

South Kesteven Lincolnshire, UK

A Unique Film Location Opportunity







SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL



South Kesteven A unique film location opportunity



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Welcome to South Kesteven

South Kesteven is a district in the county of Lincolnshire, in the English Midlands. Although you may not have heard of it before, you'll almost certainly have seen it on screen.

That's because the area has starred in many of the most famous film and TV productions of recent years, including *The Crown, Bridgerton, The Batman, Pride and Prejudice,* and *The Da Vinci Code,* to name but a few.

South Kesteven offers a range of additional benefits for production companies. The area's location on the A1 motorway and the East Coast Mainline ensures fast access from major UK production hubs – just an hour by train from both London and Leeds. There are cost advantages too, in key areas including equipment storage and crew accommodation.

Above all, South Kesteven is 'film-friendly', with an experienced partnership encompassing the district council, Film Lincolnshire at the county council, and regional organisations committed to assisting production companies in every way possible.

Production companies choose South Kesteven for its unique concentration of outstanding locations: showcase stately homes and estates like Belton House, Harlaxton Manor. **Burghley House and Grimsthorpe** Castle; perfectly preserved market towns like Stamford; and picturesque villages set within quintessentially English countryside.

But the area offers much more besides - a wealth of varied, adaptable and previously unseen locations with the

potential to double for a diversity of periods and places.

Your film production is welcome and highly valued in South Kesteven. We look forward to the prospect of working with you.

South Kesteven District Council Film Lincolnshire





South Kesteven Key benefits for production companies



Premium Locations, Proven Credentials

- South Kesteven's magnificent stately homes, country estates, historic market towns and idyllic villages have appeared in numerous high-profile and big-budget film and TV productions, including Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story; Mary & George; Doctor Who; Victoria; The Haunting; and Middlemarch.
- With this proven track record, South Kesteven and its location partners have the experience and expertise to support even the most complex and large-scale production projects.



Diverse, Adaptable & Previously Unused Locations

- In addition to spectacular, historic settings, South Kesteven can offer a wide variety of highly adaptable locations for productions of all kinds.
- In recent projects, the area has doubled for places and periods as diverse as the Cotswolds in the 1800s and the red-brick streets of London in the 1940s.
- With a relatively low profile, South Kesteven can still offer unused or littleused locations, ranging from canals and reservoirs to disused airfields and modern, municipal buildings.



Fast Access from Key UK Production Hubs

South Kesteven's Midlands location, on both the A1 motorway and the high-speed East Coast Mainline, enables transport connectivity that surpasses expectations.

- **By Road:** 1.30 hours or less from Leeds and Birmingham, and under 2.30 hours from London and Manchester.¹
- **By Rail:** Just 1.03 hours from both London and Leeds, and 2.10 from both Manchester and Birmingham.²
- **By Air:** 1.30 hours or less from East Midlands, Birmingham and Luton airports, and 2.00 hours from Heathrow.¹



Cost-effective Accommodation, Catering & Services

- In Lincolnshire, costs for short-term accommodation are substantially lower than in high-profile competitor UK locations including Gloucestershire / the Cotswolds (-37%); Devon (-40%) and Dorset (-42%).³
- With an overall lower cost base, South Kesteven can also deliver savings on catering and other operational services.
- The Film Lincolnshire team can assist with the negotiation of favourable rates for key services and facilities.



Responsive Road Control & Closures

- Lincolnshire County Council is committed to fast and efficient responses to road control and closure requests, offering valuable advice, and facilitating access arrangements.
- Temporary traffic restrictions or parking suspensions are expedited quickly, with an emphasis on flexibility and finding practical solutions.
- Road closure permit lead times have been reduced exclusively for filming projects, with a focus on rural and period roads identified as cinematic.



Equipment Storage & Large-vehicle Parking

- As a rural district, South Kesteven can offer space and a wide range of solutions for storing equipment and parking multiple large vehicle.
- Potential options include agricultural land, brownfield sites, country house location estates and ex-RAF bases.
- Land and property rental costs are lower in Lincolnshire than in key competitor UK locations including Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Devon and Dorset, enabling profitable productions.¹



A Welcoming, 'Film-friendly' District & Partnership

- South Kesteven is a 'film-friendly' district that actively welcomes productions and recognises the significant value they bring to the area.
- South Kesteven District Council, Film Lincolnshire, and partners including location managers, universities, colleges and businesses work in partnership to support production companies.
- Areas of assistance include identifying local suppliers, facilities, talent, extra actors and crew, to facilitate efficient and cost-effective production projects.



