



Filming in Croatia 2018

—
2nd edition



Croatian
Audiovisual
Centre

Hrvatski audiovizualni centar

Filming in Croatia 2018

2nd edition

COVER PHOTO:

Star Wars: The Last Jedi, John Wilson/Lucasfilm

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Production Guide



Osijek, Miro Romulić

Contents

Introduction · 6

Filming in Croatia · 10

The Incentive Programme · 14

Selective Co-Production Funding · 22

Producers' Testimonials · 27

Locations · 40

Country at a glance · 43

Istria · 45

Kvarner and the Highlands · 49

Dalmatia · 53

Slavonia · 57

Central Croatia · 61

Crews and Services · 64

Production Know-How · 67

Production Companies · 71

Crews · 73

Facilities and Technical Equipment · 75

Costumes and Props · 77

Hotels and Amenities · 79

Airports and Sea Transport · 81

Buses and Railways · 83

Traffic and Roads · 85

Permits and equipment · 89

Location Permits · 91

Shooting with Unmanned Aircraft

Systems (drones) · 93

Visas · 95

Work Permits for Foreign Nationals · 97

Customs Regulations · 99

Temporary Import of Professional
Equipment · 101

Made in Croatia · 103

Introduction



Star Wars: The Last Jedi, John Wilson/Lucasfilm,
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Croatia recently increased the cash rebate rate to 25%. An additional 5% has been approved for productions filming in regions with below average development. Positive changes in the incentives programme are set to encourage producers to explore new great locations for filming in Croatia.

Croatia offers an ideal combination of filming conditions. It is a small, yet diverse country, whose breathtaking locations feature landscapes and architecture that can accommodate even the most demanding visual requirements.

In addition, Croatia's long standing tradition of film and commercials production has helped foster a number of highly skilled film crews and production companies who are able to service multiple big productions simultaneously shooting in Croatia.

Since introducing the Production Incentive Programme in 2012, numerous projects chose Croatia as a location for their production. *Star Wars*, the greatest modern film mythology, set its casino city of Canto Bight in the old city of Dubrovnik, while the new iteration of

Robin Hood, produced by Lionsgate and directed by Otto Bathurst, used its authentic medieval looks to recreate the ancient walls of Nottingham Castle. The natural beauties of Vis island served as a location for *Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again*, while the waste and stunning locations of the island of Pag played an Arctic landscape in AMC's suspenseful thriller series *The Terror*, executive-produced by Ridley Scott. Numerous locations throughout Croatia hosted the new BBC One series *McMafia*, created by Hossein Amini and James Watkins. There's also the planetary popular *Game of Thrones* series, which chose Dubrovnik as the setting for King's Landing, the fortress of Klis as the city of Meereen and locations in Šibenik and Kaštilac for the city of Braavos.

All these and many more productions decided to shoot in Croatia not only for the stunning locations and the rebate scheme, but also for its exceptional local crews and production companies with impressive records in domestic and international productions. These factors, in combination with the country's proximity to some of Europe's largest filmmaking centres such as Budapest, Munich and Prague, made Croatia one of the most attractive filming destinations in Europe.



Filming in Croatia

In the summer of 2007, the Croatian Parliament passed a new Law on Audiovisual Activities, underlying its commitment to boosting the creative industries in the country. In January 2008, the newly founded governing film body, The Croatian Audiovisual Centre (HAVC), opened its doors. As an integral part of HAVC, Filming in Croatia Department administers the Production Incentive Programme and promotes Croatia as a location for international production.

