentucky!"*

Leiter jumps in his car at the Kentucky Fried Chicken parking lot, located at **701 NW 119th Street**. The reason we know it's this KFC, instead of one of the 29 other, is the visibility of the building number in the film. Today simply known as KFC, the company totally reshaped their appearance and therefore also this restaurant could not have been recognized if we hadn't had the address number...



Another location is the car wrecking site, or 'Atlantic Iron & Metal Co.' as it's known from **Goldfinger**. Most of the metal recycling companies are located at North River Drive, west of Miami International Airport, the company used for the scenes with Odd Job and Solo is now called **Aimco Miami Iron & Metal Co.**, and is situated at **3338 NW North River Drive**. A small railroad track can still be found in front of its entrance (slightly visible in the film) and the stone wall around the place still looks the same.



But, since you are now in one of Miami's poorest areas, you can almost smell the criminality and you shouldn't waste too much time here.

Odd Job's car ride from the KFC to the car wrecking facility was partially filmed on **7th Avenue**, at that time one of the most important north-to-south routes through downtown Miami. After constructing Interstate 95, only one block to the west, almost everything changed here and only a few stores might still be recognized. One of those is **Arnold's Royal Castle**, passed and seen briefly in the background.



Moving South: The Florida Keys

The expression 'key' derives from the Spanish word *cayo*, which means 'little island'. Indeed the Florida Keys are a string of small and tiny islands that stretch some 200 sun-drenched miles from the southernmost point of the peninsula south-westerly into the ocean. From the largest island, Key Largo, to the tip of Key West, they are linked by 43 bridges scattered along the 126-miles Overseas Highway. Being close to the tropics, the atmosphere of the Keys is casual, relaxed, and dedicated to preserving its laid-back nature. It is a unique experience to do the trip to Key West by car. You seem to drive upon the water, having the Atlantic Ocean on your left and the Gulf of Mexico on your right. On the far horizon the blue skies seem to mingle with the turquoise sea.

You should realise that - from Miami - the trip to Key West could take up to 5 hours, simply because of the high traffic density. One useful tip is to take Florida's Turnpike, the toll road linking North and South Florida. You can take the Turnpike South from Miami, avoiding a large part of the busy Highway 1, and the toll fees are worth paying considering the time you save. Eventually you will end up on Highway 1, since this is the only road leading through the Keys.



The most spectacular part of the trip is the **Seven Mile Bridge** just behind the small town Marathon, in "the Heart of the Keys". Obviously the Bond people were of the same opinion and so they featured this Florida landmark prominently at the beginning of **Licence To Kill**. First we get a bird's-eye view of a Rolls Royce driving along the bridge. Then we see the occupants of the limousine, Felix Leiter *en route* to his wedding, his best man James Bond and their mutual friend Sharkey. The filmmakers confuse us a bit because though the wedding takes place in Key West, the Rolls is driving in the opposite direction.



Thus, the limo is finally stopped by the coast guard helicopter at the **parking lot near Marathon at the north-eastern foot of the Seven Mile Bridge**. From here, a second, now abandoned, bridge runs parallel to the modern Seven Mile Bridge. It used to be a railroad bridge, but in 1935 it was heavily damaged by a hurricane.

Beside its new concrete counterpart, the old Seven Mile Bridge or **Parallel Bridge** juts into the sea like a giant fishing pier, inviting anglers, walkers and nature lovers to enjoy one of Florida's most scenic and historic vistas.

Since the bridge was no longer in use it was a great opportunity to utilize it for a dramatic action scene later in the film. After his arrest, drug baron Franz Sanchez is supposed to be transported from Key West to Miami in an armoured prison van. But there is a traitor among his guards who hijacks the vehicle while it is driving on the Parallel Bridge towards Marathon. He breaks through the railing and crashes the truck off the bridge into the ocean shortly before they are to arrive at the above mentioned parking lot. With the help of scuba divers the drug lord is able to escape.



From the Seven Mile Bridge it is some 25 miles (40 km) to **Sugarloaf Key**. Directly after the Sugarloaf Lodge you should pay attention to a small sports plane that stands on the right hand side of the road and a billboard advertising "Sugarloaf Airport AIRPLANE RIDES". When you turn off here from the highway onto a small asphalt road, the area will immediately seem familiar to you. Soon you will notice a **white wooden house on your right**. In spite of some alterations (among others there is a second outside stairs) this is the exterior of the house where drug runner Franz Sanchez catches his mistress Lupe in bed with another lover.





The moment the crooks leave the house they realize that they are being pursued by the coast guard chopper and yet they manage to slip away. At a nearby shipyard they are cornered by Leiter, Bond and the DEA-agents. The ensuing battle was staged on the **large meadow area**, which lies just around the corner. You can recognize the place by the stilted houses in the background of the scene. In the course of this fight Sanchez can make his escape from **the airstrip of the adjacent airfield** in a small sports plane. Only by a hair-raising airborne stunt carried out by 007 can he be taken into custody.



When on location you should go to that little wooden shack beside the tarmac which serves as a workshop as well as an office. Here you might meet Dan Haggerty who runs the airport. Ask him if you might be allowed to have a look around. If you reveal to him that you are a 007-afficionado and very much interested in every Bond-related issue, he will probably become very talkative. He was the flight coordinator on **Licence To Kill**, and so he was responsible for all the planes in that film. He met all the Bond people in the flesh, the actors from the first unit like Timothy Dalton and Robert Davi as well as the stuntmen from the second unit like BJ Worth and so he can tell you some anecdotes from the shooting. You will also learn that some scenes for Wesley Snipes' skydivers epic *Drop Zone*.

were filmed here. An entire wooden house was built beside the airfield especially for that shooting and was afterwards torn down again



Another interesting fact he can tell you is that **the little red and white Cessna 172 sports plane at the highway** is indeed Sanchez' escape vehicle used in the film. On closer inspection you will notice the plane's registration number has been altered. The last digit in the film is a three, but has now become an eight. Still, it's the same plane!

If Dan Haggerty really likes you, he might even take you to his nearby place and show you a photo-album brimming with pics from the **LTK**-shooting. Departing from Sugarloaf Airport we really had the feeling of leaving behind a newly gained friend.....

Key West

In the early nineteenth century Key West was a lair for pirates and buccaneers. When in 1822 the American flag was hoisted and the city was claimed for the USA, the Americans began fighting the freebooters. It took the West Indian Squadron, especially founded for this purpose, two years to get

rid of this plague. In the next decades sponging and cigar-making were Key West's main industries. During the Great Depression in the 1930's the city had an extremely hard time. After the Second World War the tourist industry was Key West's salvation. Being the southernmost city of the (continental) USA, its unique location attracted not only famous authors like Ernest Hemingway or Tennessee Williams, but also travellers from all over the world. The climax of every Key West visit is to take part in the famed Sunset Celebrations. These nightly extravaganzas take place nearly every evening at Mallory Dock, where crowds gather to be entertained by artists, musicians, street performers and merrymakers.



For the exploration of Key West you will find it most convenient to take an accommodation in the Old Town, for example on Duval Street, 'the longest main street in the world, because it runs from coast to coast (Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico)'. After capturing drug baron Sanchez, James Bond and Felix Leiter parachute into Key West and they land just in front of **St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church** where Leiter's bride and the whole wedding congregation are awaiting them. This church on Truman Avenue is supposed to be the second oldest one in the United States. The doors are always open and invite you in to its bright, airy interior. Within the touristy beehive of Key West this is a perfect place for a contemplative rest.



One of the most photographed sights of the city is the Southernmost Point at Whitehead Street/South Street. The shining red structure in the shape of a buoy was donated by the Cuban community and illustrates America's closeness to that Caribbean island (90 miles/144 km). A very patriotic inscription praises the liberty and freedom of the United States and compares them to the conditions in Cuba. On the way to that memorial we pass a location which is of immense interest to us Bond-fans - the house of 007's long-time American buddy Felix Leiter. It is on **707 South Street**, a typical Key West house with an arched entrance and palm trees in the front garden.



Sneaking into Leiter's sealed-off house James Bond finds out that his colleague had made an appointment with an informant called Pam Bouvier in the Barrelhead Bar in the Bahaman island Bimini. The **Harbor Lights Raw Bar at Palm Avenue/ Eisenhower Drive** in the north of Key West Old Town doubled for the exterior of this Caribbean location.



The place has recently been re-painted and re-instated. Entering the building you will experience an unexpected surprise. Believe it or not, fixed to the wall is **the old neon sign “Bimini BARREL-HEAD BAR”** from LTK.



Only a stone's throw away is **Charterboat Row**, where Bond meets his chum Sharkey on his boat. The picture in our memory is a bit spoiled by the wooden roof construction that runs along the quay now.

From Highway 1, turn right into Elisabeth Street and follow it all the way to the end. You will now be facing the **Conch Republic Seafood Company**, located at **631 Greene Street**. If you didn't know, you would never recognize this location as the place where Leiter had his unfortunate encounter with a shark. The large warehouse once known as 'Fish House No. 4' has been transformed into the present day restaurant during the 1990s.



After leaving Sharkey at the before mentioned Charterboat Row, Bond encounters DEA-agent Hawkins at **Mallory Square** in the twinkling of an eye, although there is at least a distance of about 1,8 miles (3 km) between the two locations. During their short conversation they saunter to **Hemingway House** (which in reality would be a hike of about a mile). Ernest Hemingway, who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1954, bought the mansion at **907 Whitehead Street** in 1928 and lived there until 1939. In its cosy study he wrote some of his most

acclaimed short stories (e.g. *The Snows of Kilimanjaro* in 1938) and novels (e.g. *For Whom the Bell Tolls* in 1939). The estate is now a privately run museum. Set in a lush tropical garden, even by today's standards it is an elegant, comfortable home and can be toured daily from 9 am till 5pm.



On the balcony of the Hemingway House Bond has a heated confrontation with his superior M. His boss demands that 007 gives up his personal vendetta with Sanchez. When Bond refuses to obey, his licence to kill is revoked and he turns into a rogue agent. Handing over his gun he makes a subtle joke, when he quips "...a farewell to arms" (title of a Hemingway-novel written here in 1929) and escapes.

He is taken under fire from a sharp-shooter posted atop the nearby **Lighthouse Museum**. Its top is now painted black instead of yellow as in the film. Climbing its 88 steps is really worth the effort. From the platform you have a beautiful panoramic view of the island, the ocean and of course of Hemingway House, just a stone's throw away.

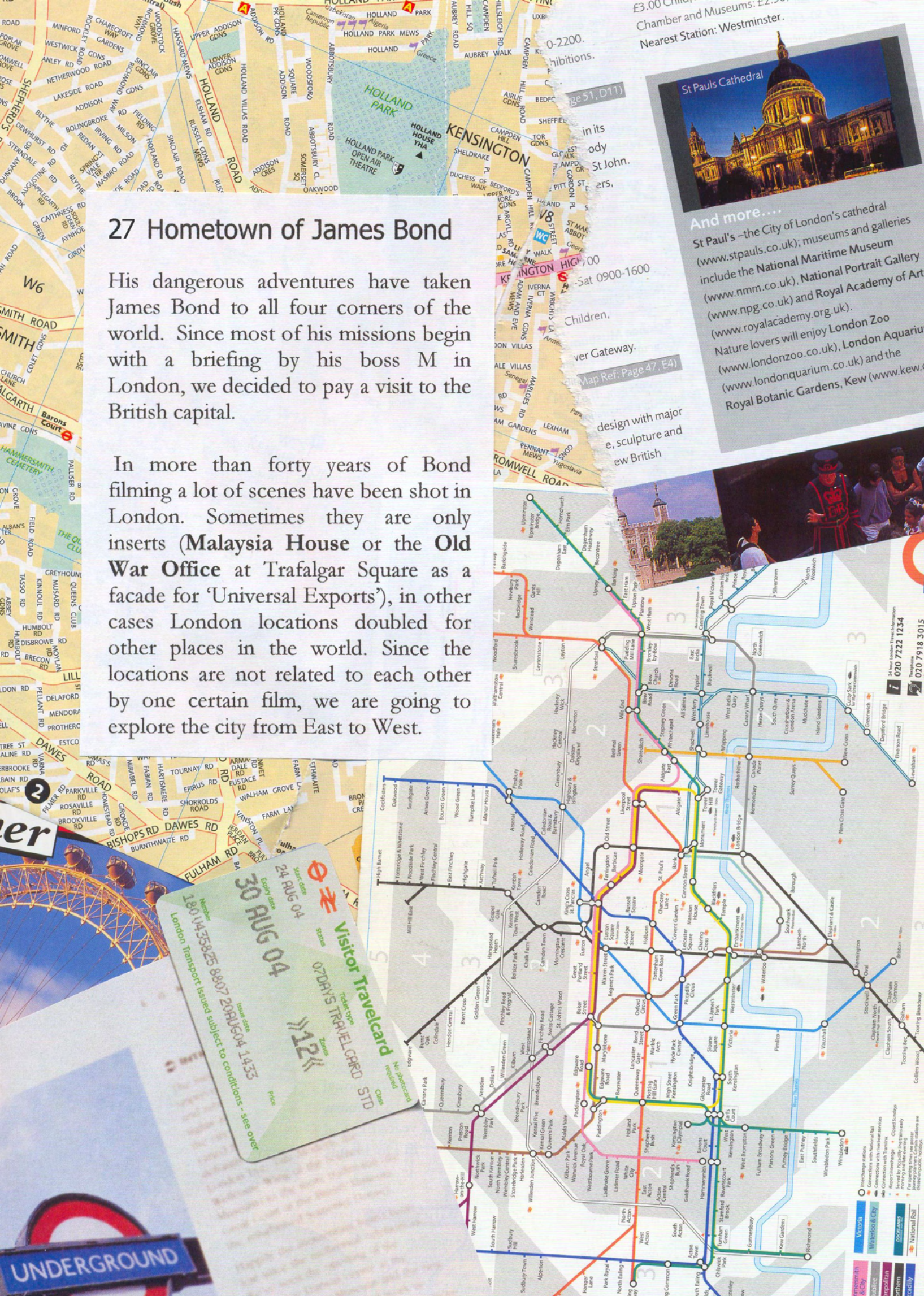


In South Florida and particularly in the Keys you will find nearly everything a vacationer's heart yearns for: Unforgettable sunsets, a subtropical climate, endless beaches, buzzing cities and, especially for us, a heap of Bond locations.

27 Hometown of James Bond

His dangerous adventures have taken James Bond to all four corners of the world. Since most of his missions begin with a briefing by his boss M in London, we decided to pay a visit to the British capital.

In more than forty years of Bond filming a lot of scenes have been shot in London. Sometimes they are only inserts (Malaysia House or the Old War Office at Trafalgar Square as a facade for 'Universal Exports'), in other cases London locations doubled for other places in the world. Since the locations are not related to each other by one certain film, we are going to explore the city from East to West.



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St Pauls Cathedral

And more...
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(www.royalacademy.org.uk).
Nature lovers will enjoy London Zoo
(www.londonzoo.co.uk), London Aquarium
(www.londonaquarium.co.uk) and the
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (www.kew.org.uk)

W6

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The Romans were the first who conquered the Celtic fortress *Londinium*. Within a short time the city became an important centre of trade and administration. It lost its significance for a long time after the withdrawal of the Romans in the 5th century. That only changed in 1066 when William the Conqueror was crowned in Westminster Abbey. Two times (in 1348 and 1665) the Plague struck and decimated the population. In the age of the seafarers, London became an important port because of its new trade relations to America and other parts of the world. The population increased even faster in the 19th century. The problems of the industrial revolution are vividly described in the novels of Charles Dickens.

While the First World War affected London very little, it suffered immensely in World War II. The German air raids (1940/41) claimed more than 10.000 lives. After the war the city maintained its economic strength and it now houses the second most important stock exchange of the world. The total population of London today is more than 7 million inhabitants.