Dedicated Support from Film Lincolnshire

Film Lincolnshire, part of Lincolnshire County Council, provides a single point of contact and support for film productions in South Kesteven, in areas including:

- Identifying suitable locations, securing permissions and expediting road closure permits.
- Identifying and negotiating crew accommodation and other services.
- Providing access to extensive regional knowledge, contacts and networks.

Creative England has recognised the service as a key location benefit.

South Kesteven A proven track record

The UK location of choice for period drama

Since the 1990s, South Kesteven has established a reputation as the UK's home of period film production, providing extraordinary, film-friendly settings for lavish, blockbuster costume dramas.

The area's long and impressive list of film credits reflects this area of excellence, focused on distinctive country house estates and the historic market town of Stamford.

South Kesteven's proven track record of support to HETV, Feature and other levels of production includes:

Filmed at Belton House		
Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story	2023	Netflix series
Doctor Who	2022	60th Anniversary Special
Jane Eyre	2006	TV mini series
Bleak House	2005	TV mini series
The Buccaneers	1995	TV mini series
Pride and Prejudice	1995	TV mini series
Moondial	1988	TV mini series
Filmed at Burghley House		
Frankenstein	2024	Netflix film
The Batman	2022	TV mini series
The Crown	2016-	Doubling as Windsor Castle
Antiques Roadshow	2009	BBC series
Elizabeth: The Golden Age	2007	Film; Cate Blanchett
The Da Vinci Code	2006	Film; Tom Hanks
Pride & Prejudice	2005	Film; Keira Knightley
Middlemarch	1994	TV mini series
Filmed at Harlaxton Manor		
Victoria	2017	• TV drama; Jenna Coleman
Australian Princess	2005	TV series
The Young Visiters	2003	Film; Hugh Laurie, Bill Nighy
The Haunting	1999	Film; Liam Neeson, Catherine Zeta-Jones
The Lady and the Highwayman	1989	Film; Emma Samms, Oliver Reed
Treasure Hunt	1988	TV series; Anneka Rice
The Last Days of Patton	1986	Film; George C. Scott
Filmed at Grimsthorpe Castle		
Mary & George	2024	Sky Atlantic series
Bridgerton	2020	Netflix series
Middlemarch	1994	TV mini series
Filmed in Stamford		
The Crown	2016-	Doubling as a Cotswold village
Pride & Prejudice	2005	Netflix series
Middlemarch	1994	TV mini series
Filmed at Belvoir Castle		
The Young Victoria	2009	Film; Martin Scorsese

Locations showcase Stamford

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Pride and Prejudice, Stamford

Stamford

Stamford is a quaint, unspoiled Georgian (and older) market town, built from limestone with around 600 listed buildings. The town offers a wealth of backdrops including narrow alleys, hidden courtyards, a historic high street and a market square with a busy weekly market.

The River Welland winds through the town, offering classically English riverside views.

Stamford has been used as a location for high-profile films and dramas including *The Crown* (2016-), *Pride and Prejudice* (2005) and *Middlemarch* (1994).







Locations showcase Diverse & adaptable locations

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South Kesteven offers a variety of highly adaptable locations, including previously unseen 'virgin' locations, with the potential to double for diverse periods and settings.





Grantham Historic market town. Grantham Guildhall shown (Victorian, Renaissance Revival style). <u>Link</u>



Easton Walled Garden Historic walled garden and gatehouse. Link

Grantham Historic market town. Angel and Royal Hotel shown (dating from the 14th century). Link



Marston Hall Medieval manor house, in the Thorold family since 1380. <u>Link</u>

Locations showcase Diverse & adaptable locations



Credit: George Parish BBC Look North

Mannakin Hall, Fulbeck Home to a large and unique collection of shop mannequins. Link



Historic Airfields Saltby Airfield, Grantham, shown. Link



Credit: Dave Holloway Drone Footage



Grantham Canal Picturesque canal, shown with the Viking Way. Link

Locations showcase Belton House

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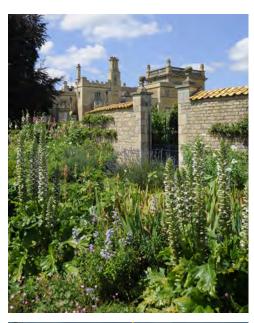




Belton House, built in the late 17th century, has been described as the 'perfect' English country house estate, and an exemplar of Carolean architecture – a distinctive English vernacular style.

<u>A National Trust property</u>, the house contains impressive art, silver, and porcelain collections; a world-renowned library; and a cast iron-framed orangery in the Italian Garden.

The estate features formal gardens of Dutch and Italian design, an ancient deer park, and avenues leading to follies in woodland settings.





Belton House most recently appeared in *Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story* (2023), doubling as King George's residence, Kew Palace, Kew Observatory, and Buckingham House Orangery.