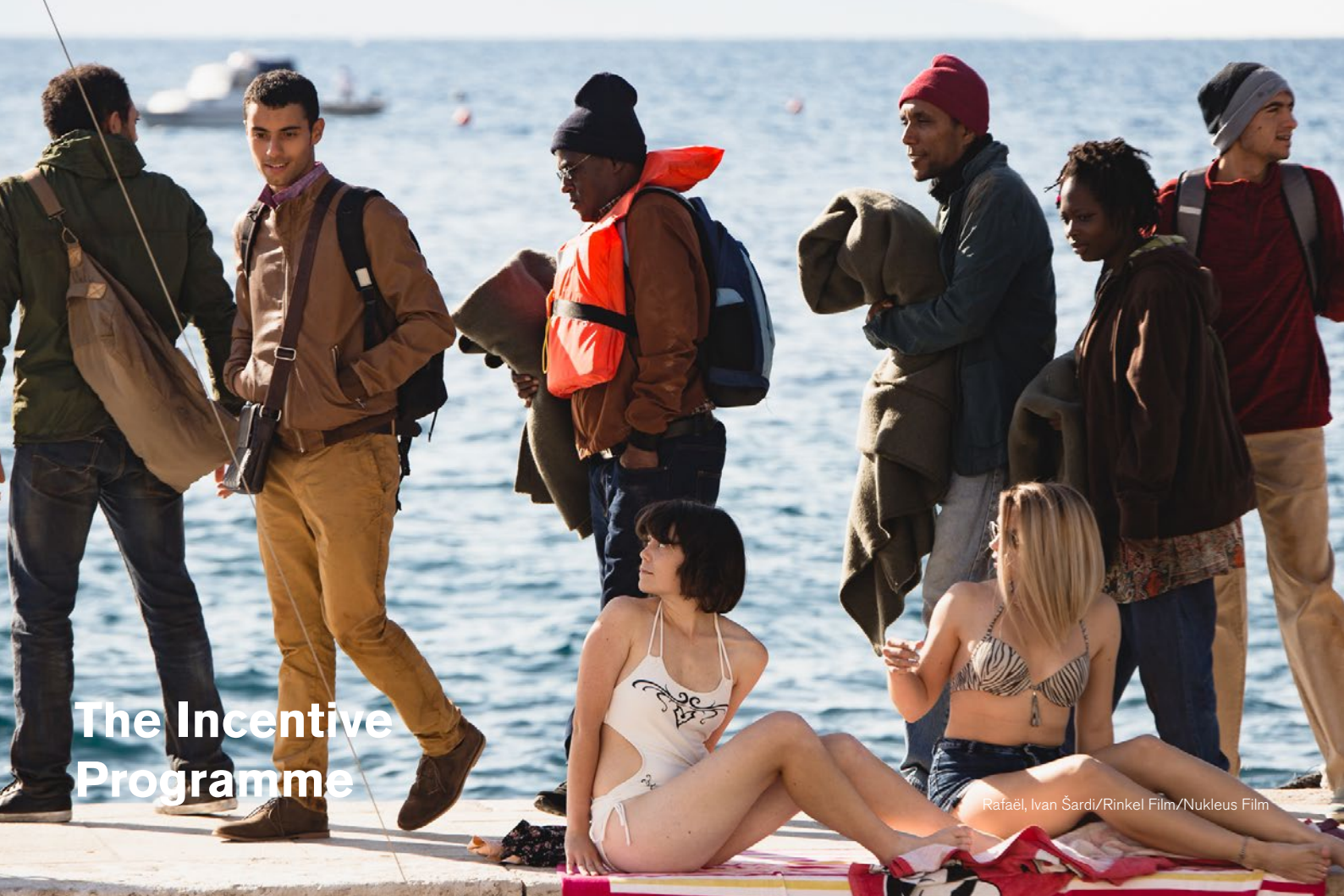
Filming in Croatia Department helps navigate international filmmakers through practical production requirements, and support schemes available for international productions in Croatia. Working closely with both commercial and public sector in Croatia, Filming in Croatia can assist you with any queries regarding your shoot and stay in Croatia, such as:

- connecting you with local production personnel that matches your shooting requirements
- providing you with information concerning legal requirements, permits and logistics
- putting you in touch with local and state authorities
- offering comprehensive information on our selective and automatic funding schemes
- providing you with continuous support throughout your entire project cycle
- providing an online database of location photographs

If you are considering shooting your next project in Croatia, Filming in Croatia is an excellent first point of contact. With a wealth of information and insight into the nuts and bolts of filmmaking, we can provide you with all the necessary information you need in order to make an informed decision and make the most out of your filming experience in Croatia.

For more information, please visit **filmingincroatia.hr**, or contact us at: **filmingincroatia@havic.hr**.

The Croatian Audiovisual Centre (HAVC) is a member of the European Film Commissions Network (EUFCN) and Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI).



The Incentive Programme

Rafaël, Ivan Šardi/Rinkel Film/Nukleus Film

Financial incentive for Film and TV productions shooting in Croatia is available to international and local filmmakers in the form of a rebate of 25% on qualifying Croatian spending. An additional 5% is approved for productions filming in regions with below average development. The variety of filming locations, combined with high-quality local service providers and financial feasibility make Croatia one of the top destinations on the world's filmmaking map.

OVERVIEW

The Incentive Programme is administered on a first-come, first served basis. The rebate is calculated on the total qualifying expenditure, without including value added tax, and is paid directly to the applicant's Croatian bank account. Qualified spend consists of the costs of goods and services purchased in Croatia and wages paid to Croatian tax residents (both cast and crew) for services carried out in Croatia.

REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must be a Croatian producer, co-producer or production service provider that has produced or provided production services for at least one publicly shown audiovisual work within the last three years.

The complete application must be submitted to the Centre at least 30 days prior to the start of principal photography. The applicant must provide proof that (1) at least 70 % of the financing to cover Croatian production costs has been secured; (2) pass the cultural test scoring a minimum of 12 points, out of a maximum of 34; and, (3) cast and crew consist of at least 30% of either Croatian or European Economic Area (EEA) citizens, for productions filming partially in Croatia, or 50% for productions filming entirely in Croatia. Qualifying productions are issued a provisional certificate and, upon completion of the production in Croatia and submission of audited accounts, a final certificate which guarantees payment.