The name of the area around St Paul's Cathedral is the 'City of London'. This refers to the fact that it is the oldest part of the town. It now embodies the Financial District of London with the Bank of England in its hub. Right in front of the cathedral you can find the **College of Arms**.



Playing a very important part as itself in **OHMSS**, the college still looks the same as in 1969 when new Bond George Lazenby parked his Aston Martin in front of the building. Although the interior looks just like in the film, all interior scenes were filmed in the studios.

In the neighbourhood of this typical British institution is another traditional English establishment. Located in Throgmorton Avenue (a by-street of Throgmorton Street) is **Drapers' Hall**, one of the oldest Halls of a London Livery Company. In **GoldenEye** it doubled for the interior of the Winter Palace (or *Hermitage*) in St Petersburg.

Guilds and livery companies played a vital role in medieval London. Originally founded to provide mutual protection for their members, they developed into trading associations which also took an active part in political life. Mayors, Aldermen and Sheriffs were and still are elected from amongst the members of the guilds.

From the 14th century on, they obtained Charters from the Crown, giving them clearly outlined constitutions and rights, and defining their duties and responsibilities. The first royal charter handed to the Drapers is dated as far back as 1364. With the expansion of the English woollen cloth trade in the 15th century the Drapers' guild prospered and in 1516 their third position in the order of precedence of the City Companies, after the Mercers and Grocers, was formally confirmed. The Freedom of the Company has occasionally been bestowed to men such as Sir Francis Drake or Lord Nelson. With the passage of time, the Company's connections with the cloth trade have ceased. Today its main function is the administration of the many charitable trusts that have been left in its care over the centuries. It also manages the catering business of Drapers' Hall, which is available for all types of functions, from casual cocktail parties to formal dinners.

After fire had destroyed several former buildings, the present Drapers' Hall was built in 1772. Its front as well as its interior was altered several times in the following centuries. When entering the impressive mansions in Throgmorton Avenue you feel really affected by the air of dignity and nobility that the establishment radiates. It is an awe-inspiring experience to encounter history this way. Stained glass windows, heavy Gobelin tapestries, marble and alabaster columns, oak panelled walls and elaborate coats of arms echo the style of past centuries. With a size of 80 by 44 feet the **Livery Hall** on the first floor is the largest and most splendid room. The ceiling paintings depict scenes from the Shakespearean plays *The Tempest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The room is encompassed by twenty-eight marble columns. In the niches between them a collection of royal portraits is displayed. There are traditional dinners for the members of the Draper's Company held three times a year in the Livery Hall.

In **GoldenEye** we see a military band marching in front of the Winter Palace in St Petersburg. The next cut, a close-up of the Russian Defence Minister Mishkin watching this scene from a window of the palace, was in fact filmed in the Livery Hall of Drapers' Hall in London. The Minister and members of the Russian Defence Council are awaiting General Ourumov and his report about the devastation of the *Severnaya* space centre. Ourumov enters the huge room from the **Livery Hall Corridor**.



He steps to the table in the middle of the hall and delivers a summary of the results of his investigations. While he is briefing we notice a massive door behind him which is not normally there. It was put in to cover a painting of Queen Victoria which otherwise might have given away a hint to the scene's real location. It is a funny coincidence that the Livery Hall stood also in for the interior of a Russian building in the Val Kilmer-film *The Saint*. All enquiries about available tours of Drapers' Hall should be made in writing and addressed to: The Secretary to the Archivist, The Drapers' Company, Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London, EC2N 2DQ, or you can email: heritage@thedrapers.co.uk

Before leaving the area, we take a last look from the subway station Bank into Threadneedle Street. From here the limousine emerged in which Bond is briefed by his boss M and Miss Moneypenny in **Tomorrow Never Dies (TND)**. Walking to the west via Fleet Street and Strand, we reach the **St Mary-le-Strand Church** which lies on a traffic island in the middle of the street. After leaving Oxford, Bond's Aston Martin passes this church in **TND** and turns left into **the courtyard of Somerset House**.

Somerset House, a grand 18th century building, is a thriving cultural centre for London and is home to the magnificent collections of the Courtauld Institute Gallery, Gilbert Collection and Hermitage Rooms.

The launch of the Safran Fountain Court in August 2000 transformed the **Courtyard** from a hidden car park into one of the most vibrant public spaces in the British capital. The design of the fountains is based on a geometric pattern of fifty-five computer controlled, vertical jets which emerge directly from the granite surface of the Courtyard. At the north western corner of the square the scene from **GoldenEye** was filmed where CIA man Jack Wade 'repairs' his old Russian jalopy with a sledgehammer.



There are two train stations in London which are of special interest for us film freaks. First there is **St Pancras Station** in the suburb of the same name. On **Platform 5** the tiny scene was filmed where Natalya arrives in St Petersburg in **GoldenEye**. For the first film of the Harry Potter-series the scenes where Harry catches the train Hogwarts Express,



were filmed at the nearby Kings Cross Station. In the movie the steam train leaves from the fictitious Platform 9¾ and takes the students to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. In reality it was staged on Platform 4.



In every Brosnan Bond-film, except **TND**, we see an establishing shot of the new **MI6 headquarters**. The building at **Vauxhall Cross, 85 Albert Embankment** was completed in 1993/94. It is said to be like a fortress, covered with security cameras inside and out and reinforced with special bomb and bullet-proof walls, triple-glazed glass to block electronic eavesdropping and jamming, extra-stout doors and two moats. Although its multiple floors rise step by step into the London skyline, much of the construction is below ground to protect sensitive areas such as the computer control room from potential terrorist attacks.



In **The World Is Not Enough (TWINE)** all these precautions prove to be insufficient when Bond's opponents blast a hole into its facade. The ensuing boat chase to the **Millennium Dome** in Greenwich you can relive at a more moderate speed by taking a riverboat trip from Westminster Pier. North of Vauxhall Cross, on the same Albert Embankment, two not so interesting office buildings used to stand, one of them recently demolished and at the time of writing a new building was being erected at the same spot. For reasons unknown, it was these buildings, **Queensborough House and Hampton House** that Terence Young used as MI6 in the first Bond film **Dr. No**.



A long-standing London institution is the **Reform Club** at **104 Pall Mall**. In this posh gentlemen's club Bond meets multi-millionaire Gustav Graves for the first time in **DAD**. This typical Regency establishment is also the place where Phileas Fogg bets with his friends in Jules Verne's famous novel *Around The World In 80 Days*. The fencing duel between Bond and Graves was orchestrated inside the building and in the courtyard.

Right after the fierce fencing duel, Bond receives a key which leads him to a meeting with M at a now defunct and deserted tube station. We see Bond completing a walk across the **Westminster Bridge**, then going down some steps, where he uses the key to gain entry to the meeting site with M. That location is just **in front of the Marriott County Hall Hotel**.



Even though London does have an abandoned tube station - *Aldwych Station*, which closed its doors to the public in 1994 and has since been often used for various TV- and film productions - this station served only as a blueprint for the studio sets used in **Die Another Day** as *Vauxhall Cross Station*, where 007 received his invisible car..



When you climb back to the bridge and cross the street, you will find yourself almost at exactly the same spot where the famous black and white promo shots of George Lazenby standing next to a lamp post were taken. The view across the river can also be seen in many films as it often serves as an establishing shot of London. The impressive **Houses of Parliament and the Big Ben** can clearly be seen in the background of part of **TWINE's** boat chase. Special permission was given by the British Government for this unusual request, but then again... it is Bond, isn't it?

Crossing the bridge towards Big Ben, you are walking towards **H.M. Treasury**, at St. George Street. It was this building that Peter Hunt chose for his establishing shot of Universal Exports in **OHMSS**. In the film you can only see the brass name plate of MI6's fictional cover firm, but the reflection of Big Ben gives away the location.





When resuming your walk in western direction you will end up in St. James' Park where the Queen's residence can be found: **Buckingham Palace**. This landmark and extremely busy tourist attraction served as the backdrop for Gustav Graves' parachute landing on his way to be knighted, in **Die Another Day**. After having touched the ground, the party leaves for the waiting cars through **the northern gates**.

Bond Street is home to the most elegant and expensive shops in London. Designer clothing such as *Gucci* and *Versace*, perfume, art and antiques, and more Royal Warrant holders (suppliers to the royal family) than anywhere else in London. One of its most prominent addresses is **Sotheby's auction house at 31 New Bond Street**. It was founded in 1744 by Samuel Baker. From his nephew and successor John Sotheby it got its name in 1778. In 1917, Sotheby's moved from its Wellington Street location to its famous New Bond Street salesroom, which has remained its London base ever since. On January 11, 2000 Sotheby's took a historic step when it became the first international art auction house to hold auctions on the Internet.



In **Octopussy** 007 attends an auction in the fashionable salesroom at New Bond Street. Here he has a tense bidding competition for a *Faberge* Egg with the exiled Afghan prince Kamal Khan. When they both leave the building we see a fine picture of its exterior. The greenish bookstall where Bond buys a magazine was built especially for the film.

Around Bond Street, two of the best hotels of London can be found, both of them having a strong Bond connection. North of Oxford Circus, at **1c Portland Place**, the **Langham Hotel** served as the exterior of Bond's 'Hotel de l'Europe' in St. Petersburg, in **GoldenEye**.



Even more notoriously connected with the world of 007 is the world famous **Dorchester**, on **Park Lane**, East of Hyde Park. The Dorchester's long-lasting tie to the franchise started in 1961, when Terence Young spent some time here re-writing the **Dr.No** script. Other highlights include the introduction of George Lazenby as 007 in 1968, the return-of-Connery negotiations in 1971 and the introduction of Roger Moore as 007 in 1972.

In **GoldenEye** Natalya has a meeting with her former colleague Boris in the church 'Our Lady of Smolensk' in St Petersburg. While her approach to the church was shot at the **Chapel of West Brompton Cemetery**, close to Earl's Court, the interior scenes were filmed in **St Sophia Church in Moscow Road** in the London suburb Bayswater. Despite its location in Moscow Road it is not a Russian Orthodox Church but a Greek Orthodox one. The first Greek Orthodox Community was established in London in the 1670s. In 1877 they built the magnificent Church of the Divine Wisdom (St Sophia). You have access to the church on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays before noon and at the vesper service at 5pm on Saturdays.





The vestibule is decorated with elaborate, Byzantine mosaics. Walking down the middle aisle of the church under the big iron cross you are, like Natalya, immediately affected by its gloomy, eerie atmosphere.

West Brompton Cemetary and chapel



The final London location we want to take you to is actually quite far from the city centre, and to be honest only worth visiting if you are in the area:

Brent Cross Shopping Centre, where **Tomorrow Never Dies'** backseat driven BMW car chase was filmed on **level 4**. Take the Northern Tube line and exit at Brent Cross. Take the bus no. 210, a 5 minute ride, to the shopping centre and find the **North Car Park**. Not as exciting as many other London locations so spend your time wisely in this vibrant city...

As mentioned before, London offers, apart from the Bond locations, a multitude of famous sights, many museums and galleries, numerous restaurants and nightclubs etc. Most likely there will be some more future Bond locations to follow. So, the bustling, vibrant capital of Great Britain will always remain a feast to visit. If you are interested in additional information on film- and book locations, we can recommend the following two books: *James Bond's London* by Gary Giblin, covering various Bond related locations from the films, books and real life, and *The Worldwide Guide To Movie Locations Presents London* by Tony Reeves, covering general London film locations.

The TWINE boat chase

The pre-title sequence of **The World Is Not Enough** is, apart from being the longest ever, without doubt the most spectacular. It was to propel 007 into the new millennium and what better place to do that than at London's Millennium Dome. But, how does one get there? There are many 'normal' ways, but James Bond found a good alternative. After an explosion is set off at **MI6 at Vauxhall Cross**, Bond spots the 'Cigar Girl' from the Bilbao bank on a boat in the Thames. He quickly decides to use Q's latest invention, a gadget laden speedboat, and starts to pursue her.



After passing the **Houses of Parliament** and **Big Ben**, the action follows to the next bridge in eastern direction. **Hungerford Bridge** marks the spot where the Cigar Girl is on her way to cut off 007. In a rapid sequence, the pair pass **Waterloo Bridge** crashing the Cigar Girl into **Waterloo Pier**. From **Waterloo Pier**, the boat chase action switches to **Tower Bridge**. To get there from *Vauxhall Cross*, walk to the *Embankment Underground Station* and get on to *District Line* in the direction of *Upminster*. Exit at *Tower Hill* and when walking in southern direction you will find the next boat chase locations.



Crossing **Tower Bridge** in south-eastern direction, you can explore **St. Saviour's Dock**, a tidal inlet overlooked by swanky warehouse offices. The Cigar Girl and Bond do enter this narrow inlet, but the next action shots were actually filmed in the **Isle of Dogs** or also known as **Docklands**, miles away.

To get there, walk back to *Tower Hill Underground Station*. Transfer to the *Docklands Light Railway (DLR)* and go towards *Lewisham* and exit at *Crossharbour & London Arena*. A scenic journey takes you to new exciting boat chase locations...



Getting out of the train you should follow the signs to the **Millwall Inner and Outer Docks** till you get to Pepper Street, where **Glengall Bridge** can be found. The bridge actually connects the east and west sides of the Isle of Dogs. After the Cigar Girl passes the bridge just before closing, we see Bond submerging the Q boat in front of it and continuing his hot pursuit. A pleasant walk to the southeast corner of Millwall Docks will surely make you recall another highlight of the pre-title sequence.



At Millwall Outer Dock (picture left) the spectacular barrel roll was staged by stunt co-ordinator Simon Crane



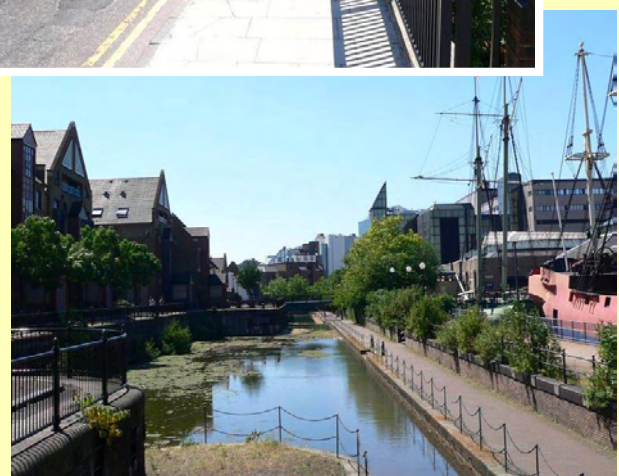
It was along the southern edge of **Millwall Outer Dock** where one of the most impressive stunts was performed. We refer to the stunning barrel roll, in which 007 flies over the Cigar Girl's speed boat. Between these two highlights, other shots were filmed at **Royal Victoria Dock**.

To get to this place, walk back to *East India* tube station and go in the direction of *Bank*, exit at *Shadwell*, transfer to *East London Line* and exit at *Wapping*. From here, you should take Wapping Lane Street straight ahead till you get to **Tobacco Dock**. You will easily recognize the tiny Ornamental Canal featured in the film. Do not go looking for the 'London Canoe Club'... it was built for the occasion.

Coming back to *Crossharbour & London Arena Docklands Station*, you should go in the direction of *Beckton*, exit at *Royal Victoria*. Here Bond's boat approaches the dangerous girl while she fires at him, incinerating an old sailboat, which can still be found there. The area has changed a bit and some new structures have been built.