Filming for *Queen Charlotte* took place in the Orangery, Italian Garden, Marble Hall, vegetable garden, scullery and kitchen corridors.

The house also featured prominently in the *Doctor Who 60th Anniversary Special* (2022) and TV mini series including *Jane Eyre* (2006), *Bleak House* (2005), and *Pride and Prejudice* (1995).

Locations showcase Burghley House

Locations showcase Burghley House





Burghley House is a 16th-century stately home and a remarkable example of Elizabethan architecture, set within striking formal gardens and sweeping parkland designed largely by Capability Brown.

The house's grand state rooms and interiors – featuring opulent décor and ceilings, and extensive collections of furnishings and art – provide visual drama and a sense of authenticity that is difficult to replicate on sets.

The wider estate offers historic outbuildings, a deer park, extensive woodlands, private roads, and a serpentine lake.





Burghley House and its estate offer a wide range of authentic, versatile, interior and exterior backdrops for film and TV productions.

Painted state rooms such as the Bow Room, the Heaven Room, and the Hell Staircase have appeared in acclaimed productions including *The Crown* (2016-, doubling as Windsor Castle), *The Da Vinci Code* (2006) and *Pride & Prejudice* (2005).

Combining accessibility, infrastructure and space – for unit bases, film crews, equipment and logistics – Burghley House ensures a seamless and efficient production experience.

Locations showcase Grimsthorpe Castle

Locations showcase Grimsthorpe Castle







Grimsthorpe Castle is a stately home with a monumental presence – constructed from golden limestone and set within 3,000 acres of parkland, including lakes and woodlands, landscaped by Capability Brown.

As the final masterpiece of Sir John Vanbrugh, architect of Blenheim Palace, the house unexpectedly marries the Baroque and Tudor architectural styles.

Productions at Grimsthorpe have included *Bridgerton Series 3* (Netflix 2024), *Mary & George* (Sky Atlantic, 2024), and *Middlemarch* (1994).





Grimsthorpe actively welcomes and facilitates film productions as a valued source of revenue and publicity.

With a hard-standing car park for up to 280 cars and trailers, and extensive fields for further parking, the Castle can support large-scale productions.

'Months of planning goes into filming, hundreds of emails back and forth, considering various requests, risk assessment after risk assessment – but it's all worth it when you see the Castle on the big screen!'

Lucie VonCarthy, Public Access Lead

Locations showcase Harlaxton Manor

Locations showcase Harlaxton Manor





Harlaxton Manor is a spectacular country house with a fairytale facade, set within 300 acres of parkland and gardens.

Built in 1831, the Manor's dramatic architecture combines Gothic, Jacobean and Baroque styles, creating an unforgettable experience.

The sense of magic is further enhanced by a picturesque, mile-long approach, crossing an elegant stone bridge over an ornamental serpentine lake.





The Manor can provide a range of interior and exterior spaces to suit the specific needs of production companies.

Recent film and TV projects have included *The Secret Garden* (2020), *Victoria* (2017), *Australian Princess* (2005), and, most famously, *The Haunting* (1999), starring Liam Neeson and Catherine Zeta-Jones.

South Kesteven Proximity to UK production hubs



Sources: [1] Google Maps, 2025 (estimated fastest times to Grantham); [2] Trainline, 2025

Support for your film production in South Kesteven

The Film Lincolnshire team, part of Lincolnshire County Council, is a one-stop, 'single point of contact' for all film scouting or production enquiries.

We provide dedicated support for film production companies in areas including:

- · Identifying suitable locations
- Securing permissions from landowners and agents
- Identifying and securing suitable space for production, parking and storage
- Identifying and negotiating accommodation, catering and other support services
- Expediting road closure permits
- Providing access to extensive regional knowledge, contacts and networks



This project is funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Contact Us

Contact the Film Lincolnshire team:

e: filming@lincolnshire.gov.uk www.visitlincolnshire.com

Contact Discover South Kesteven:

e: <u>discover@southkesteven.gov.uk</u> <u>www.discoversouthkesteven.com</u>



A Filming in England Partner Organisation

Visit Lincolnshire is a member of Creative England's Filming in England Partnership.

The Partnership helps to create a film-friendly environment for film and TV productions by building connections between supporting organisations including local authorities, locations, facilities, studios and national bodies.



LocationLincs supports production companies with services including:

- Location matching and bespoke scouting for productions
- Working with producers on the feasibility of moving their project to Lincolnshire
- Tapping into cost-effective and captivating locations and facilities

The project is working to make the county a premier filming destination of choice.

www.locationlincs.com

We look forward to being of assistance.







SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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