The Croatian partner provides the full range of production services including: location scouting, scheduling, budgeting, casting, crewing, and takes full responsibility for all production services carried out in Croatia throughout the life-span of the production.

FAST FACTS

Type of incentive

Rebate

Benefits a production can receive from the Programme (as % of spending)

25%* of the qualifying local expenditure

* additional 5% for productions filming in regions with below average development

Qualifying production formats

- Feature films
- Documentaries
- Animation
- tv films and tv series

The Rebate does not apply to commercials, reality tv, game shows and soaps.

Criteria to access the benefit

1 MINIMUM CROATIAN SPEND DEPENDENT ON THE KIND OF PROJECT:

- HRK 2 million (EUR 263,000) for feature films;
- HRK 300,000 (EUR 39,000) for documentaries;
- HRK 500,000 (EUR 66,000) for animation films;
- HRK1 million (EUR 132,000) for television films; and
- HRK 750,000 (EUR 99,000) for each tv episode.

** Currency converted according to the exchange rate 1 EUR = 7.6 HRK*

2 USE OF CROATIAN CAST AND CREW The benefit is based on the cost of Croatian tax residents (cast and crew) working in Croatia, as well as goods and services purchased in Croatia.

3 CULTURAL TEST The Croatian Cultural/Qualifying Test comprises three categories: cultural content; creative collaboration and the use of Croatian production capacities, such as studios or locations. To be eligible, the project has to score 12 out of 34 points, granted that at least 4 points are scored in each category. No preference is given to projects scoring higher on the Cultural Test.

Productions benefiting from more than HRK 4 million (approximately EUR 520,000), have to employ at least one Croatian trainee in each of the main production departments.



Casanova, courtesy of Embassy Film

Evaluating the application

The Incentive Committee, comprising of 5 members appointed by the Minister of Culture, meets at least once every three months.

Members of the Incentive Committee are:

- representative of the Ministry of Culture,
- two representatives of the Croatian Producers Association,
- representative of the Ministry of Finance and
- representative of the Croatian Audiovisual Centre.

When will the benefit/incentive be received?

The net benefit will be made available upon completion of production, submission of audited accounts, and evidence that all the requirements have been met.

Contacts

For further information on the Croatian Production Incentive Programme, please visit: filmingincroatia.hr, or contact us directly at: filmingincroatia@havc.hr.



Selective Co-production Funding

Cure – The Life of Another, Okofilm Productions

Besides production incentive, a film project with international partners can also benefit from the selective minority co-production support.

In the past few years, the Croatian Audiovisual Centre supported a number of internationally acclaimed Croatian minority co-productions, including *Sparrows* by Rúnar Rúnarsson, *Sieranevada* by Cristi Puiu, *Circles* by Srđan Golubović, *Men Don't Cry* by Alen Drljević, *Interruption* by Yorgos Zios, *Sofia's Last Ambulance* by Ilian Metev, *Velvet Terrorists* by Pavol Pekarčík, Ivan Ostrochovský, and Peter Kerekes, *Kismet* by Nina Maria Paschalidou, etc.

Minority Co-production Scheme provides funding for projects originating outside Croatia, but with Croatian participation. This is a selective scheme, with projects assessed solely on their artistic merit by appointed artistic consultants. Films supported through this scheme must be able to qualify as official co-productions under either bilateral treaties, or the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production. Croatian co-producers, interested in applying for this support scheme, can apply for funding upon the Centre's call for applications, which is an open call with 4 yearly submission deadlines.

Eligibility criteria for selective co-production funding:

- Fiction, documentary and animation, both feature length and shorts
- Croatian producer is involved as a creative collaborator and provider of a minority of the finance needed
- 50% of the financing already in place,
- At least 60% of the approved funding must be spent in Croatia, on Croatian services, cast and crew
- Croatian share of financing must be at least 10% of the production's overall budget
- Participation of Croatian artistic and technical staff, depending on the co-production financing share
- An official co-production under either a bilateral treaty, or the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production

Croatia is a signatory to the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production, and also has bilateral co-production agreements with Canada, France, Germany and Italy. It is a member of the European co-production fund Eurimages and the EU Creative Europe Programme/MEDIA subprogramme.

For further information on selective co-production funding, please visit the funding section on **www.havc.hr**.

Producers' Testimonials



All Inclusive, Nikola Predović/Avatar Film/MP film Production



**James Watkins,
Director, *McMafia*:**

We shot in many territories around the world, main and second unit, to give us that breadth of scale. We were in London, Croatia, Serbia, Qatar, India, Turkey, Czech Republic, and Israel. None of the story is actually set in Croatia but Croatia is incredibly impressive in how it can double for so many places, there is such a variety of landscape and architecture.