Back to the DLR Station, your next stop is *Canary Wharf*. From *Royal Victoria*, you should go to *Lewisham* and exit at *Canary Wharf*. Going out of the station you will be impressed by its Manhattan-style skyscrapers. The area is home to Britain's tallest buildings. With a height of 800 feet, the **Canary Wharf Tower** is the highest building in the country, standing in the middle of Canada Square. Travelling in eastern direction you will get to **Trafalgar Way Bridge** where the Cigar Girl crashes through a police boat, after which a huge explosion blocks 007's way through.. The area was being renewed during filming in 1999 and today it looks pretty different. Standing beneath **Trafalgar Way Bridge** you should be able to recognize the exact location from the film. It is highly recommendable to take a detour to see this impressive area. Due to the proximity of this area to the **Millennium Dome**, we suggest you next visit this location instead of **Tobacco Dock** first.



Back to *Canary Wharf Station* and for an even more scenic journey we recommend to transfer to DLR (Docklands Light Railway) in the direction of *Beckton* and exit at *East India*. From this area, you will have great views of the impressive **Millennium Dome**, which was the perfect setting for the high-altitude confrontation between 007 and the Cigar Girl. The Dome will be the 2012 Olympic venue for gymnastics and other sports. Your last stop is **Tobacco Dock** in the district of Wapping.

Walking in western direction, a canal walk takes you to the exact spot where the two policemen were surprised and soaked. Bond then steers his boat towards the 'London Canoe Club', crashing into it and consequently lands on **Wapping Lane street**. The action then proceeds at **The Historic Dockyard** in Chatham, Kent.

TOMORROW

SPIEGEL

DIE ZEIT

28 Today and tomorrow

You cannot claim that Hamburg is one of the most exotic Bond locations. On the contrary, the inhabitants of Hamburg (to avoid the term 'Hamburgers') are more reputed for their Hanseatic soberness coupled with an almost British sense of self-assured understatement. Quite a few Germans even regard Hamburg as a suburb of London on the continent.

Her history over the centuries has been more directed by the open-minded far-sightedness of her efficient merchants than by the arbitrary and selfish interests of any kings or noblemen. This is expressed by her official name *Freie und Hansestadt* (Free Hanseatic City) *Hamburg*. Her people are grass-rooted and cosmopolitan at the same time.

Welcome to the Hotel Atlantic Kempinski Hamburg

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Tropical beaches and breathtaking scenery are not on offer. Instead of that you will find elegant boulevards and shopping malls like the *Junfernstieg* (Path of Virgins) and *Monkebergstrasse*, posh residential districts like *Blankenese*, recreation areas like the *Aussenalster* (Outer Alster Lake) and *Hagenbeck's Zoo*, and above all the city's main feature, the second largest container harbour in Europe.

Founded in 808, Hamburg is Germany's second largest city (1,8 million inhabitants). In the 13th century, together with Bremen and Lubeck she founded the *Hanse*, a federation of cities along the North and Baltic Sea in the middle Ages. During World War II the city was completely destroyed, but after the war she was rebuilt into an elegant, prospering metropolis.

Apart from the harbour, Hamburg is also famous for its red-light district at the *Reeperbahn* and the *Grosse Freiheit* (Great Freedom). As Raymond Benson put it in his novel *Tomorrow Never Dies*, the nearby *Herbertstrasse*, where working girls display their wares in shop windows, is a real eye-opener. Also one of the most incredible musical careers started here. In the *Indra*, a strip joint at the *Grosse Freiheit*, and in the *Star-Club*, *Grosse Freiheit* No. 39, four young pop musicians from Liverpool called The Beatles, used to play in 1962 before their career rocketed sky-high. The *Star-Club* burned down in the eighties. The edifice has now been rebuilt and in its inner courtyard is a plaque, where all the singers and bands that performed here, have been carved into it. Apart from The Beatles you find names like e. g. Fats Domino, Brenda Lee, Jerry Lee Lewis and so on. In the nearby *Star Club Yesterday Café*, Beatles memorabilia is on sale.

Hamburg is also a newspaper capital. Some of Germany's most reputed national magazines like *Der Spiegel* (The Mirror), *Der Stern* (The Star) and *Die Zeit* (The Times) are all published here. So Hamburg was an appropriate location for the headquarters of the megalomaniac media mogul Elliot Carver in **Tomorrow Never Dies (TND)**. For the Bond fan the city is easy to explore. All locations, apart from the airport, are in downtown Hamburg within walking distance. For the general sightseeing you can go on tours which depart every twenty minutes from the central train station.

When you arrive from overseas you are already on the first Bond location, the **Airport Hamburg Fuhlsbüttel**. The scenes where Bond has a look at the newspapers, rents his car and has a conversation with 'AVIS-agent' Q were shot in **Terminal T4 Departures**. After leaving the escalator to the first floor you will see a spacious area between the counters.



Here the news stand (on the left-hand side) and the AVIS-booth (on the right-hand side) were especially built for the film. The AIRPORT EXPRESS bus shuttle connects Hamburg Airport with the station *Ohlsdorf*. From here you get to the central train station either by *Schnellbahn* (Rapid Transit Rail) line S1 *Wedel* or by Underground line U1 *Ohlsstedt*.



The **KEMPINSKI HOTEL Atlantic**, one of the best luxury hotels in all of Europe, is the principal location of Bond's actions in Hamburg. Situated on the banks of the *Aussenalster*, it was opened in 1909. The guest list reads like a who's-who of world celebrities. The first man on the moon Neil Armstrong, the former American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Yehudin Menuhin, Paul McCartney, Madonna, Michael Jackson, Sean Connery, Roger Moore and Kim Basinger, to name but a few, all chose the Atlantic as their temporary domicile when they visited Hamburg. In July 1997 **TND's** director Roger Spottiswoode, Pierce Brosnan, Gotz Otto and some 150 crew members stayed in the Atlantic for the location shooting in Hamburg. In the film the hotel is introduced by a night-shot of its unmistakable emblem that decorates its façade like a figure-head on the bow of a gigantic ocean liner.

The interior scenes of Bond's hotel room were shot in the ballroom of the Stoke Poges Golf Club near London. For more info on this location see our story 'Another time, another place'.



After leaving Paris Carver, Bond runs over a catwalk along some flagpoles. This was on the **roof of the hotel**. The following fights took place in two different London printing shops. Then the action is back in Hamburg. 007 runs around the entrance of the subway station at **Kleine Rosenstrasse**, crosses **Monkebergstrasse**, gets into his BMW, that is parked just in front of **St. Petri Church** and escapes towards the **Steintorwall**. In the background of this sequence another landmark of Hamburg is visible, the neo-renaissance-style City Hall.



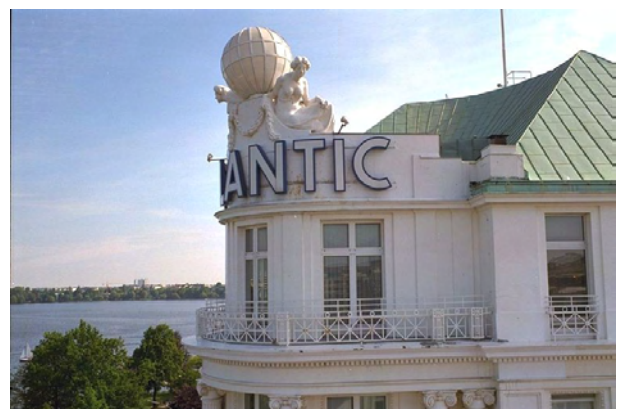
While telephoning with Carver on his mobile Bond is driving on **Ballindamm** and **Lombardsbrücke** anti-clockwise around the **Binnenalster** (Inner Alster Lake). Standing on the **Lombardsbrücke** with its picturesque lanterns you will have the most beautiful vista of the whole of Hamburg, the fountain in the centre of the **Binnenalster** backdropped by the elegant buildings of the **Junfernstieg**.



Back at the hotel 007 turns from **An der Alster** into the **Holzdam**. That is not possible in real life. Only for the shooting of these scenes the direction of the one-way street **Holzdam**, in front of the hotel entrance, was completely reversed. When Bond approaches the entrance you can see the head porter Joachim Lechner for some seconds in the background. The long serving employee of the Atlantic was very proud of this. Unfortunately he died in 1998. Standing **on the roof of the opposite Ibis Hotel**, Carver's henchman Stamper observes Bond's arrival.



After disposing of the murderous Dr Kaufman 007 steps onto the **balcony of the Atlantic Suite**. From here he scales up a ladder to the **Atlantic sign** on the roof. This ladder was specially constructed and brought into position on the suite's balcony just for the filming. From the sidewalk you can still see two of the holes where it was screwed to the wall.





The ensuing car chase inside the multi-storey car park was orchestrated at Brent Cross Shopping Mall in London (using 17 different BMWs). Only when the cars appear on the roof of the car park, we are back in Hamburg. In spite of the sign 'ATLANTIC HOTEL Garagen', it is the **parking garage of the department store *Horten*** at *Steintorwall*. Do remember that this location is only accessible during German business hours (Mon.-Fry.: till 8.00 p.m., Sat.: till 4.00 p.m., Sun.: closed). Standing at the entrance of subway station *Hauptbahnhof* and looking west into the *Monckebergstrasse* you have exactly the same view as the camera had in the scene where the car flies through the air after smashing the railing of the parking deck.



It crashes into **the first shop window of the department store *KAUFHOF***, which was converted into an AVIS Rent-a-Car office for the filming. For this sequence a BMW was catapulted from the back of a truck into the pane of glass. This was the end of Bond's adventures in Hamburg.



Not surprisingly, Hamburg was the location for the German premiere of **Tomorrow Never Dies** in December 1997, with the gala event afterwards taking place at the **KEMPINSKI HOTEL Atlantic**, with more than 1000 guests in attendance, including the film's stars Pierce Brosnan, Michelle Yeoh, Jonathan Price and Götz Otto; plus director Roger Spottiswoode and Producer Michael G. Wilson. The party, hosted by United International Pictures, went on until 7am the next morning.

Occupying about 85 percent of the *Iberian Peninsula*, Spain is bordered on the west by Portugal; in the northeast it borders France, from which it is separated by the tiny principality of Andorra and by the mighty Pyrénées Mountains. Elsewhere the country is bounded by water: by the Mediterranean Sea to the east and southeast, by the Atlantic Ocean to the northwest and southwest, and by the Bay of Biscay (an inlet of the Atlantic Ocean) to the northwest. The Canary Islands, in the Atlantic Ocean off the north-western African mainland, and the Balearic Islands, in the Mediterranean, also form parts of Spain, as do Ceuta and Melilla, two small enclaves in North Africa that Spain has ruled for centuries. The total area of the national territory is 194'898 square miles, (504.784 square Kilometers). The diversity of the Spanish landscape, together with low cost production climate, caused many film makers to come to Spain and shoot their films here.

During most of Bond's visits, Spain doubled for other countries. The first time Bond fans saw a glimpse of Spain was back in 1963 in **From Russia With Love**. While doing studio work on the Istanbul underground water reservoir scenes, the script called for a large amount of wild brown rats to run through the cellars. Since English law restrictions had made it impossible to use real wild rats, the crew experimented first with tame white rats dipped in chocolate milk (!). When that didn't work out, director Terence Young went to the Spanish capital Madrid and ordered 200 wild brown rats. They were delivered at a small rented garage that had been transformed into part of the underground reservoir. While the crew was protected by a glass sheet, that scene was finally filmed to everyone's satisfaction..., in Spain.

Because of various weather and helicopter related problems, the **You Only Live Twice** – second unit crew shot part of the *Little Nellie* helicopter chase in the skies above Torremolinos, on the Spanish south coast, a few years later in 1967. The rough landscape matched the Japanese volcano-park perfectly, and when looking at the scene now, it is almost impossible to see what was filmed where. After this, it would officially take Bond 33 years before returning to the country. He did however also return in 1983, a short visit, by many regarded as unofficial. But more about this later. Let start our tour in the north and work our way to the south..

The north: Bilbao, dealing with Swiss bankers

Located in northern Spain, Bilbao is the capital of the *Bizkaia* region. Founded in the Middle Ages, its name is thought to derive from '*Bi albo*' (in Basque meaning 'two sides'), in reference to the two banks of the Nervion Estuary on which it stands.

The fact that the Estuary was largely navigable meant that its port, safer than those on the coast, handled the Castilian merchandise heading for Europe. Spanish Queen Juana granted the right to create a trade consulate as far back as 1511. Early foreign trade relations grew steadily with Great Britain, exporting steel and importing coal. Through the years, Bilbao has always considered itself to be the Basque-region capital with the most British style. That might just have been one of the reasons why the filmmakers were attracted to shoot part of the pre-title sequence for 1999's **The World Is Not Enough (TWINE)** in this lovely city.



When you enter the city of Bilbao you should follow the signs to *Centro urbano*, taking you to the centre of the city. You will reach *Plaza San Pío X*, a small but busy roundabout and cross *Puente de Deusto*, a bridge which crosses the *Río Nervión* (River Nervion). At this point you can see the main tourist attraction, the futuristic **Guggenheim Museum**, on the other side of the bridge. When you have passed the second traffic light, after some meters you will get to an imaginary roundabout, turn left to *calle Alameda Mazarrredo* and park your car as soon as you find a place. All the locations are really close to each other and they can easily be explored on foot.

Designed by the architect Frank O. Gehry to serve as an architectural landmark recognizable worldwide, the Guggenheim Museum represents an outstanding example of the most avant-garde architecture of the 20th century. Finished in 1997, the building comprises a number of interconnected volumes, which some of them are sandstone orthogonal shapes that offer a solid foundation, while other titanium-clad sections curve and flow in glimmering light. These volumes combine with glass walls, which lend an air of transparency to the entire building. Despite displaying famous modern and contemporary art collections, the building's exceptional architecture itself seems to attract even more attention. It is open every day, except Monday, from 10 am to 8 pm. The entrance fee is 10 Euro which includes a guided tour at scheduled times.



The building opposite the Guggenheim Museum, was used as 'La Banque Suisse de L'Industrie'. It is in fact a law office. You will immediately recognize the building which our hero jumps down from. It was exactly from **the sixth floor**, Bond holding a briefcase with the help of a curtain sash cord. As Michael Apted explained: *"This is where we tell people 'you are in a Bond movie'. Within one and a half minutes of sitting down. The stunts are real. This is our signature."*



The opening scene shows us the stunning Guggenheim, the shot was taken from **Calle Iparraguirre**. Just seconds before, we watch Bond walking on the street in a sequence taken at **the corner of Calle Henao**. A lot of pubs and restaurants are waiting for you, as the Basque cuisine is highly recommendable.



Returning to the museum you should go to **the bridge Puente de la Salve** which crosses the river, bringing a major flow of traffic into the city. Another shot of the futuristic museum was taken from here. Here was also the scene filmed in which 007 is carrying the silver suitcase stuffed with money. Filming in Bilbao took from 16 to 18 February 1999, a reason why the crew had serious problems. On the one hand the weather, it rained all the time, on the other hand, huge crowds of people made shooting very difficult.



Apart from the Bond locations, you should visit one of Bizkaia's greatest attractions: Its coast. Bizkaia suits the label 'land of contrasts'. It hardly seems possible that, in one single province and simply by changing valleys, we can go from industrial areas to nature reserves. The fishing village of Bermeo for instance is not to be missed. About 75 kilometers to the east, the city of San Sebastián is also a nice place you just might want to visit.

The Centre: Bardenas Reales, a miracle of nature

Travelling southwards from Bilbao towards Zaragoza, an area labelled as 'the little Spanish Colorado' lies waiting for you: *Bardenas Reales*, a desert-like region in the heart of the country. Close to the city of Tudela, this area was used as the exterior of the nuclear facility where Bond meets dr Christmas Jones in **TWINE**. The interior scenes, including the shoot-out with Renard, had all been previously filmed at Pinewood. The impressive landscape is well worth a visit if you're in the area. *La Ribera* in southern Navarra, the region best known to the world for the running of the bulls, is an area of open plains, mainly crossed by the River Ebro, where a combination of large areas of irrigated land and thickets have created a characteristic vegetation pattern in a generally arid landscape.



