Our properties have been used as the setting and inspiration for many films and television shows over the years. Follow in the footsteps of your favourite characters and discover Scotland’s dramatic history and rich landscape.

1. BRAVE
Calanais Standing Stones in the Isle of Lewis and Kildrummy Castle (2) in Aberdeenshire provided inspiration for the writers and artists of Disney’s animated feature film, Brave. Following the exploits of Princess Merida and set in the Scottish Highlands, the movie features the voices of Kelly Macdonald, Kevin McKidd and Billy Connolly.

2. OUTLANDER
DOUNE CASTLE
Based on a series of novels by Diana Gabaldon, this romantic drama has recently been brought to life on screen. The story begins in 1945 when WWII nurse Claire Randall, on a second honeymoon in the Scottish Highlands with her husband Frank, is transported back to 1743 where she encounters civil war and dashing Scottish warrior Jamie Fraser. Dounie Castle takes a starring role as Castle Leoch, the home of the MacKenzie Clan in this epic adventure. Other Historic Scotland sites have also featured in the programme including Linlithgow Palace (4), Blackness Castle (5) and Aberdour Castle (6).

3. MONTY PYTHON & THE HOLY GRAIL
DOUNE CASTLE
Considered one of the best comedies of all time, the film parodies the legend of King Arthur’s quest to find the Holy Grail. Largely shot at Dounie Castle in 1975, the site remains a place of pilgrimage for die-hard fans. Even the guided tour at the castle is narrated by Terry Jones!

4. UNDER THE SKIN
TANTALLON CASTLE
Written and directed by Jonathan Glazer, this film stars Scarlett Johansson as an alien who preys on men in Scotland. Nominated for a multitude of awards, most of the characters are played by non-actors with many scenes comprised of unscripted conversations filmed with hidden cameras. Tantallon Castle was one of the settings for this unconventional story.

5. SHETLAND
FORT CHARLOTTE
BBC crime drama series Shetland featuring Scottish actor Douglas Henshall as DI Jimmy Perez, has showcased many local landmarks in this stunning island landscape including Fort Charlotte.

6. THE DECOY BRIDE
CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE
Picturesque Caerlaverock Castle in Dumfries and Galloway had a starring role in the 2011 rom-com The Decoy Bride starring David Tennant and Kelly Macdonald. The film centres around a famous movie star and her writer fiancé desperate to wed away from the prying eyes of the world’s media.

Go Explore... Our Explorer Pass makes it simple to travel around all our sites and offers excellent value for money from only £30.

Visit: www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/explorer to find out more about this great value option.