**James Norton,
Actor, *McMafia*:**

I have been blown away by this extraordinary country. The locations were consistently wonderful. Beautiful coastline, buzzing cities. Swimming every morning before call, eating fresh fish every night after wrap. The other big draw is the crew. They are all so good at their jobs, but also such good people individually. Igor Nola and his team never missed a beat, always went the extra mile, and ensured that we all finished the job sharing the love for this remarkable country. In that regard, this experience has been incomparable.

McMafia, BBC/Cuba Pictures/Nick Wall



Rian Johnson, Director, *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*:

The first conversations you have are always about what makes something feel like Star Wars. Croatia was the perfect place to shoot Canto Bight. It was an early idea I had that it would be fun to see sort of the Monte Carlo of the Star Wars galaxy. That it would be fun to just go someplace totally different, get a totally new flavor on the plate in this movie.*

Star Wars: The Last Jedi, John Wilson/Lucasfilm
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* Published on StarWars.com (December 11th 2017)



Mikkel Jersin, Producer, Snowglobe:

Working in a new country can be a major challenge for any film production, but in our case it became an advantage. Collaborating with MP films and Filming in Croatia has been a great experience and ultimately a game changer for several projects in our company. The Croatian crews are experienced and the artistic level is high. We got so much more in Croatia, than what we expected. At the moment we are preparing several new collaborations for the years to come, all aiming for rather extensive shoots in Croatia. Based on my own experiences, I can recommend Croatia to any other producer and director as one of Europe's finest film nations on so many levels.

Lifeboat, Nikola Predović/Snowglobe/MP Film Productions



Rafaël, Ivan Šardi/Rinkel Film/Nukleus Film

Ben Somobogaart, Director, *Rafaël*:

When line producer Ben Bouwmeester proposed to shoot in Croatia, I knew it would work well. The beautiful Croatian landscape and coast fits our story, and the involvement of the crew with the refugee story we are telling also adds to the joy of working here. We feel very confident we will be able to tell our story in the best possible way with the help of the Croatian crew and co-producer.

Melody Klaver, Actress, *Rafaël*:

I've truly had one of the most amazing time of my life. Working on something so special together, I fell in love more and more with each new arising day. There have been struggles, tears, sweat and even blood, but I enjoyed every moment of it. These memories will be with me forever. I would really wish this kind of creative collaboration to every storyteller or human being.



set of Robin Hood, courtesy of Pakt Media

Otto Bathurst, Director, *Robin Hood*:

In movies with historical themes, the choice of location is crucial. We looked at dozens of locations around the world, but Dubrovnik very quickly established itself as the only choice.



**Nicky Kentish Barnes,
Executive Producer,
*Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again:***

It was beautifully smooth water and clear skies. We had an immensely smooth shoot in Croatia, which we couldn't have done without the great team of Croatian professionals provided by our service provider Pakt Media and so many local helping hands. It was a wonderful experience for all, on what was a tough logistical film. I can't wait to work here again.

Komiza, Mario Romulic

Locations



Winnetou trilogy, Nikola Predović/RatPack

For a relatively small country, Croatia offers a wide variety of geographical and cultural locations.

The capital Zagreb is an attractive central European town and the historic coastal towns of Dubrovnik, Split, Trogir, Šibenik, Zadar and Pula offer well-preserved Roman, Medieval and Renaissance architecture, as well as film-friendly authorities. Historically, the country has always stood at the crossroads of Eastern and Western cultures, and even nowadays it stays true to its designation as a meeting point of different cultures.

Indeed, it is a space where the Roman rubs with the Medieval, the Renaissance and the best of the Baroque, peacefully co-existing with the 19th century Austro-Hungarian architecture and design. The best examples of the post-wwii design, such as the newly restored Tito's villas in Split and the Brioni archipelago off the Western coast of Istria, stand testimony to more recent times and customs. Such a varied and eclectic sample of possible filming locations is not commonly found.

Croatia is able to offer producers and directors authentic film sets, which, like in the case of *Games of Thrones* or *Winnetou*, require very little additional computer generated image. Croatian sets have often doubled for locations from other countries. Zagreb, for example, was used for recreating Austrian, Hungarian, Swiss, Czech and German cities, while some locations - such as the Dalmatian hinterland, Plitvice Lakes and Krka national parks, Zrmanja River

canyon, Velebit mountain, Cetina River in Omiš, Grobnik Field and Platak mountain near Rijeka - largely influenced Western European audience's ideas of the American Wild West, since 11 films featuring a fictional Apache chieftain Winnetou were filmed at these places. Danish film *Itsi Bitsi*, directed by Ole Christian Madsen, used Croatian locations to stand in for 17 countries including Greece, Turkey, France, Denmark, Nepal, Spain and Morocco. BBC's eight-part tv drama *McMafia*, set against a sweeping international backdrop, used Croatian locations as a stand in for Moscow, Prague, Negev desert, Tel Aviv and many more.