Tudela, the main town in La Ribera, was founded around the 14th century by the Arabs. It was seat of the Casio dynasty of Kings. After being reconquered by the Christians, three different cultures lived in Tudela more than 400 years: Moors, Jews and Mozarabs (Christians). The Moorish and Jewish quarters of Tudela became the most prestigious in Navarra. Since the 1960s Tudela has been an important industrial centre, based on the agro food and metal sectors.

Close to Tudela, hidden behind a barren and inhospitable appearance, one of the most interesting sceneries in the Iberian Peninsula can be found: **Las Bardenas Reales**. Erosion has created a moonlike landscape with gullies, high and bare plateaux and solitary hillocks.

We find two main areas within this natural park, *La Bardena Blanca* in the centre and *La Bardena Negra* in the south. The first one holds the best known and most spectacular landscape, which was brought to the attention of EON Productions in order to film the exteriors of a nuclear testing site for **TWINE**, doubling for Kazakhstan, Central Asia.

In Spain, the crew had serious problems finding a location where they were allowed to use a certain amount of gunfire and explosions. However, *Las Bardenas Reales* proved the perfect location, since this area also features one of the largest firing ranges in Spain, used by the Spanish Air Force and NATO.



Coming from *Zaragoza* (A-68) you should take exit nr.18 and follow the signs *N-121 c to Tudela*. After 4 Km and passing two roundabouts you will enter the historic city of *Tudela*. Follow the signs to *zona monumental-ayuntamiento* (town hall) and when you get a to small roundabout turn right towards *centro ciudad* (city centre). You will immediately pass another roundabout that leads you to the centre, follow the signs to 'ayuntamiento', when you have passed a traffic light turn left to *Pamplona* (NA-134). After some meters you will cross a bridge over the river Ebro, one of the longest rivers of Spain. From here the road becomes very wide, after 11,5 km and before reaching a petrol station you will find a brown sign to *Bardenas Reales*, turn right and you will enter through a narrow road.



After 9 km, you will reach *El poligono de tiro* where NATO has their firing ranges. Follow the signs to *Carcastillo* and you will be driving the same route as Bond and his Russian 'colleagues' did. Three km away you will see a small green sign on the road. Turn right here because this road will lead you to a farm where you can park your car and explore the area on foot. Here's where Bond met the scientist dr Christmas Jones and later he has his first meeting with the terrorist Renard inside the bunker. After a fierce gunfight, Renard escapes with the plutonium on board of his plane, taking off from the same runway NATO uses here.



It is highly recommendable to visit *Las Bardenas Reales*; it is a place you really should not miss. This magnificent area of great natural and scenic value can be explored in many different ways.

You will find authorised routes for bicycles and many others for cars. It is also recommendable to park your car and enjoy trekking to discover this natural environment. *Las Bardenas Reales* conceals many interesting examples of steppe-type fauna and flora. This area is home around 25 kinds of birds, such as eagles, vultures and owls; 28 kinds of mammals, such as bats, foxes, wild cats and wild boar. Numerous fish, amphibians and reptiles inhabit the pools. To avoid the noise of the aircrafts, visit *Las Bardenas Reales* on the weekend and on Bank holidays, when all firing practice and flights are suspended. On the other hand, you should be warned that during Summer temperatures can easily reach 40 degrees Celsius.

The Centre: Cuenca, a magical environment

Located in Central Spain, Cuenca is the capital of one of the largest Spanish provinces, Castilla La Mancha, with more than 17,000 square Kilometers, and the only one that borders four provinces (Guadalajara, Albacete, Ciudad Real and Toledo). It also borders Teruel and Valencia to the east and the Community of Madrid to the west. Cuenca has been recently declared a World Heritage city by UNESCO, because of its collection of historic and artistic buildings. The streets are full of palaces, convents and large houses, which are all very representative of the style of a medieval town.

One symbol of Cuenca's connections with art can be found in the reconstruction of *Las Casas colgadas* (Hanging Houses), a civil architectural work of the Baroque period of the 18th century. It is worth visiting *El Puente de San Pablo* (San Pablo's bridge), from where you will be able to see the Hanging Houses.



Opposite the Hanging Houses you will find the National Parador of Tourism, where Pierce Brosnan stayed during shooting in Cuenca. Built on land belonging to an old Convent, it represents one of the finest buildings in the city. Dominated by natural beauty spots, lies the incomparable landscape of the mountains of Cuenca. One of the best examples of this beautiful unspoilt scenery can be found in 'Los Callejones' (The Alleyways), a breathtaking geological stony landscape, where rocks are laid out in straight lines like alleys, as a result of water erosion. This phenomenon has given the place its character and its name.



It was the third Spanish location the Bond crew used in Spain for **TWINE**, shooting at the end of May and early June. The place was the perfect location for a pipeline construction site at the Caucasus Mountains in Turkey.



When you get the village of Cuenca you should follow the signs to *casco antiguo* (old town) and *centro ciudad* (city centre). After crossing an avenue you should follow the signs towards *Ciudad Encantada* (the enchanted city). You will immediately penetrate the mountain range of Cuenca (road CM-2105).



After 9 Km you will find signs to *Villalba de la Sierra* and after 0,5 km turn right to *Las Majadas*. From now you will start climbing through a scenic landscape and the road becomes pretty narrow and steep. After 15 Km of serpentines and slopes you will get to the small village of *Las Majadas*.

Follow the signs to *Los Callejones* and turn right to *Uña*. After about two km you will find the place where Bond arrives with his BMW Z8 in order to meet King's head of security Davidov and Elektra. Here is where a picturesque Turkish village, Coptic Church and pipeline site miraculously emerged... surrounded by Spanish vegetation.



The South: Almeria and the Costa del Sol

The rugged mountains and hot desert of Southern Spain, so close to the nice coast and beaches, already made it perfectly clear to filmmakers in the 1960s, that this area could potentially save a production loads of money. Instead of having to travel the globe from location to location, many sites could be found in this Andalusian region of Spain.

Kevin McClory's **Never Say Never Again** also filmed in this area. Two tiny scenes were shot around Cabo de Gata, a large peninsula east of Almeria. After Bond and Leiter are 'launched' from a submarine, they can be seen flying through the air in the 80's equivalent of **Thunderball's** jetpack. The puzzled Bedouins and their oasis were filmed at **Las Salinas de Cabo de Gata**, a small park on the *Cabo*, or cape. The flimsy landing was filmed on the other side of the cape, at the rocky coast of **Los Escullos**, next to the *Castillo San Felipe*. Here 007 and Leiter put on their goggles and go underwater. The rest of the underwater action was done in the Bahamas.

Some of the earliest major productions to be partially filmed here were *Cleopatra* and *Lawrence Of Arabia*, in the Sierra Nevada around Tabernas. Because of the area's close resemblance to the North American Wild West, other classic productions soon followed. Clint Eastwood was brought here by Italian director Sergio Leone for *A Fistful Of Dollars* and its successor *For A Few Dollars More*. Complete Wild West towns were built in this area and left behind for other productions. That's the reason why so many of the 60's westerns look so much alike. They were all filmed in and around what is now known as 'Mini-Hollywood', 'Texas Hollywood' and 'Western Leone', three small Wild West theme-parks in the Tabernas surroundings, consisting of 60's and 70's Wild West film sets. 'Mini-Hollywood' is the most interesting one, being the tiny hamlet featuring in the before mentioned Leone *Dollars*-classics. 'Western Leone' features the McBain ranch from Leone's other classic *Once Upon A Time In The West*.

Also in more recent years, major film productions used the Sierra Nevada, almost always having it double for other regions in the world. For instance, many scenes for *Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade* were filmed here, most importantly the tank chase. Other notable productions filmed here are the early Connery non-Bonds *Shalako* and *The Hill*. Connery must have liked the area a lot, since he owned a house on Marbella's Golden Mile for years. He sold it in the late 90s.

Moving further west along the coast, the Costa del Sol is sunbather's paradise for most North Europeans. Starting at Malaga, the coast attracts millions of visitors annually and sleepy towns like *Torremolinos*, *Fuengirola* and *Estepona* come alive during the hot summers. The end of the Costa del Sol is marked by another Bond location, Gibraltar, which is in fact British territory. You can find out more about Gibraltar in our travel story 'The Rock'.

The South: Cádiz, three thousand years old

Located further to the West, with more than 300 sunny days a year and an average temperature of 18° Celsius, Cádiz is also known as '*La tacita de plata*' (the small silver cup). Set on a piece of land which is half island, half peninsula of nearly 7400 sq.m. , Cádiz was founded by the Phoenicians, a seafaring nation from Tiro, who made Gadir an important colony. Later Cádiz was to be taken over in turn by the Carthaginians, the Romans and the Moors, making it the oldest inhabited city in Europe and in the western world.

A cosmopolitan city, open to ideas both from East and Western Europe, it was used by Columbus as his point of departure for his second voyage to the New World. Formerly known as *Gades*, Cadiz was for centuries Spain's main port for ships sailing to and from America. A seafaring, trading town, particularly lively and vigorous, Cadiz surprises and appeals to the tourists at first sight due to its particular urban design which is so rational, with straight, narrow streets and gardens of great botanical variety by the sea, which surrounds and encompasses the town making it almost an island.

You will enter the city through the crowded *Avenida Ana de Vija* firstly and *Avenida de Andalucía* later on. Before getting to a large wall, the road splits in two. One road going to the left to *Parador Atlántico* and the other leading to the Port. Take the first one. You will pass the wall and shortly you will enter **the old centre**, where all Cuban scenes were filmed for **Die Another Day** under the direction of New Zealand-born filmmaker Lee Tamahori.



You should take the first street on the left and then you will get to *Avenida Campo del Sur*, a long boulevard, where you will see many small, coloured houses. Park your car near the *Roman Theatre* or behind **the Cathedral**. You will recognize its dome, clad with gilded tiles, from where you will have the exact same camera angle that was used in the scene where Bond is strolling through Havana.



When you reach *Plaza de la Catedral* (Cathedral Square), a small but busy square, take *Calle Compañía*, where you will find many small shops to get typical souvenirs from the city. This narrow street leads to another Bond location... when you reach the Post Office building, you will recognize a rectangular building on your left, **Mercado Central de Abastos**, which was used for the exterior shots of Raoul's Cigar Factory. It is a busy market, which is built on land belonging to an old Convent. The market is open to public from Monday to Saturday. Here you can get fresh fish and many kinds of fruits.



Come into the market and keep walking to the end, then go out and you will find **the small 'tunnel'** Bond takes to get to the Cigar Factory. Returning to Cathedral's Square, do not miss the chance to taste '*tapas*', typical small dishes from Cádiz and the South of Spain. Time to find yet another Bond location.



Moving from the left corner of the Cathedral, you will reach *Plaza Fray Félix* and *Iglesia de Santa Cruz* (Santa Cruz Church), the city's first cathedral. Walk across the mosaic tiles on the ground climbing *Calle Fray Félix*, you will reach a small stone tower. It is on this tower's rooftop, where Bond meets his Cuban contact Raoul. It is called **Torre del Sagrario**, it belongs to Santa Cruz Church and it was built in 1708. If you cannot find a way to get up, do not worry. If you go back to Cathedral's Square, you can climb to *Torre de Poniente* (the right tower side of the Cathedral), from where you will have magnificent views of the city, resembling the view from *Torre del Sagrario*. It is open every day from 10 am to 5.30 pm. The entrance fee is 3,50 Euro.



Following the signs to *Playa de la Caleta* from *Avenida Campo del Sur*, you will reach *Avenida Duque de Nájera*. A few meters away you will immediately recognize a white building on your left. The building was used as Bond's hotel in Havana. It is, in fact, called **Balneario de la Palma y del Real**, built between 1924 and 1926, to be used as a spa initially but altered to a hotel in later years. Nowadays the building is used as an underwater archaeological laboratory.

When going down the stairs to the beach called **Playa de la Caleta**, you will immediately remember Jinx's appearance from the sea, re-enacting the scene



from **Dr. No**. It was one of **Die Another Day**'s many references to Bond's cinematic history, celebrating 007's 40-year anniversary. During shooting in mid-April, the crew once again had serious problems with the weather, which became stormy and windy instead of the blue and balmy weather that they had counted on. *"It is very inclement. This is one of the worst series of storms on record. We've battled rain, wind and clouds and there's no end in sight, according to the weather reports"*, producer Michael Wilson said. But despite the weather forecasters' gloomy predictions, days later the sun reappeared and filming continued. The beach itself is great to relax on and it is also an ideal place to watch a beautiful sunset. The only structure not present is the wooden terrace, which was built only for the film.



'Dr. Alvarez DNA clinic' can also be seen from the beach. Its real name is **Castillo de San Sebastián** (San Sebastian Castle). It is not an island, as they make it look in the film. It's linked to the city through a long pier. Although the works of the castle started in 1706, in 1613 there was already an artillery tower in order to defend the coastal city from the attacks it suffered throughout history.



This is the fortress where Bond infiltrates and discovers Zao's DNA replacement therapy. Unfortunately, unlike the other fortress, you are not allowed to stroll inside on your own. You must join a guided free tour to get in. It is only open to public during the high season, from July to the beginning of September.





When you leave Cádiz, another small but nice Bond location is waiting for you. Travel towards the village of *San Fernando* (N-IV), only a few kilometers away from Cádiz. After passing a petrol station and getting to a roundabout, turn right towards *Playa de Camposoto*. After two kilometers, you will reach the exact spot where Bond was filmed driving the oldtimer car. You will easily recognize **the palm trees** only on the right side of the road. Here you should park your car and enjoy the area, which was awarded one of the Europe's finest beaches. Take some time for sunbathing and swimming!

The whole area around Cadiz offers an array of unique tourist attractions, such as beautiful golf courses and the 'Route of the Wines', the main city being *Jerez*, well known for its wines and sherry. Also interesting is the 'Route of the White Villages', a singular charm area, the name deriving from the dazzling white-washed walls, which are common to all these villages. About 100 kilometers from Cadiz, you can visit the town of *Tarifa*. This southern-most point of Europe is well known for its excellent windsurfing conditions.

By now you must have got more than enough reasons to consider visiting Spain. Whether you combine all the cities we discussed here in a grand tour, or simply visit either Cádiz or Bilbao, Spain is just a wonderful country. And we haven't even mentioned the splendour of its major cities Barcelona and Madrid.

Talking about Madrid...: EON once had the chance to use the area around Madrid. In 1981's **For Your Eyes Only**, we learn from a small road sign that hit man Hector Gonzales' villa is situated somewhere near the Spanish capital. Instead of embracing the chance to use Spain 'as Spain' for a change, the producers decided these scenes were to be filmed in..Greece (see our story 'A Drive in the Country'.)

30 Venetian Affair

'Venice! A magnificent city! A city with an irresistible appeal to the educated, because of its history as well as its present charms.' Though it is a bit of an elitist point of view from which Thomas Mann praises the north-Italian city in his novel 'Death in Venice' in 1912, he hits the nail right on the head. Also for the tourist of the 21st century Venice has lost nothing of its fascination.

Bond visited this unique city at the northern tip of the Adriatic Sea three times, first in 1963 in **From Russia With Love**. But at that time only some few snapshots of it were used as a background. No real action took place there. This was totally different in 1979. In **Moonraker** many of Venice's beauty spots, the world-famous ones and the hidden ones, were featured excellently. In 2006, EON returned to the beautiful city to film the spectacular finale of their reboot entry **Casino Royale**.

Apart from the Bond-sites you will find a multitude of cultural treasures and pieces of evidence of the city's glorious past. So take your time to appreciate it properly.



