

# CELEBRATE THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF *HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN* AT WARNER BROS. STUDIO TOUR LONDON – THE MAKING OF HARRY POTTER THIS SUMMER

*Visitors are invited to Return to Azkaban 20 years after the release of the third film as the Studio Tour celebrates the anniversary with a special feature.*



## RETURN TO AZKABAN 1<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024

20<sup>th</sup> February, London: This summer, Harry Potter fans are invited to visit Warner Bros. Studio Tour London to discover the filmmaking magic behind *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, as fan-favourite moments from the film are celebrated 20 years after the cinematic release in 2004.

Brand new for 2024, the Studio Tour is inviting visitors to broaden their minds and cast themselves into the future by exploring the noble art of Divination. For the first time ever, the Divination classroom set will be on display and ready to welcome visitors.

First seen during Harry's third year at Hogwarts in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, the Divination classroom plays a key role in the film's plot, revealing omens of the imminent danger Harry faces. During Divination classes, Hogwarts students are encouraged to broaden their minds and cast themselves into the future and are seen in the film performing Tessenancy, the magical art of reading tea leaves, and looking into crystal balls to divine their futures.

To some eagled eyed fans, the Defence Against the Dark Arts and Divination classrooms may feel familiar. During filming *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, filmmakers re-dressed the Defence Against the Dark Arts classroom to become the lush, fabric-covered Divination classroom we see on-screen. When designing the look and feel of the set, filmmakers started with the idea of a traditional tea shop, with students sitting in pairs at round tables surrounded by mismatched

teacups stacked high around the set. From there, the room was draped in rich red fabric and decorated with jewel-toned velvet pouffes, numerous patterned rugs and Arabian-style lanterns, creating a classroom in which eccentric Professor Trelawney would feel at home.

For the first time, fans are invited to discover the set up-close and take in the hidden details. Fans will remember the iconic moment Professor Trelawney discovers the Grim, an omen of death, in Harry's cup. During the feature, the original teacup will be displayed at the Studio Tour and visitors are invited to interpret the tea leaf sign themselves. Additionally, the grand teacup tower holding over 500 vintage teacups will be on show as well as original costumes worn by Harry, Ron, Hermione and Professor Trelawney.

A new year at Hogwarts means a new Defence Against the Dark Arts professor, and visitors will find a new section of the Defence Against the Dark Arts classroom on display, complete with the Art Nouveau-style Boggart wardrobe and sinister Boggart jack-in-the-box, as seen in the third film.

Also new to the Studio Tour, visitors have the chance to discover the interior of the Knight Bus as a full cross-section of the set will be displayed. To create the Knight Bus, filmmakers welded a third deck onto a traditional London bus before painting it the now iconic shade of purple. Fans will see the Knight Bus in action as the set rattles and the beds move, just as they did when bus driver Ernie made his bumpy ride through London.

Other highlights of Return to Azkaban include stepping foot into the magnificent Great Hall under an enchanted ceiling filled with over 100 floating candles, before being regaled by the Hogwarts Frog Choir and seeing The Monster Book of Monsters go on a rampage in Harry's room at the Leaky Cauldron.

Return to Azkaban will run from 1<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> September and all new features are included in the ticket price.

ENDS

### **Notes to Editors**

After opening its doors to visitors on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012, Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter celebrated its 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary earlier this year. The highly rated attraction offers visitors the ultimate chance to get up close to authentic sets to discover the magic behind spellbinding special effects and explore the behind-the-scenes secrets of the Harry Potter film series. Visitors can explore the original Great Hall, step into the Forbidden Forest, discover Gringotts Wizarding Bank and pull out a mandrake in Professor Sprout's Greenhouse all before marvelling at the breath-taking miniature scale model of Hogwarts castle.

The Studio Tour has been well received with 96% of the 46,000+ reviews on TripAdvisor rating it as 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' and over 80,000 4- or 5-star ratings on Google Reviews. Tickets must be pre-booked at [www.wbstudiotour.co.uk](http://www.wbstudiotour.co.uk) and cannot be bought at the attraction.

Warner Bros. Studio Tour London is part of the Warner Bros. Worldwide Tours and Retail Group which includes the flagship store, Harry Potter New York, Warner Bros. Studio Tour Hollywood, 'The Harry Potter Shop' at London's Kings Cross Station and Heathrow Airport and Warner Bros. Studio Tour Tokyo which opened in June 2023.

## **About Wizarding World**

From the moment Harry Potter was whisked from King's Cross Station onto Platform nine and three quarters, his adventures left a unique mark on popular culture. Over 20 years later, the Wizarding World is established one of the world's best-loved franchises and boasts a passionate community of fans of all ages.

Today, it represents an ever evolving and vast interconnected universe. Eight blockbuster Harry Potter films brought J.K. Rowling's magical stories to life and fans can now dive into three epic Fantastic Beasts films, gasp at the multi-award-winning Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, play state-of-the-art games from Portkey Games, discover innovative consumer products, and thrill at spectacular location-based experiences - including five theme park lands at Universal Studios locations around the world, ground-breaking touring experiences and events, and more which celebrate special moments and locations from the magical world.

This expanding portfolio of Warner Bros. Discovery-owned Wizarding World offerings also includes the Platform 9 ¾ retail shops and Harry Potter New York – the iconic flagship store. Fans and newcomers alike can also delight in exploring the behind-the-scenes secrets at Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter and Warner Bros. Studio Tour Tokyo – The Making of Harry Potter.

With a new Max Original TV series based on the Harry Potter books on the way, the Wizarding World continues to evolve to provide its global community with fresh and exciting ways to engage. For its worldwide fans, and for generations to come, it welcomes everyone in to explore and discover the magic for themselves.

For the latest news and features across the Franchise, visit Wizarding World Digital at [www.wizardingworld.com](http://www.wizardingworld.com).

Issued 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
WBSTL Press Office  
[press@wbstudiotour.co.uk](mailto:press@wbstudiotour.co.uk)