Croatia is also one of the rare countries that boast an amazing mixture of different climates: continental, Mediterranean and semi-highland and highland, all that in a radius of less than 200 kilometers. In practical terms, this means that it is enough for the film crew to be based, for example, in the sunny Italianate Adriatic coast historical town and yet to be just an hour drive away from a totally different landscape: either Wild West arid planes of the Croatian coastal hinterland or Alpine looking snow-covered mountain peaks.



Country at a Glance

Croatia lies between central and eastern Europe, bordering the Adriatic coast. It extends over 56,594 square kilometers, bordering Slovenia and Hungary in the north, Serbia in the east and Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro in the south. Croatia also has a long maritime border with Italy in the Adriatic Sea. Croatia is a parliamentary democracy at the crossroads of Central Europe, the Balkans and the Mediterranean. With an estimated population of 4.3 million in 2011, it is divided into 20 counties and the City of Zagreb, its capital and largest city. The focal Croatian economic assets include the Adriatic coast, substantial agricultural areas, and significant fresh water resources, along with the traffic infrastructure. It has an amazing 6,278 km of coastline, including 1,244 islands, of which 48 are inhabited.

Croatia can be divided into three geographically distinct zones: the coastal region; the highland region; and the Pannonian lowlands region. Its terrain composes of rocky coastlines, flat plains along the Hungarian border, densely wooded mountains, lakes, and rolling hills. Among the 8,216 square kilometers of protected areas of nature are eight National parks, eleven Nature parks and numerous other reserves. The country's rich cultural heritage that endured the Roman, Venetian, Italian and Austro-Hungarian rule is evident in its architecture, which offers outstanding examples ranging from pre-Roman, Romanesque, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and modern architecture.

Although Croatia is officially divided into 21 administrative regions (counties), the country can be divided into 5 clusters: Istria, Kvarner and the Highlands, Dalmatia, Slavonia and Central Croatia.



Istria

Istria is the westernmost county of the Republic of Croatia and occupies the largest peninsula of the Adriatic Sea, mirroring the bay of Venice across from the Adriatic Sea and bordering Slovenia. The beauty of the Istrian landscape continues to inspire artists and travelers alike. The picturesque small towns of Istria with their narrow streets, towers, churches and old palaces are scattered through lush green hills and valleys. The views are spectacular: vineyards, olive groves, valleys, mountains and streams that flow into the crystal blue sea.

The city of Pula is the region's cultural and economic center and home to one of the best-preserved Roman amphitheaters in the world. The town's 3,000 year history reveals itself through its rich architecture, where Roman temples, baroque palaces, early Christian churches, Austrian villas, remnants of mediaeval walls and the antique town gates still stand as vivid reminders of its glorious past. Other cities in Istria include Rovinj, one of the most beautiful towns on the Adriatic coast; Poreč, a living cultural monument whose foundations were laid during the Roman Empire; and Umag, whose narrow streets preserved a Medieval urban structure.

For more info reach Istria Film Commission
(www.istriafilmcommission.com)

Rovinj, Mario Romulić



Hum, Igor Nobile



Rijeka, Mario Romulo

Kvarner and the Highlands

This region includes the seashore and highlands north of Dalmatia and is composed of 2 sub-regions; the littoral region of the Bay of Kvarner and the mountainous and forested region of Lika and Gorski Kotar. Only an hour drive from Italy, and a 1,5 hour drive from the Croatian capital Zagreb, Kvarner is a region that offers an ideal solution for those looking for a maximum diversity of locations, settings and climates over a small area surface. Its capital Rijeka, Croatia's biggest port, is a middle-European looking city with a cosmopolitan vibe, that is home to palaces in the baroque and neo-classicist style, art galleries, museums and a beautiful theatre. Croatia's two biggest islands, Krk and Cres are also situated in Kvarner. Both islands offer pristine beaches, beautiful vistas of vineyards and olive groves, and numerous architectural examples of their rich history: Roman, Venetian and Austro-Hungarian. As venerable counterparts of the coastal area are the mountainous regions of Gorski Kotar and Lika, where the National Parks Risnjak, Northern Velebit and the Plitvice Lakes, along with numerous other protected nature parks, offer dreamlike settings of unspoiled nature: sparkling springs that grow into beautiful rivers, streams and rivulets; dense, fairytale-like forests; soft grazing meadows; translucent lakes; magnificent hills and spectacular mountain landscapes overlooking the Adriatic Sea.

For more info reach Kvarner Film Commission
(www.kvarner-film.org).