HOTEL DANIELI
LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL

Venice





In Venice there are about 15,000 buildings, among them 900 palaces and 105 churches. They are all built upon millions of tree-trunks (10 - 30 feet long), which are driven through the soft material into the solid ground of the lagoon. These buildings spread over more than 120 islands. Some 400 bridges span the 177 canals that separate these islands. The 2-mile-long (3 km) *Canal Grande*, shaped like a huge question mark, divides the city into two parts of almost equal size. Motor traffic is not possible in the narrow, winding alleys. For centuries the gondolas were the most important means of transportation. Today the entire freight and passenger traffic is done by motor boats. The gondolas are now as before, a major tourist attraction. Venice has about 307,000 inhabitants.

AD 452 is Venice's mythical year of foundation. After the Byzantine Emperor Justinianus destroyed the east-Gothic Empire in Italy in 553, Venice came under Byzantine rule. But this was only a pretty loose relation. This status of being practically autonomous, allowed the creation of a republic. In 697 the first *Doge* (duke), the head of state of the city-state, was elected. In 829 Venetian merchants brought the alleged relics of the Apostle Mark from Alexandria to Venice. The Holy Mark became patron saint of the city and his symbol, the lion, remained its heraldic coat of arms henceforth.

Conquests in Dalmatia and the total independence from Byzantium established Venice's dominance in the eastern Mediterranean around the turn of the millennium. The occupation and plundering of Constantinople (Byzantium) in the wake of the Fourth Crusade in 1204, in which Venice participated as a great power, contributed to the city's might. It also prevailed in the struggle between the north Italian city-states..

After the victory over Genoa in 1381 Venice became a superpower at that time and remained so for over a hundred years. After the discovery of America in 1492 and the sea-route to India in 1498 the world trade left the Mediterranean - the decline of Venice began. Wars against the Pope, the Holy Roman Empire, France, Spain and the Turks over the centuries destroyed Venice's power. Napoleon Bonaparte occupied the city in 1797, terminated its independence and handed it over to Austria. Apart from the French intermezzo 1805-14 it remained within the Austrian Empire till 1866. Then it became part of the newly founded Kingdom of Italy.

Today, for travellers by plane who arrive at Marco Polo Airport, there is a bus service to the city. It takes you to *Piazzale Roma* (Rome Square) near the train station. When you come to Venice by car, you have to leave your vehicle in one of the car parks near the above mentioned square (15\$ per day). In any case you will start your exploration of Venice at the *Piazzale Roma*. Although there are water taxis, the easiest and cheapest way to get to your hotel is by *vaporetto* (public steam boat), that takes you along all of *Canal Grande* down to St. Mark's Square and even to the surrounding islands.

At first sight Venice seems to be a labyrinth of little canals, narrow alleys, small squares and bridges, but with a good street map you will not really get lost. You will always find signs that lead you to *Piazzale Roma*, Rialto Bridge or St. Mark's Square or you will come across *Canal Grande*. So you can find your bearings again. Looking for the Bond-locations you will not only see the touristy side of the city, but you will also find the 'real' Venice with its Mediterranean ambience and you will be enchanted by its charm created out of grandeur and decay.



The **Piazza di San Marco (St. Mark's Square)** is the heart of Venice. Here the most important historical buildings are assembled. The *Basilica di San Marco* (St. Mark's Church) dominates the eastern side of the square. Though there are different architectural styles to be found, the church is mainly built in the style of Byzantine patterns. Construction started in 829, and it was only finished after numerous rebuilding in 1094. Adjacent to St. Mark's is the *Palazzo Ducale* (Doge's Palace), the former political centre of the 'Republic of Venice'. The Venetian-style palace was built over a period of 250 years from 1301 till 1550. Opposite, the 300 feet high (98,6 m) *Campanile* (bell tower) is located. When the mediaeval tower collapsed in 1902, it was rebuilt in the present shape and inaugurated in 1912. On three sides St. Mark's Square is flanked by administration buildings of the former 'Venetian Republic' and by museums. They now house elegant cafés and shops. On summer evenings, when music bands of the cafés play in front of the arcades and create a lush, Mediterranean atmosphere, St. Mark's Square is like a huge concert hall. Napoleon called it "the most beautiful drawing-room of the world".

The first pictures of Venice we see in **Moonraker** are filmed from the platform on top of the **Torre dell' Orologio (clock-tower)** at the northern side of St. Mark's Square. This Renaissance building with its big, blue astronomical clock plays a certain role later in the film. Supposedly it is accessible for tourists, but most of the time it is closed because of obscure reasons. Bond arrives at **the mole near Piazzetta di San Marco (small St. Mark's Square)** by Gondola. He goes to the **showroom of the glass manufacturer VENINI at Piazzetta dei Leoncini (small square of the little lions)**. VENINI has been one of the best reputed glassmakers of Venice since 1921. They refurbish their showroom every now and then, so it is no longer recognizable. Also the awning is gone.

From the Venini shop, 007 strolls through the glass factory (filmed at the Venini factory on the island of Murano) and enters the glass museum (which was filmed in the studios).



Here he discovers Dr. Goodhead among the museum visitors. When she leaves the group, Bond follows her outside. The little square they cross outside is in fact **the inner court of the Palazzo Pisani**, a private music school. This school, officially named *Conservatorio Benedetto Marcello* does not allow anyone in and the little sign outside saying 'no tourists' is taken seriously here. Another scene shot here occurs later in the film. At night Bond moors his gondola in the Canal Grande **behind the Palazzo Pisani** and ends up on the same inner court where he's attacked by Drax' henchman Chang. The first part of their fight was also filmed at the Pisani.



Remarkably enough, the exact same inner court was once more used in **Casino Royale**, almost 20 years later. After Bond chased Vesper through the narrow alleys of Venice, he finds her in the hands of Gettler, who, upon noticing Bond, holds her at gun point at this location. Bond has to escape a rain of machinegun fire and is helped by a few pillars or columns, which are positioned at the back of the inner court. From there, the action moves back to Pinewood Studios.

Back to **Moonraker**.. After spotting Dr. Holly Goodhead in the glass museum, Bond follows her when she leaves. While walking along a canal he tries to hit on her. The best starting point to get to this location is the *vaporetto*-station *Ca' d' Oro* (Golden House) at the *Canal Grande*. From the former golden façade this building got its name. A visit there gives you a good impression of the style of living in late-mediaeval Venice. To get to our 'point of interest' you walk the *Campo di Ca' d' Oro* to the north, then *Strada Nova* to the west.



After going over the first bridge you turn right into *Fondamento di San Felice*. At its end you turn left into ***Fondamento della Misericordia (Quay of Mercy)***. Behind another bridge you see ***Misericordia Nuova*** on your right-hand side. Here Bond tries to make advances to Holly. She reacts very edgy, turns him down and leaves him making off in the direction of the bridge you have just have crossed. Bond steps down the nearby little stairway to the waiting gondola. Parts of the ensuing gondola-chase were also filmed in this area. Walking some 100 yards to the northeast you will get upon the wooden ***Ponte dell' Abbazia (Bridge of the Abbey)***.



Looking to the east into ***Rio di Santa Catarina*** you see the canal out of which the gondola with the lovers comes. To the wall of the house on the left-hand side the fake traffic-lights were fixed. (In reality there are no traffic-lights in any of the canals of Venice.) After the motor boat of Bond's pursuers

had cut the gondola into two pieces, the half with the lovebirds floats into the direction of the bridge upon which you are standing. The major part of the chase was filmed in another quarter of Venice.



On the way back there is a good opportunity to visit some other locations from **Casino Royale**. When you're back at the *vaporetto*-station *Ca' d' Oro* and look to the other side of the *Canal Grande* you will see the *Pesceria*, or fish market. This is the building right next to the open air market which is held every day except Sundays. Here **at the market and Pesceria**, Vesper spotted Gettler when she and Bond sailed into Venice.

Another fascinating location is actually around where you are, close to *vaporetto*-station *Ca' d' Oro*. But the best way to fully see it is from the other side, from the market side in fact. So you can either walk or take a gondola which is also used here to just bring people to the other side. Standing at the market, looking back to the side where you previously were, you have the exact same view as visible in **Casino Royale**: the view of the collapsing palazzo during the finale. This whole sequence was extremely cleverly filmed, using a mixture of real footage and scale models. One of the houses is standing free from the others, having a canal on either side. A fake facade was used here, covering the whole house, making it look like a larger palazzo, collapsing without damaging the neighbours' houses. A large scale model of the palazzos was built on Pinewood's paddock tank, which could easily be matched with the exterior footage shot on location in Venice.



Partial Venice set, built over Pinewood's Paddock Tank



On your way to or from the market and *pesceria* you would have to cross *Ponte di Rialto*. This probably most-Venetian building (erected 1588 - 1592) is the most beautiful one of the three bridges spanning the *Canal Grande*. It is all in one, footbridge, shopping mall and viewpoint on the *Canal Grande*. 400 yards odd to the east lies the church *Santa Maria Formosa*. Here some scenes for the classic psycho-thriller *Don't Look Now* from 1973 with Donald Sutherland and Julie Christie were filmed. In the little alleys of this area the murderous, red-clad midget runs around and commits his crimes.

Our next excursion we start at the *vaporetto*-station **Ca' Rezzonico**. (*Ca'* is a short form of '*casa*', meaning 'house'.) In this palace Hugo Drax receives Bond, M and Minister Gray, who are all wearing gas masks and he points out, that he 'sometimes finds the British sense of humour rather difficult to follow.' In 1687 the extremely rich *Rezzonico* family, originally from Lombardy, bought the already existing palace and commenced to extend and modify it. One member of the family, *Carlo Rezzonico*, became Pope Clement XIII (1758 - 1769). In 1934 the City Council bought *Ca' Rezzonico* to house the Museum of Eighteenth-century Venice. Though its present furnishings and *objets d'art* are not original, it contains wonderful period decoration. The encounter between Drax and his uninvited guests takes place in the **ballroom**, which is particularly magnificent because of its marvellous ceiling

frescoes by *Giambattista Tiepolo* and its enormous Venetian lamps, made by the *Briati* glassmakers (all visible in the film). There is also a puppet theatre and a reconstruction of a period pharmacy.



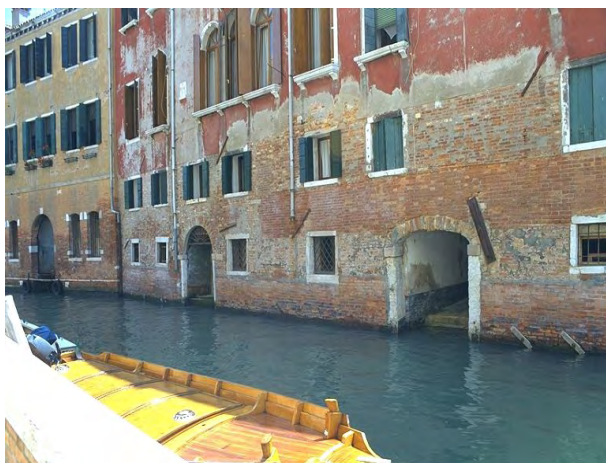
From *Ca' Rezzonico* you walk about 400 yards along the canal *Rio di San Barnaba* to the west, and if you turn left you will get to the bridge from where Bond spotted Vesper on a distant little bridge, in **Casino Royale**. When facing the little bridge, the buildings on your right were also visible in the film. When you turn right instead of left, you will reach *Campo San Barnaba*, a square with the church of San Barnaba that was used as the Venetian library in *Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade*.



Now just follow the crowd and after passing the church *Santa Maria dei Carmini* you reach *Campo dei Carmini*. From this square you see already **Ponte Foscari** and will perhaps recognize it as the little bridge that is passed during the wild gondola-chase in **Moonraker** several times. It's where the coffin drops into the water and where the boozer quits smoking.



Standing upon that bridge and looking eastward into **Rio di Santa Margherita**, you have exactly the view of the camera in the scene where Bond's gondola floats along the canal before the race begins. Following *Fondamento Foscari* in an eastern direction you will get to some further locations. The funeral boat appears from under **Ponte del Forno (Bridge of the Oven)** and Bond's doomed gondolier drops into the water in front of house number 3454.



The Venetian boat chase in **Moonraker** concludes with the most preposterous sequence of the entire Bond series. First, Bond's 'normal' gondola converts into a 'high-speed gondola' and then it undergoes a second transformation and becomes a hovercraft. With that, he races around on **St. Mark's Square** to the strains of the *Tritsch Tratsch Polka* by Johann Strauss. A really great way for a secret agent to camouflage himself - even a dove has to look twice!



When spying out Drax' Venetian laboratory, Bond gets involved in a fight with the Chinese martial arts expert Chang. After causing a lot of glass damage the combat is supposed to take place behind the astronomical clock of the already mentioned **Torre dell' Orologio** at the north side of St. Marks Square. Bond terminates the fight by throwing Chang through the blue dial plate of the astronomical clock into the grand piano of a music band playing underneath. That is, to say it mildly, a trifle 'unrealistic'. The clock face isn't made from glass but from enamel and directly below it is the main gateway to St. Mark's Square, so there would never stand a music band.



If you face the Torre dell' Orologio you should walk to the shops and cafes on the left side. This area was used in **Casino Royale**. When you walk all the way to the left corner of this covered promenade you will reach the location of the Swiss bank.



The building actually once was a bank, one can still read *Banca Commerciale Italiana* above the door, and so probably the crew used the interiors as well. The heavy brass doors are very recognizable and all that was needed was a fake 'Basel' sticker on the door to make it look like a Swiss bank. The correct address of the place is **San Marco Square 79A**.



on the other side. Follow it until you reach an alley called *Fressaria*. Here you turn right and take the first alley to the left. Just around the corner you will find a passageway called '**Sotoportego de le Colonne**'. In the film you can see Vesper enter this passageway and inside this dark alley another shot of Vesper was filmed in which she seems to be waiting for 007, luring him to the enemy.



When you walk a few steps back, the **second exit** leading out of the San Marco Square was also used in **Casino Royale**. Here we could see Vesper walking over the bridge and disappearing into the alley. If you follow her tracks and leave the main square behind you for just a moment, you will get to another small location which is rather difficult to find. The alley eventually leads to a small square where you should keep left and pass the Hotel San Gallo. That alley will cross the water and continue





From here, the easiest thing to do is return to the St. Mark's Square, to pick up where we left.

Leaving *Piazzetta di San Marco* to the east you enter the elegant promenade *Riva degli Schiavoni*. From the first bridge you have a very good view of **Ponte dei Sospiri (Bridge of Sighs)** that connects the Doge's Palace with the Dungeon of Venice. Some footage of this area is used as a background for the final scene in **From Russia With Love**. The second greatest lover of all times (after Bond) *Giacomo Casanova* (1725 - 1798) crossed the Bridge of Sighs many times, when he was imprisoned in Venice.



A few steps further on you get to one of the city's most prestigious and most Venetian institutions - the **HOTEL DANIELI**. Overlooking the lagoon since the late fourteenth century, the edifice is a blend of neo-gothic, romantic and oriental architectural styles and it is Dr. Holly Goodhead's accommodation in **Moonraker**.

The main feature of its reddish façade is eight small balconies with white balustrades and green awnings. The **balcony** upon which Holly steps in her sexy, off-the-shoulder nighty is the outermost left one on the first floor, directly above *Calle de le Rasse*.



Towards the end of the 14th century, on the express wishes of the Doge *Enrico Dandolo*, a magnificent palace, the *Palazzo Dandolo* was built at *Riva degli Schiavoni*. From the beautiful interior courtyard a golden staircase led to the first and second floors. At that time, the Venetian senate encouraged the construction of sumptuous buildings, not only to enhance the splendours of the city, but also to symbolize the power of the Venetian Republic.