White and Samarske Rocks, Mario Romulić



Dalmatia

Dalmatia is the long coastal strip of the Adriatic Sea and its many islands, separated from the continent by a mountain range. It is traditionally divided into three sub-regions: Northern Dalmatia, which has lots of small islands and a deep, connected inland (Zadar); Central Dalmatia with bigger islands (Brač and Hvar), mountains close to coast (Biokovo) and a somewhat separated inland (Split); Southern Dalmatia, which is the narrow strip of land around Dubrovnik. The astonishing natural beauties of Dalmatia have much more to offer than just its legendary combination of white stone and blue sea. This region offers some of the most beautiful Mediterranean beaches with rough cliffs or sandy shores; wild rapids that dissipate into scenic rivers; crystal-clear lakes and 7 of Croatia's 10 UNESCO protected cultural landscapes. The natural and architectural wonders make Dalmatia not only one of the most attractive tourist destinations, but also provide for a perfect shooting location. Filmmakers can choose from a range of different natural and architectural settings - perfectly preserved ancient ruins of the Diocletian's Palace in Split; Roman and Medieval forts; Romanesque churches or Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings from the Venetian period. The cities of Zadar, Šibenik, Split and Dubrovnik are the region's main hubs, but the surrounding National parks, nature reserves, as well as towns and villages on the islands and in the hinterland all have amazing filming potential.

For more info contact Zadar Film Commission (www.zadartfilmcommission.com), or visit dalmatia.hr, visitdubrovnik.hr, visitsplit.com, sibenikregion.com.



Cetina, Mario Romulić



Osijek, Mario Romulić

Slavonia

Situated in the far eastern part of Croatia, bordering with Hungary, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slavonia is famous for its wide golden plains, oak forests and ancient wine cellars. Slavonia is Croatia's most fertile region, outlined by the rivers Drava in the North, Sava in the South and the Danube in the East. Here picturesque villages and the surrounding cultivated fields offer the ideal rustic setting. The cultural center is the historical city of Osijek, with its baroque style buildings, a fortified centre (the Tvrđa) dating back to the 18th century, the splendidly neo-Gothic Church of St Peter and St Paul and some excellent examples of the Art Nouveau architecture popular in this part of the world in the late 19th century. Slavonia is also home to the cities of Slavonski Brod, Vukovar and Đakovo, whose unique continental architecture features Baroque and Classicist palaces, forts, and cathedrals. It's also the home of the world-famous Kopački Rit, a natural wetlands reserve formed at the confluence of the Drava river into the Danube. The reserve offers stunning scenery of nature in its most diverse and untamed form. The ample aesthetic appeal of Slavonia's cultural, architectural and natural sites offer filmmakers an opportunity to create magical and captivating settings that are guaranteed to enrich the dramatic impact of their photography.

For more info visit tzosijek.hr, tzbpz.hr,
tzosbarzup.hr, tz-vinkovci.hr, tzvsz.hr.



Kopački rit, Mario Romulić



Varaždin, Mario Romulić

Central Croatia

Central Croatia occupies the north–eastern region of Croatia and is situated between two large entities: the mountainous part in the south–west, through which routes continue towards the Coast, and the Slavonian plain in the east. Lying in the valleys of the rivers Sava, Drava and Mura, this continental part of Croatia is also home to the Croatia's capital Zagreb. Central Croatia is a region where lowlands mesh with rolling hills covered with vineyards and beech and oak forests. The area offers well-preserved medieval citadels, 19th century feudal manors, Baroque castles and cities and beautifully groomed parks. Among the cities and towns are Varaždin, dubbed “Croatia's Vienna”, Čakovec, Karlovac, Bjelovar, Koprivnica, Krapina, Križevci and Sisak. Zagreb, Croatia's capital, is also its largest city and the country's cultural, economic and cinematic hub.

Zagreb is a typical Central European city with an old city center featuring classicist and secessionist facades in the Austro-Hungarian style, a Baroque Upper Town, a colorful open-air market in the vicinity of a beautiful Gothic cathedral, and magnificent green parks throughout the city. The city center, bustling with life, offers the majority of the city's cultural and gastronomic venues, with museums, galleries, theatres, charming coffee houses, restaurants, and clubs. The commercial center of Zagreb features modern architecture with high-rise buildings that can stand in as any contemporary European city. Because of its architectural and geographical diversity, Zagreb and its surrounding areas provide filmmakers with a variety of looks, which makes it an ideal location for shooting various settings in a relatively small area.



Mirogoj, Mario Romulić

Zagreb offers a wide range of accommodation and has excellent air, road and train connections to other European and non-European cities. In addition to the Zagreb International Airport, that is only 17 km away from the city center, a new network of motorways connects Zagreb to Italy, Austria, Slovenia and Hungary.