Without doubt, of all the palaces which were built in that period, the most noble, with regards to beauty and position, was *Palazzo Dandolo*. As time went by it changed hands frequently, but fortunately each of the following owners did everything possible to preserve the splendours of the palace. After the fall of the Venetian Republic in 1797 the property was split up among different owners. In 1822 Giuseppe Dal Niel came on the scene. He started buying the various parts of the palace and turned them into a hotel. By 1840 he had accomplished this task and his nickname 'Danieli' became the name of the new hotel. It did not take long for the ROYAL DANIELI HOTEL to gain the fame of being a luxury hotel for famous and illustrious guests such as King William of Prussia, Charles Dickens, Richard Wagner, Honoré de Balzac, Greta Garbo and Charlie Chaplin. In room number 10, which is still greatly requested today for a romantic stay, the French novelists George Sands (a woman writing under a male pen name) and Alfred de Musset lived out their wonderful love story between 1833 and 1834.

Stepping out of the hustle and bustle of the promenade into the entrance hall of the DANIELI with its magnificent atrium, its golden staircase and its marbled lobby with stuccowork and Murano chandeliers is like immersing into centuries long past. Another unique experience is having breakfast on the *Terrazza Danieli*, the roof-top restaurant from where you have an unmatched view upon the

Lagoon of Venice with the entrance to the Grand Canal and the churches of *Santa Maria della Salute* and *San Giorgio Maggiore*.

The most lavishly furnished (and most expensive) apartment of the hotel is the ***Suite del Doge (Royal Suite)***. In this spacious room the scene was shot where Holly surrenders to the charms of 007 and they decide to 'pool their resources'. It is fitted out with a gilded timbered ceiling, sumptuous damasks, gold-framed paintings, heavy carpets and antique furniture. An eye-catcher is the huge wooden fireplace, which is visible in the film. You might really wonder how two underpaid secret agents can afford such a posh accommodation.

Half of its shore line is sandy beaches, so today it is a first-rate international tourist centre with some fashionable hotels.

Since the sunlight for taking photos at *San Nicolò* is best before noon, it would be a good idea to combine the exploration of the monastery in the morning with a beach outing in the afternoon. The easiest way of getting there is - again - by *vaporetto*. From the jetty it is a pleasant twenty minute stroll to the north. Approaching *San Nicolò* you will realize that it now houses the 'Centre of European Masters in Human Rights and Democratization'. This is an association of European universities and the Municipality of Venice, where students can take a



From Venice Bond takes off to Rio de Janeiro to keep track of Drax' crooked business. After his adventures there he has a briefing with M and Q in the Secret Service HQs which is supposed to be located in an Argentinian monastery. The exterior shots of this sequence were taken at a house in Rio. The interior scenes were filmed in *San Nicolò*, Venice. Looking upon the city map you will notice that there are several churches of this name in Venice. The one we are looking for is the **Monastery of *San Nicolò on the Lido di Venezia***. The Lido is a seven-mile-long (12 km) island, protecting Venice from the open sea.

degree in international relations, law, philosophy, political science and sociology, while studying in an international environment. This program was launched in October 1997 and since then *San Nicolò* has not been accessible to the public anymore. But is this an obstacle for a hard core Bond-locations-explorer?

Beside the church there is a little path leading to a wooden gate. On each side of the gate is an intercom. Press the button of the one on the right hand side and explain in a polite way your request. You will probably be let in, and if you tell even more

politely to the secretary face-to-face why you are here, you will perhaps not only be allowed to the inner courtyard, but also to the interior that interests you.

The Monastery of *San Nicolò*, situated adjacent to the 17th century church of the same name, was founded by Benedictine monks in AD 1053. It underwent fundamental alterations in the 15th century. In 1530 the colonnades with the well as its centre were built, only one wing of the arcades from the 14th century remained.



When you ascend the stairs from the entrance gate, you get to the **aisle on the first floor** where Bond enters the building. The room with the mock fireplace in the background, where two ‘monks’ are training martial arts is the **TV-Room** of the students. In the beautiful, now tranquil **inner courtyard Q** tests his usual gadgets, like the deadly *bolas*, the laser gun and the hidden machine gun. M’s office is the **Capitol Room at the eastern wing of the arcades**, which is now used as a room for the tutors. Before leaving the place, don’t forget to pay a visit to the Church of *San Nicolò*. From here it is only some 800 yards to the beaches on the opposite side of the island. Some areas of the beach belong to the respective nearby hotels. For the movie buff the most interesting one is the *Hotel des Bains* (Bath Hotel), which is the setting of Thomas Mann’s novel *Death In Venice* (1912) and of the Visconti-film of the same name (1971) with Dirk Bogarde.



On your way back from the Lido Island, it might be interesting to make a last short stop at another island, La Guidecca, a small strip of land opposite of St. Mark’s Square. Here, at the terrace of the Cipriani Hotel, Bond was on his boat, telling M “the bitch is dead” in **Casino Royale**.

According to the script and call sheets, Bond was supposed to throw his laptop computer into the water after his phone call with M, but for some reason this scene did not make it into the final print. (When watching the film again you should notice how the laptop mysteriously disappears from Bond’s boat.)

There would be so much more to say about Venice, about the *Carnevale di Venezia*, the paintings of *Canaletto* or the *Vivaldi concerti*. But it’s up to each individual to find his or her own lasting impression of this unique city built upon water.

TOP 10 MOST BEAUTIFUL JAMES BOND LOCATIONS

10. Sirkeçi train station, Istanbul, Turkey

The Sirkeçi station is Istanbul's main train station and it doubled for every train station in *From Russia With Love*. Once the end station of the famous Orient Express, it is still filled with that nostalgic atmosphere from long forgotten times. Read more about the Sirkeçi on pages 44-45.



9. Stoke Park Club, Stoke Poges, UK

This beautiful mansion might be one of the most famous golf clubs in the world. Situated in the countryside just outside London, Stoke Park is best known for the classic golf match between James Bond and Auric *Goldfinger*. More recently the ballroom was used as the interior of Bond's hotel room in Hamburg in *Tomorrow Never Dies*. Read more about Stoke Park on page 15.

8. Centro Ceremonial Otomi, Mexico

High up in the mountains north of Mexico City, the Centro Ceremonial Otomi is a hidden gem. Once built to commemorate the Otomi people, it is now occasionally in use by sportsmen doing high altitude training. It was used in *Licence To Kill* as Professor Joe's quarters and Sanchez' drug laboratory. Read more on page 203.



7. Lake Pichola, Udaipur

On two separate islands in Lake Pichola, one can find the palaces used as interior and exterior of *Octopussy's* floating palace. The beautiful architecture of the Indian palaces is unique and was very well chosen by EON. Nowadays you can spend your holiday on one of the islands, in the luxurious hotel it houses. Read more on pages 158-159.



Continued on the next page

6. The Casino de Monte Carlo, Monaco

By far the most elegant casino in the world. Built as a casino it looks like a palace with its decorated ceilings and marble floors. When you are in the neighbourhood, dress for the occasion and try your luck on any of the gambling tables.

Beats an evening in Vegas by miles! Used by EON for *GoldenEye* and by Taliafilm for *Never Say Never Again*. Read more on page 169.



5. Piz Gloria, Switzerland

Probably the best known James Bond filming location in the world, attracting thousands of Bond fans each year. The revolving restaurant on top of Mount Schilthorn was discovered by a location scout and perfectly matched Peter Hunt's ideas for *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. EON financed the remaining building work - a deal which allowed them to make full use of the restaurant's facilities. Read more on page 52.

4. Château Chantilly, France

A beautiful palace from France's golden age in a marvellous forest setting. You will never forget the moment you come out of the woods and notice the Château with its magnificent stables. Take your time in the gardens and enjoy every second inside Max Zorin's home from *A View To A Kill*. The stables are now a museum. Read more on pages 178-181.



3. Herdade do Zambujal, Portugal

This unique privately owned farm is one of Portugal's best kept secrets. Hidden away between beaches, rivers and mountains, Zambujal was Draco's estate in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. It was also the place where Bond married Tracy. The bull ring is still present and sure brings back a lot of memories. Read more on pages 89-91.

Continued on the next page

2. Agios Triada, Greece

A natural miracle in the heart of the Greek mainland, the Meteora rocks and monasteries are unique in every possible way. The tall rocks seem to rise up for no particular reason and the monasteries on top of most of them makes this area a must-see not just for Bond fans. Agios Triada monastery was used as Kristatos' hideout in *For Your Eyes Only*.
Read more on pages 154-156.



1. Shinmu-dake, Japan

This is the most rewarding location hunt you can experience. The remote location of Blofeld's volcano in *You Only Live Twice* requires a 4 hour hike, but should nevertheless be on everybody's wish list. You will be totally alone on top of the world with a spectacular view of the sleeping volcano's green lake.
Read more about Shinmu-dake on pages 77-79.





On top of Shinmu-dake, Japan

THE MAKING OF ON THE TRACKS OF 007

Location hunting can hardly be called a sport - it's more like a passion. Some people around you will even start wondering if you will ever grow up. Your partner in life, if not a Bond fan, will probably suffer the most, but in the end I guess it's all worth it. That's also the main reason why we encourage this strange behaviour of strolling through streets with a map and some old photographs from an early 60's movie. It's Bond and not just some sleazy character that has spent his movie time in the wrong place at the wrong time. You are about to discover the wealth and splendour that Ian Fleming enjoyed and wrote about. You will travel to these places everyone always dreams about. But how to start your journey? In this chapter I will share some examples of our own experiences while hunting for the (lost) remains of 007's cinematic history.

While doing research for our website, we always started off by watching a specific film again. If you look closely and have an eye for detail, you will be surprised what you can find out. Of course the end credits mention lines like 'Filmed on location in..' and then you get a few countries. That's a start.

Other useful information comes from the acknowledgements section in the end credits. If you read something like "The producers would like to thank the mayor of Acapulco" it is probably not because they enjoyed that dinner party so much. It is highly likely at least something was filmed in or around Acapulco and the mayor made it possible.

Next thing to do is buy a good, detailed map of the country or city you are after. This will also sometimes clarify things. For example, when we were looking for the arched gate or tunnel from where 007 shot Emile Locque in **For Your Eyes Only**, it was sort of obvious this should have been filmed on Corfu. Although the scene supposedly took place in Albania, the political situation in that country would never have allowed the film crew to film there. When we bought a good map of the island and started crawling the internet for info, it took about 4 minutes to figure out that there was only one possibility. The only old building on the island that could match the scene was an old fortress in Corfu Town. When we got there, some weeks later, it all turned out to be correct...



Once you have discovered a location, and suppose this location is someone's luxurious villa, the next problem is how to get in. We will never encourage people to break the law, but sometimes ignorance can help you a lot. While on Corfu, having just discovered the entrance to Villa Sylva, the magnificent summer retreat that posed as Gonzales' villa in **For Your Eyes Only**, we found ourselves in front of a large wooden gate. A small push proved it was open, and once inside the premises we just ignored the signs "Beware of the dog". In the end it turned out there wasn't any dog at all, and we spent over an hour around the totally abandoned house...



Sometimes the owner will just let you in. Largo's Palmyra from **Thunderball** is a good example here. I had driven past the house a number of times and had not seen any sign of life. While making up a plan B during the final drive-by, I suddenly noticed a person getting out of a car behind the gate. I approached him, explained my goal, impressed him with a home-printed business card, and to my big surprise we were let in. After a tour of the house and garden, we found ourselves in the wealthy owner's kitchen, serving ourselves lemonade from his fridge. He even apologized for the fact we had to do this ourselves but the maid had her day off.

On some occasions it can be pure luck that brings you exactly where you want to be. We were in Istanbul, desperately searching for the Russian Consulate from **From Russia With Love**, where Tania worked as a cipher clerk. In some scenes

featuring this location one can see a mosque at the end of the curved street. While preparing our trip we started putting circles around places that sort of matched what we saw in the film, on a street map. Then we went to Istanbul. Since all our guesses turned out to be wrong and time was starting to run out, we decided to ask around and show our screen shots to taxi drivers. While many told us to go look in areas we knew it couldn't be, we finally found one who immediately said "Get in, I'll take you there".. Curious to find out, we got in, and the guy drove us totally to the other side of the city, to a part where we had never expected it to be. And, although the area had totally changed, he was right, and had really brought us to the right place.

Next thing to do is take a good photo of the building. Our joy of finding the Consulate location quickly turned around when we noticed a permanent street market had been set up in front of the entrance gate. And the entrance gate was one of the few things visible in the film scenes. We approached the vendors with our **FRWL** screen captures and kindly tried to explain our reason for having to take a photograph without them in it. But since the location appeared so different, it took them at least 15 minutes to realise the gate Tania was walking through was the very same gate they were blocking from view. Still not totally convinced of the purpose of leaving their stand, they somehow made it clear they were not going to help very much. So I soon found myself clearing the front gate of whatever was attached to it or in our way. An hour later we had a photo of a metal gate somewhere in Istanbul.



On other occasions, simply ringing the door bell seemed to work as well. The Consulate location was totally closed off, protected by high walls. We strolled around the site until we discovered a small wooden door and a door bell next to it. We rang the bell, and to our great surprise the gardener opened the door. It turned out he didn't speak any foreign language, and only after we had bothered him for at least 10 minutes with all sorts of words in English and German, accompanied by much arm waving, he agreed to let us in. I can only assume he just wanted to get rid of us and get on with his work...

Whenever we did figure out exactly where we had to be while still at home, whenever possible I always tried to get in touch with owners or management in advance. For me that always worked out. If you explain the situation and kindly ask permission to get inside and take some photographs, often you will get the green light. When we contacted the management of the Kempinsky Atlantic Hotel in Hamburg, they were so kind to give us a *grand tour* of the hotel, including the off-limits attic, from where we ended up on the rooftop of the hotel. The roof where EON filmed 007 breaking into Carver's print shop. Even the Ibis hotel on the opposite side of the road allowed us on their roof to take some photographs of the spot where Stamper watched Bond's moves.



On top of the Kempinsky Atlantic's roof

In the case of RAF Northolt we simply had to get permission in advance. I had been at the front office a few times before, convinced that one day I would talk myself in. Unfortunately the 9/11 attacks made that almost impossible. When I finally knew the name of the person in charge I wrote him a letter explaining my mission. At first I was told to get written permission from the MoD, but after a few more letters I was invited in and an appointment was made. After having filled in all the necessary forms we got visitor passes and we were given a tour of the airfield by the Squadron Leader himself. And apart from one specific building, everything could be photographed.



Posing with Isabel Vinhas (m) at Herdade do Zambujal

Of course it can always happen that work is in progress at a location. Scaffolding and heaps of rubble on a Bond location is never a good sight and makes lousy photos. The good thing is that at least you have a reason to return one day and give it another shot. One time in the English countryside I had found a spare moment to finally visit Stonor House. On the way to the location, small leaflets in nearby towns kind of gave away that there was something going on that specific day, so I already accepted the fact that I probably wouldn't be the only one there. What I hadn't read was the actual announcement on the leaflets. When I drove through the front gate of Stonor House, it was totally obstructed from view by a few hundred Volkswagen Beetles. It was their annual club meeting, that year on the grounds of Stonor House..

Sometimes you will just have bad luck and it may seem as if nothing can change it. At some point we weren't allowed into the Jamaica Swamp Safari, Kananga's croc-farm from **LALD**, because they were refurbishing it at the time. Even waving a bit of cash in front of the lady who guarded the site didn't help much. In this case we were 'forced' to return to Jamaica some time later..

Oh well, it's a dirty job.. 😊



A TRIBUTE TO DIRK KLOOSTERBOER

I first heard of Dirk Kloosterboer on Tuesday, 4 Aug 1998 at exactly 20:09 by e-mail. I had recently started *the James Bond Locations Page* on the Internet, which was drawing the attention of an ever growing audience. Dirk was among the first to respond, in English. I read his typical Dutch last name and automatically answered in Dutch. It later turned out Dirk was German with Dutch forefathers.

Having read the locations I had listed for Jamaica he contacted me immediately and told me that he had been there recently, giving me very useful additional location information. Since it was my plan to travel there a few months later, Dirk understood my interest for the island and sent me a very amusing and entertaining story about his visit. He even included a Jamaican road map and some time later I found myself on my way to the Caribbean, armed with his info. It proved to be a successful trip and thanks to Dirk I had managed to find all the Bond locations I wanted.

It must have been around that time that we started realising this could just be a winning combination. After having met in person during a Bond prop exhibition in Hildesheim, Germany, on Sunday September 6, 1998, Dirk and I seriously started discussing the idea of making a book with travel information about James Bond film locations. We first wrote about whatever trips we had made in the past and even planned some trips together for the near future.



We first fully understood the fun of it all when we went to Hamburg and stayed in the Atlantic Kempinsky. Being a Bond location itself, the fancy hotel was a joy to stay in, we met with the press manager, got a guided tour and on top of it all we received a 50% press discount on the checkout price!



Dirk's witty style of describing his location hunting adventures soon became the foundation of future stories and it wasn't until we first came in contact with publishing companies that we started making little adjustments to our work. We abandoned our beloved diary-style and started focussing more on the travel-informative side of the story. Our photographs became very important (the first stories even totally lacked pictures!) and we started adding maps to make reading it a lively experience. Since it was my job to take care of the overall layout and the web design, Dirk became in charge of photography and maps. He came up with our title, *On the tracks of 007*, which became our web page and centre of activities, since we still had no luck with the publishing companies.

Although having massive personal setbacks, 2002 became a highlight in Dirk's location hunting years, fortunately. We got in touch with then 80 year old director Guy Hamilton who kindly invited us for lunch to his house on the Spanish island of Mallorca. We went there and spent almost five hours with Mr Hamilton, interviewing him and drinking cans of Heineken beer together. Later that year we travelled to England together where, after many attempts, we

finally managed to visit and photograph the Pinewood Studios. Dirk and I even got to meet Bond producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson there. He was extremely proud of our achievements and was very much looking forward to the next years, wondering what on earth could top these highlights..



Unfortunately Dirk's personal trouble was mounting, resulting in serious health problems. We didn't have much contact throughout 2003 on his request, but he returned in the autumn, just in time to join me and a small group of Bond fans on the 'OHMSS Tour of Portugal'. Together with his wife, Dirk seemed to have a good time there, but once we got back, the radio silence somehow kept on. Since this was often the case in those boring years in between the release of a new Bond film, it never troubled me, until the moment I got the devastating message that Dirk had taken his own life on 16 March 2004.

While writing this, I find it hard to make a selection from all the funny moments I enjoyed with him. I will never forget the time we were in England during the post 9/11 days when the whole world was on high alert and everyone seemed suspicious. We were just south of Heathrow Airport and Dirk managed to raise quite some eyebrows by 'secretly' taking photographs of some fuel installation which was once in **Goldfinger**. Dirk also possessed the strange ability to always find a McDonald's restaurant, wherever we hung out. It became a certain tradition to dine in the red and yellow establishments, even though we could enjoy the best meals and wines next door.

Over the years we developed so many plans and there was still so much to do, so many places to visit, so many locations to photograph.. Dirk's contributions to *On the tracks of 007* will be greatly missed and the whole project will never be the same again. And even though we were from very different decades and our homes were miles apart, I would still consider him a very close friend and it is just very hard to imagine we will never travel together again..

M.M. - 2004



BOND'S HOTELS

Most travel guides' final pages are used to list a selection of hotels available in different price ranges. We want to be no exception, although we will limit ourselves to this overview of hotels that EON Productions choose over the years for 007 to spend his nights in. In general, if you want to stay here, be prepared to spend the extra money. In return you will be pampered, spoiled with luxury and enjoy some of the finest hotels. These hotels will make you feel like James Bond..

★★★★★ Top class hotel, excellent service.

★★★ Very nice choice, good service.

\$\$\$\$\$ Very expensive

\$\$\$ Reasonably priced

Dr. No

Morgan's Harbour Hotel ★★★ \$\$\$

A buccaneer-style hotel half way Port Royal. It's where Bond met Quarrel and Pussfeller in *Dr. No*. Here he also met CIA buddy Felix Leiter for the first time. (More info on pages 24-25)

**Port Royal,
Kingston, Jamaica
Tel. 876/967-8030**

Goldfinger

Fontainebleau Resort ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Large luxury resort in Miami Beach. Famous for being the place where Bond intruded *Goldfinger's* card game. Only used for second unit shots. (More info on page 207)

**4441 Collins Ave
Miami Beach, FL 33140, USA
Tel. (305) 538-2000
www.fontainebleaumiamibeach.com**

Thunderball

Atlantis Resort ★★★ \$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$\$

The huge Atlantis Resort is an experience unlike any other in the world. Many types of accommodation and restaurants. On the grounds of the Atlantis, traces can still be found of *Thunderball* locations. Can also be seen in *Casino Royale* when 007 arrives in the Bahamas by helicopter. (More info on pages 59-60)

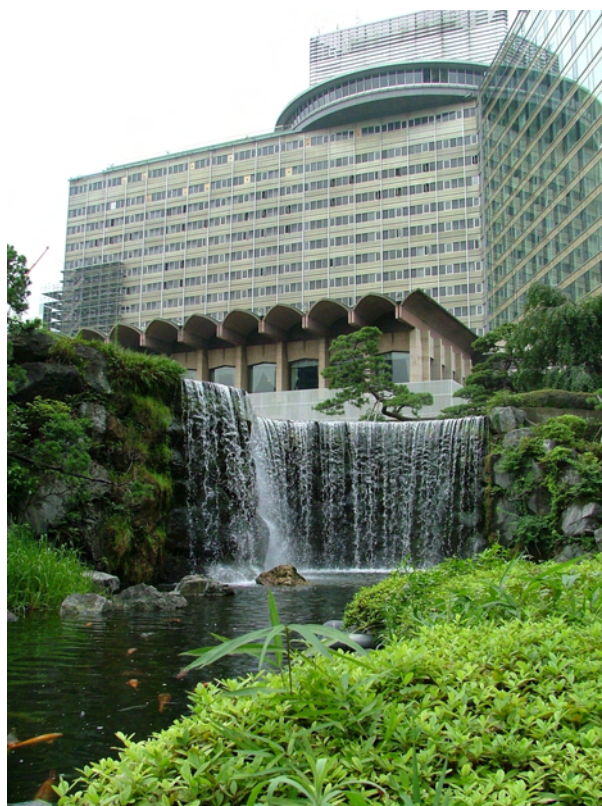
**Casino Drive,
Paradise Island, New Providence Island
Bahamas
Tel: 242/363-3000
www.atlantis.com**

You Only Live Twice

Tokyo New Otani ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

A wonderful choice. Elegance and luxury in the heart of Tokyo. Beautiful landscape garden. Used by EON as the Osato Chemicals building in *You Only Live Twice*. (More info on pages 69-71)

**4-1 Kioi-Cho,
Tokyo, Japan
Tel: +81-3-3265-1111
www.newotani.co.jp/en/tokyo**



The Tokyo New Otani

Shigetomi-so ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Top class ryokan-style residence. Marvellous views of Sakurajima. Once home of the powerful Shimazu lords. Also Tiger Tanaka's home in *You Only Live Twice*. (More info on pages 80-81)

**31-7 Shimizu-cho,
Kagoshima, Japan
Tel: 099-247-3155**

On Her Majesty's Secret Service

Palacio Estoril ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Grand & cosy. Excellent choice for a stay in Estoril. Very good restaurant, nice rooms, close to the casino. Bond's hotel after saving Tracy from drowning in *OHMSS*. (More info on page 87)

**Rua Particular
Estoril, Portugal
Tel: +351 (21) 464 8000
www.palacioestorilhotel.com**

Hotel Schweizerhof ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

A charming 5-star gourmet- and boutique hotel downtown Bern. Renowned for its exceptional attention to service and quality. Doubled for the exterior of Gumbold's office in OHMSS. Here on one of the balconies, 007 received the safe cracking device from Campbell. (More info on page 54)

Bahnhofplatz 11

Bern, Switzerland

Tel: +41 31 326 80 80

www.schweizerhof-bern.ch

Diamonds Are Forever

Hotel du Cap Eden Roc ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Top quality hotel with many types of accommodation and different restaurants, beautiful location on the Cap d'Antibes in Southern France. On the outside terrace Bond strangled Marie in the pre-title sequence (more info on page 172)

Boulevard JF Kennedy

Antibes, France

Tel: +33 (0)4 93 61 39 01

www.hotel-du-cap-eden-roc.com

Las Vegas Hilton ★★★ \$ \$\$

Formerly known as the International Hotel it was the exterior of The Whyte House. (More on page 101)

3000 Paradise Rd.

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Tel: (702) 732-5111

www.lvhilton.com

Circus Circus Hotel & Casino ★★★ \$ \$\$

Circus themed hotel and casino. Played itself in Diamonds Are Forever. (More info on page 101)

2880 Las Vegas Blvd S

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Tel: (702) 734-0410

www.circuscircus.com

Tropicana Casino & Resort ★★★ \$ \$\$

Award-winning destination featuring non-stop Vegas action. Served as Bond's hotel. (More on page 101)

3801 Las Vegas Blvd S

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Tel: (702) 739-2222

www.tropicana.lv.com

Riviera Hotel & Casino ★★★ \$ \$\$

Having celebrated its golden anniversary in 2005, the historic Riviera is one of Nevada's premier destination spots offering the excitement of nostalgic Las Vegas and the Rat Pack Era, combined with modern day rooms and convention facilities (More on p.101)

2901 Las Vegas Blvd. S

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Tel: (702) 734-5110

www.rivierahotel.com

Live And Let Die

Couples Sans Souci ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Tropical elegance awaits you at the luxurious Sans Souci, emerging majestically from the cliffs of Jamaica's emerald mountains. Totally remodelled since 1973, but used as Bond's hotel on San Monique. In the 1960's, one of the hotel's cottages was used as the interior of Miss Taro's home, in Dr. No. (more info on page 26)

Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Tel: [876] 994-1206

www.couples.com

Half Moon Bay Club ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Beautiful resort on some of Jamaica's finest beaches, near Rose Hall Great House. Totally remodelled in the 1990s. Former bungalow 9 was used as Bond's bungalow. (More info on page 31)

Rose Hall,

Montego Bay, Jamaica

Tel: (876) 953-2211

www.halfmoon.com

The Man With The Golden Gun

Oriental Hotel ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Home to literary legends such as Noel Coward, this luxury hotel is one of the oldest in Asia. With three staff per guest room, the Orient has one of the highest service standards. It was Bond's hotel in Bangkok, he enjoyed dinner and a bottle of Phu Yuck on the outdoor terrace. (More on page 125)

48 Oriental Avenue

Bangkok, Thailand

Tel: +66 (2) 659 9000

www.mandarinoriental.com/bangkok

The Peninsula ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

This legendary 'Grande Dame of the Far East' has long been hailed as one of the finest hotels in the world. Created in the glamorous 1920s, it continues to set hotel standards worldwide, offering a blend of the best of Eastern and Western hospitality in an atmosphere of unmatched classical grandeur and timeless elegance. The Peninsula offers the ultimate in luxury accommodations with the most spacious hotel rooms and suites in Hong Kong. The hotel's celebrated fleet of Rolls-Royce Phantoms offer hotel guests luxurious transportation around Hong Kong. In 1974, the Peninsula served as Miss Anders hotel and it was home to cast & crew during the Hong Kong shooting of *The Man With The Golden Gun*. (More info on page 120)

Salisbury Road, Kowloon,

Hong Kong, SAR

Tel: (852) 2920 2888

hongkong.peninsula.com



The Peninsula and its impressive fleet
Photo courtesy of the Peninsula Hotel.

The Spy Who Loved Me

Hotel Cala di Volpe ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$
Part of the Starwood Luxury Collection. Designed by Jacques Coulle in the 1960s, the hotel offers a unique building style and has received many internationally renowned guests. It was Bond and Amasova's hotel in Sardinia. The hotel's bar, the Bar Pontile, was used as their hotel room.
(More info on pages 135-136)
Costa Smeralda,
Porto Cervo,
Sardinia, Italy
Tel: (39)(0789) 976111
www.luxurycollection.com/caladivolpe

Moonraker

Hotel Danieli ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$
Another Starwood Luxury Collection gem. Venetian culture comes alive in the masterfully restored 14th century palace of Doge Dandolo's family. Precious decorations and beautiful antique furnishings enhance the atmosphere and luxurious comfort of the Danieli. It was Dr. Goodhead's hotel in Venice, for which the crew used the beautiful Suite del Doge.
(More info on pages 243-244)
Riva degli Schiavoni,
Venice, Italy
Tel: +39 (041) 522 6480
www.starwoodhotels.com

For Your Eyes Only

Miramonti Majestic ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$
Called 'Pearl of the pearls', the elegant Miramonti Majestic Grand Hotel is a holiday home for Kings and Queens, Princes and Princesses, movie stars and other celebrities. One of them was James Bond, who paid the hotel a visit while in Cortina. His room 300 doesn't exist, the balcony he can be seen upon does and belongs to room 108. (More info on page 48)
Via Peziè 103
Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy
Tel. +39 0436/4201
www.miramontimajestic.it

Octopussy

Shiv Niwas Palace ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$
Located at the southern end of the Palace complex, the Shiv Niwas Palace Hotel Udaipur was originally Maharana Fateh Singhji's residence and later turned into a luxury hotel which is now categorised as a Grand Heritage Palace. Offering elegantly appointed suites with private terraces, it was Bond's hotel while chasing the Faberge Egg to India. (More info on pages 159-160)
The City Palace,
Udaipur, India
Tel: +91 294 2528016
www.hrhhotels.com

Lake Palace Hotel ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

The Taj Lake Palace, located in the middle of Lake Pichola is a dream of white marble and mosaic glistening in the moonlight, very reminiscent of the famous Taj Mahal. Set against the backdrop of the majestic Aravalli Mountains on one side of the lake, and lofty palaces on the other, the Lake Palace Hotel spreads across a four-acre island – an almost surreal vision in marble, which was *Octopussy's* floating palace. Even the lily pond can be found here. (More info on p. 158-159)

Lake Pichola
Udaipur, India
Tel: +91 294 2428800
www.tajhotels.com

Photos courtesy of Tajhotels



Never Say Never Again

Luton Hoo ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

After several years of painstaking restoration by Elite Hotels, Luton Hoo recently opened as a luxury five-star hotel with 18 hole golf course, magnificent spa and more than 1,000 acres of parkland and gardens. Luton Hoo featured in two Bond films. It was Schrublands in the non-EON produced *Never Say Never Again*, and interior shots were filmed here for Elektra's residence in *The World Is Not Enough*. (More info on pages 17-18)

Luton,
Bedfordshire, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1582 734437
www.lutonhoo.co.uk



British Colonial Hilton ★★★★★ \$\$\$

Situated on the site of Old Fort Nassau, the British Colonial Hilton offers a taste of the Bahamas' rich history. Conveniently located in downtown Nassau, it was Bond's hotel in *Never Say Never Again*. Its elegant marble lobby can be seen in the scene in which Fatima spies on Bond leaving his hotel. (More info on page 61)

Number One Bay Street
Nassau, New Providence,
The Bahamas
Tel: +1-242-322-3301
www.hiltoncaribbean.com

The Living Daylights

Im Palais Schwarzenberg ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

This is the elegant, baroque hotel where Bond and Kara stayed in while in Vienna, in *The Living Daylights*. Because of a total renovation this hotel is closed until 2010.