For more info visit:

**zagreb-touristinfo.hr, tzzz.hr, turizam-vzz.hr,
turizam-smz.hr, tzm.hr, tzkzz.hr,
tz-koprivnicko-krizevacka.hr, tzbbz.hr.**



Crews and Services

The Guardian Angel, Nikola Predović/
Art Films productions/MP Film Production



Renegades, Courtesy of PakT Media © EuropaCorp

Production Know-How

Croatia has a long track record in international production, especially prior to the 90's, when it was among the largest European service production destinations for American productions, second only to the UK. Its century-long film tradition had brought famous directors and actors to many Croatian cities, especially to Zagreb and the country's coast. Iconic names like Orson Welles, Richard Burton, Yul Brynner, Meryl Streep, Anita Ekberg, Robert Mitchum, Omar Sharif, Vanessa Redgrave, Kevin Klein, Tom Selleck, Jackie Chan, Richard Gere, Franco Nero, Harrison Ford, to name a few, shot on locations in Zagreb and its surroundings, as well as in other Croatian cities.

Soon after the World War II, in the late 50's, Croatia became the place for shooting foreign films, first Italian and afterwards American. For instance, Orson Welles decided in the early 60's to shoot his film *The Trial* in Zagreb. Sam Peckinpah shot his war film *Cross of Iron* in 1977, Volker Schlöndorff shot in 1979 *The Tin Drum*, which won an Oscar and The Golden Palm (Palme d'Or) at the Cannes Film Festival. Large American productions came to Croatia. Namely, director Alan J. Pakula with *Sophie's choice*, starring Meryl Streep.

In the second half of the 80's, *Armor of God* was shot by the Hong Kong actor and director Jackie Chan. Other films shot in Croatia include also: Norman Jewison's Oscar winning *Fiddler on the Roof* (1971), István Szabó's Oscar contender *Colonel Redl* (1985), Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (1990), and others.

The successful Croatian filming story continued until the early 90's, when it suddenly slowed down due to the 1990's war. After the war ended, the activity was continued with varied films such as Emily Young's indie film *Kiss of Life* (2003), Carlo Gabriel Nero's *The Fever* (2004) starring Vanessa Redgrave and Angelina Jolie, Dutch children's classic *Crusade in Jeans* (2006), as well as the UK television mini-series *Casanova* (2005), in a version starring Peter O'Toole and David Tennant. Richard Shepard's *Hunting Party* (2007), starring Richard Gere and Terence Howard, was also filmed in Croatia, as was *White Lightnin'* (2009), debut of director Dominic Murphy starring Carrie Fisher and first timer Ed Hogg.

Introducing the 20% cash rebate scheme in 2012, Croatia attracted a series of high-profile international shoots, such as *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* (2016) directed by Rian Johnson, Lionsgate's *Robin Hood* (2017) directed by Otto Batthurst, Universal's *Mamma Mia: Here we Go Again* (2017) directed by Ol Parker and EuropaCorp's *Renegades* (2015) directed by Steven Quale. European hits and art-house films include new version of German Western movie series *Winnetou* (2015); Jérôme Salle's *The Odyssey* (2015), a biopic of a world famous oceanographer Jacques Cousteau starring Lambert Wilson and Audrey Tautou; Oliver Hirschbiegel's *Diana* (2012) starring Naomi Watts; popular Danish comedy *Three Heists and a Hamster* directed by Rasmus Heide; *Pound for pound* (2016), biopic of a Danish boxer Jørgen 'Gamle' Hansen directed by Mikkel Serup; Swedish comedy *All Inclusive* (2016) directed by Karin Fahlen; Constantin Television's tv films *Homicide Unit Split* (2015-2017) for German broadcaster ARD, etc. Bollywood hit *Fan*, starring superstar Shahrukh Khan, was the first official India-Croatia collaboration. Let's not forget tv series shot in Croatia:

starting with the acclaimed HBO television series *Game of Thrones* (2012-2015) to AMC's *The Terror* (2016), BBC's *McMafia* (2016-2017), History Channel's *Knightfall* (2016), NBC Universal's *Dig* (2014-2015), Studio Canal's *Crossing Lines* (2015), Canal Plus' *Borgia* (2014), SVT's Swedish series *The Lost Treasure of Aquila* (2014), BBC America's *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell* (2014) etc. Factual and other television formats also should not be neglected - Croatia records a significant increase in tv documentaries and popular reality shows, which have decided to shoot in Croatia.

In addition to a thriving local av industry, the continuous presence of international service productions and co-productions ensures that Croatia stays up to date with current film and commercials' production trends and techniques.

With the new Law on Audiovisual Activities (NN 61/18), incentives have increased from 20% to 25%, and in regions with below average development to 30%. These positive changes are not only encouraging productions to explore new great locations, but are also creating a positive impact on local communities. The German feature film *The Master Butcher's Singing Club* (directed by Ulrich Edel), was the first production filming in regions of particular national interest and using the 30% cash rebate.



Game of Thrones, © Macall B. Polay/HBO

Production Companies

There are a number of full-service production companies in Croatia with experience in international productions.