(More info on page 197)
Schwarzenbergplatz 9,
Vienna, Austria

Licence To Kill

Gran Hotel Ciudad de Mexico ★★☆☆ \$\$\$

Travel back in time and enjoy the classic Mexican history in this elegant but modern hotel in the centre of Mexico City. It served as the interior of Bond's hotel in Isthmus City, in *Licence To Kill*. The *Biblioteca de la Banco de Mexico* served as the hotel's exterior. (More info on page 201)

Av. 16^{de} Septiembre 82,

Mexico City, Mexico

Tel: +55 1083-7700

www.granhotelciudademexico.com

GoldenEye

The Langham Hotel ★★☆☆☆☆ \$\$\$\$\$

Formerly known as the Langham Hilton, this prestigious landmark opened in 1865 as Europe's first grand hotel. As a renowned London hotel with a distinctive charm and character it has hosted royalty, foreign dignitaries and celebrities in luxury for over 140 years. One of its guests was James Bond, when the hotel served as the exterior of *Hotel de l'Europe* in St. Petersburg. (More info on page 218)

1c Portland Place,

Regent Street,

London, UK

Tel: +44 20 7636 1000

london.langhamhotels.co.uk

Tomorrow Never Dies

Atlantic Kempinski ★★☆☆☆☆ \$\$\$\$\$

The Hotel Atlantic Kempinski is one of the world's leading hotels, inseparably linked to the city of Hamburg's history and social life since it first opened in 1909 as a Grand Hotel for passengers with bookings on famous luxury ocean liners. The Hotel Atlantic Kempinski's snow-white façade is a local landmark and it featured prominently in *Tomorrow Never Dies* as Bond's hotel. Although the interior of 007's hotel room was filmed at Stoke Park Club, enough action was shot on, in and around the Atlantic to make it a 'must stay'.

(More info on page 223)

An der Alster 72 - 79

Hamburg

Germany

Tel: +49 40 28 88 0

www.kempinski.atlantic.de

Photos courtesy of
Kempinsky Atlantic



Casino Royale

Buena Vista Restaurant & Hotel ★★☆☆ \$\$\$

The Buena Vista Hotel is located in a 200-year old mansion in Nassau, but is better known for its restaurant, serving their legendary lobster to famous people for quite some time. The exterior was used for *Casino Royale*, doubling for the Nambutu Embassy in Madagascar. (More info on page 66)

Delancy Street

Nassau, N.P.

Bahamas

Tel: +1-242-322-2811

Grandhotel Pupp ★★☆☆☆☆ \$\$\$\$\$

World famous hotel in Karlovy Vary with parts dating back as far as 1701, this luxury hotel served as the exterior of Bond's hotel *Splendide* in Montenegro, for *Casino Royale*. Surprisingly, Grandhotel Pupp, who's guest list includes musicians like Johann Sebastian Bach and statesmen like Russian Tsar Peter the Great, is the only hotel in this listing that offers a Bond package. Provocatively called 'In the track of agent 007' this three night package includes a visit to Loket Castle and a visit to a shooting range, where you can try shooting a Walther yourself.

Mírové náměstí 2

Karlovy Vary

Czech Republic

Tel: +420 353 109 111

www.pupp.cz





Photos courtesy of One&Only Resorts



One&Only Ocean Club ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Exclusive resort on the north shore of Paradise Island. Consisting of a variety of luxury rooms, spacious suites and elegant villas, the Ocean Club was the place where Bond found Dimitrios, won his Aston Martin DB5 in a game of poker (filmed at the resort's *Library Bar*) and took his girlfriend Solange. Although the resort has beautiful beachfront villas, EON choose to film the scenes of Dimitrios' villa at Albany House (see next entry).

(More info on page 60)

Paradise Island, N.P.

Bahamas

Tel: +1-242-363-2501

www.oneandonlyresorts.com

Albany House ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

This luxurious villa located next to Stuart Cove's Dive Centre - southwest New Providence – was used as Dimitrios' beachside villa. Originally built in the 1990s for Jean Chalopin, a French writer and director of cartoons (most notably *Inspector Gadget*), the house and grounds switched owners in 2004 and is now property of the Tavistock Group and golf pros Tiger Woods and Ernie Els. It used to be for rent (starting at \$ 50,000 a week - low season), but when the new owners have completed their masterplan, Albany House will be part of a family-oriented golf and resort community featuring a mega-yacht marina, beach club, watersports facilities, luxury shops and of course an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Ernie Els. (More on p. 60)

New Providence

Bahamas

ESO Hotel 'Residencia'

ESO is the European Organisation for Astronomical Research in the Southern Hemisphere and it was their observatory in the Chilean Atacama desert that caught the attention of Marc Forster while scouting for locations for *Quantum Of Solace*. The desolate landscape surrounding the observational site on the 2600m high Paranal mountain south of Antofagasta, was the perfect setting for Dominic Green's hideout and is a true homage to Blofeld's Piz Gloria. A symbol of innovative architecture, the site's main building is called 'the Residencia' and serves as a home for ESO's scientists and staff, even offering a small garden and swimming pool inside.

Some interesting facts:

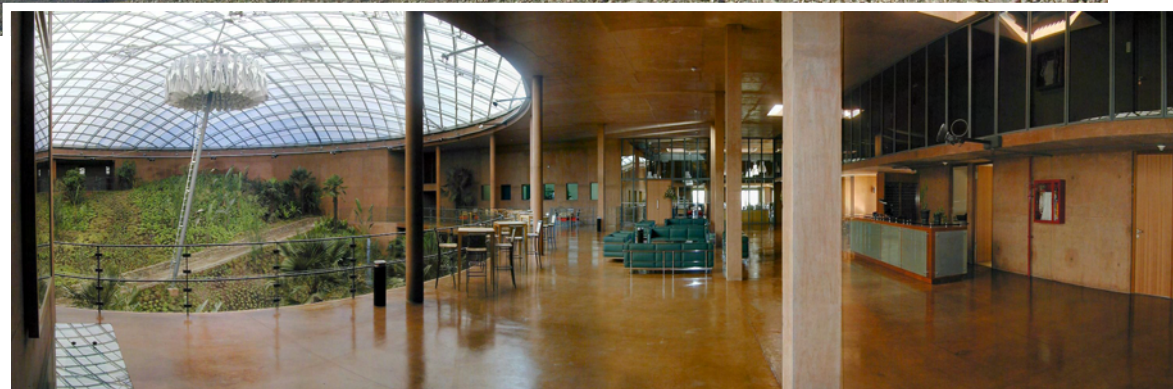
- ✿ The concept for the Paranal Residencia emerged from a widely noted international architectural competition.
- ✿ The construction began in late 1998 and the Residencia opened in February 2002.
- ✿ Natural daylight is brought into the building through a 35-m wide glass-covered dome, a rectangular courtyard roof and various skylight hatches.
- ✿ There are 108 bedrooms and a canteen capacity for 200 persons.
- ✿ There's even a 70-seat cinema room.

Photos by Massimo Tarenghi, courtesy of ESO



Although the Paranal Residencia is most certainly not a hotel in the way we like to book our hotels online at Expedia for instance, it sure is possible to visit the Paranal location and even spend some time in the Residencia. ESO is happy to welcome tourists, students, as well as journalists and TV crews at its Paranal facility, though visits are scheduled for the last two weekends of every month (except December). These visits will be organised within the limited capacity available and in such a way that they do not disturb the progress of work at the sites. So whether you are interested in astronomy or just in 007, this will be an experience of a lifetime! Be sure to make reservations months in advance though. More info and a tourist visitors-form can be found at ESO's interesting website.

ESO Observatory Paranal
Antofagasta, Chile
Tel: +56 55 43 5100
Tel: +56 55 43 5335 (reservations)
www.eso.org/public





GOLDENEYE



Photos and logo courtesy of Island Outpost



Goldeneye Resort ★★★★★ \$\$\$\$\$

Not necessarily linked to a specific film, a chapter on Bond related hotels and resorts simply cannot be written without including Ian Fleming’s former home on Jamaica, Goldeneye. Here all James Bond novels were written so if you want to be inspired, you shouldn’t think about the rates and go!

The secluded house is owned by Chris Blackwell, who landed his first job in the entertainment industry as a location manager on *Dr. No*, after being personally recommended by Fleming. Besides helping EON out on occasions, Blackwell founded Island Records and made fame with artists like U2, Robert Palmer, Grace Jones and a local musician called Bob Marley.

Twelve years after Fleming died, Blackwell talked Marley into buying Goldeneye, but when the latter chickened out thinking it was ‘too posh’, Blackwell bought the estate himself. For years it has been a private retreat for celebrities like Johnny Depp, Harrison Ford, Naomi Campbell, Cindy Crawford and Sting, who claims to have written *Every Breath You Take* in Fleming’s study.

Goldeneye is now part of Blackwell’s Island Outpost Resorts and consists of Fleming’s main house and three clusters of private villa’s with multiple bedrooms named after Bond girls. While the private villa’s start at 660 US\$ a night, the main house rents for a whopping 2,500 US\$ a night. But for this money you have access to all the private beaches where Ian Fleming used to go swimming, you will have stunning sea views from all verandas and windows, an in-room media centre with CD and DVD libraries, fresh tropical flowers and exquisite Jamaican food and drinks. A once in a lifetime experience and an absolute must for Bond fans!

**Oracabessa, St Mary,
Jamaica**
Tel: +876 975-3354
www.goldeneyehotel.com

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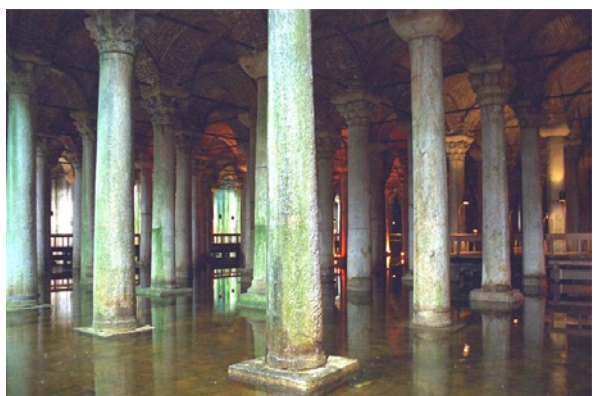
DR. NO (1962)

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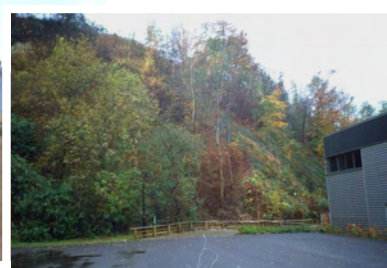
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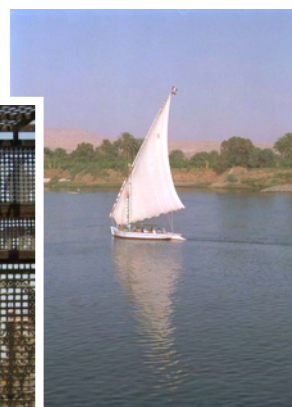
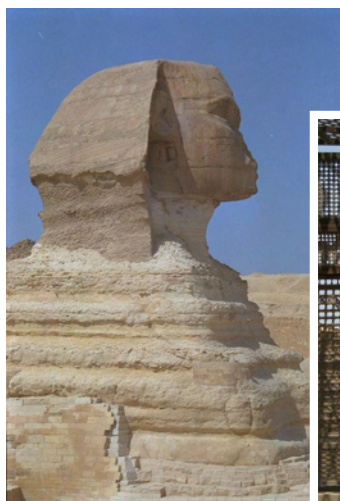
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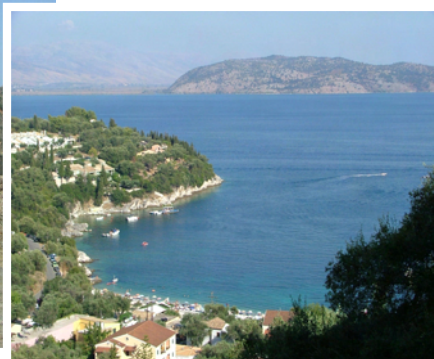
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Ministry of Transport, Prague, Czech Republic

BODY WORLD EXHIBIT (INTERIOR) *

Vitkov Monument, Prague, Czech Republic

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Ruzyni International Airport, Prague, / Nassau International Airport, Bahamas

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HOTEL SPLENDIDE 258

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* will be discussed in future editions



Q U A N T U M O F S O L A C E (2 0 0 8)

Film locations confirmed at the time of writing:

- Antofagasta in the Atacama Desert, **Chili**
- European Southern Observatory's 'Residencia', Cerro Paranal, **Chili**
- Paranal airstrip, **Chili**

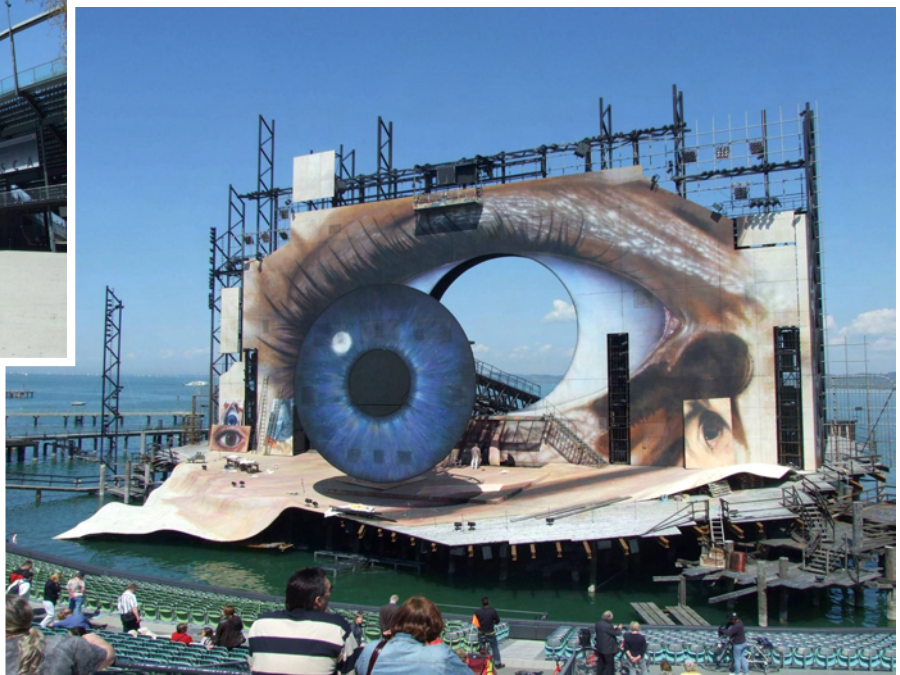
- La Guaira, **Panama**
- Isla de Cabra, **Panama**
- Túnel del Amor, between the towns of Garrote and Cacique, **Panama**
- the Patio Rochet, **Panama City**
- Club Union (doubling for Brittsch Embassy in Bolivia), Casco Viejo, **Panama City**
- The Cultural Institute (doubling for the 'Grand Andean Hotel'), **Panama City**
- US Howard Air Force Base, located on the west side of the **Panama** Canal.
- the city of Columbus, **Panama**

- Baja California desert (flight / free-fall sequence), **Mexico**

- Seebühne floating stage at Bregenz, **Austria**
- Feldkirch, **Austria**

- Villa La Gaeta, Lago di Como, **Italy**
- Malcesine, Tempesta and Navene, **Italy**
- Limone (part of the car pursuit), **Italy**
- Carrara (chase), **Italy**
- Siena (Palio horserace), **Italy**
- Piazza del Camp (Bond emerges from underground), Siena, **Italy**
- Tower of Talamonaccio & Gulf of Talamone, Grosseto, **Italy**

- Bodyflight, Bedford (free-fall close-ups), **UK**
- Farnborough Aerodrome, **UK**
- Barbican, located near London Wall, London, **UK**
- Pinewood Studios, Iver Heath, **UK**



Photos from Bregenz, courtesy of Remmert van Braam

A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

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ON THE TRACKS OF 007 WILL RETURN