Croatian production companies can assist you in any aspect and phase of your project – from preliminary location scouting, by putting you in touch with and tax and legal advice services, through assisting with visa applications, shooting permits, accommodation, travel and catering arrangements, to casting, facilities and equipment rental, special effects, editing, sound post-production, or anything else your project may require.

Whether looking for a co-producer or a production service provider with international experience, the best step is to contact Filming in Croatia Department that can help put you in touch with a company tailored to your production needs.

Use our online Industry Directory to find Croatian companies for the project you want to make in Croatia. Our database provides a searchable directory of Croatian production companies and general service companies with their contact details.

You can access it on our website **filmingincroatia.hr**.



On the road with Elsa, Courtesy of Pakt Media © Rowboat

Crews

Croatia's film crews are highly skilled and reliable, able to efficiently carry out even the most demanding production. With a long tradition of international productions shooting in the country, Croatia's offer of experienced English-speaking cast and crew is substantial and varied.

If you are looking to hire local talent in the Art Department, Grip, Post-Production or any other department, we can assist you in finding the most suitable and qualified companies and freelance creative staff and technicians that are able to do the job skillfully, on time and on budget.

There are also a number of local casting agencies whose comprehensive databases contain detailed profiles of principal acting talent and extras of a wide range of looks, skills and experience in film, TV, and commercials. In addition, some of the service production companies have their own in-house casting departments, so you can be sure that you will find the perfect match for any given role.



Den Bedste Mand, Nikola Predović/Nimbus Film/MP Film Production

Facilities and Technical Equipment

With plans to build a studio complex at the outskirts of the capital city of Zagreb underway, some sound stages in historically renowned Jadran Film studio complex in Zagreb are still in use. In addition to this, there are several smaller stages, as well as a number of warehouses and open lots throughout the country that are regularly adapted by local production companies for larger scale shoots.

Croatian rental houses with experience in domestic and international productions and their qualified English-speaking technicians, trained to work with a wide range of equipment, are able to cater to your every need.

Local state of the art postproduction facilities, ranging from picture and sound editing, SFX, computer animation to dubbing studios are able to deliver complex jobs on short deadlines.



The Guardian Angel, Nikola Predović/
Art Films productions/MP Film Production

Costumes and Props

With a tradition of international co-productions that includes spaghetti westerns, wwI and wwII movies, historical and biblical dramas, sci-fi movies etc., Croatia offers some of the largest collections of period and theme specific costumes and props.

In addition to film studios and theatres offering ready-made costumes, there are also a number of local designers and tailors with experience in period wear, able to create tailor-made costumes. Croatia also has an impressive collection of props: furniture, weapons and period action vehicles, both military and civilian. The same amount of creative energy and skills can be found in local craftsmen and set designers, whose painting, carpentry, woodwork and other skills are guaranteed to build even the most elaborate sets that are consistent with the story, tone and visual identity of your project.



Hotels and Amenities

As a popular tourist destination, Croatia has many moderately priced hotels and restaurants, as well as five-star ones. Whether you are looking to book a five-star, or a boutique hotel, or a B&B, or to rent a private villa or your own lighthouse there are a number of local agencies able to arrange individual or group stays that will cater to your specific needs.

Croatia's rich culinary tradition that reflects the country's unique geography and colourful history can be savoured throughout the country: from high-end restaurants to country taverns. There is also a wide range of bars, cafes and clubs.

Throughout the year, Croatia offers many cultural events – concerts, festivals, theatres, and exhibitions can be enjoyed in all major Croatian cities.

More information on Croatia can be found on the website of the Croatian National Tourist Board: **croatia.hr**.

Dubrovnik, Mario Romulić



Dalmatia, Mario Romulić

Airports and Sea Transport

International air traffic goes through the seven airports: Zagreb, Zadar, Split, Dubrovnik, Rijeka, Osijek and Pula. The domestic carrier is Croatia Airlines, but all major companies fly to Croatia, as does a number of low-cost airlines.

For details about flights to Croatia, please visit: **croatiaairlines.com**.

Coastal line passenger transport goes between the Croatian islands (73 island ports) and the mainland coast (22 mainland ports). There are six main ports (Rijeka, Zadar, Šibenik, Split, Ploče and Dubrovnik), with majority of passenger transport carried out in Split and Zadar, while Dubrovnik is the port with the majority of traffic of cruising vessels. The majority of cargo traffic is carried out in the Rijeka and Ploče ports. The main Croatian ship passenger carrier is Jadrolinija, but there are a number of other privately owned carriers. Ferry services are also available to Italy.

For details about maritime travel, please visit: **jadrolinija.hr**, or Croatian Port Authorities' Association web-site: **portauthority.hr**.



Vinkovci, Mario Romulić

Buses and Railways

Croatia's railway system is well developed and offers direct connections with Slovenia, Hungary, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. There are transfer connections with almost all other European countries. All rail services are operated by the national railway company Croatian Railways (Hrvatske željeznice).

For details, please check their web: **hznet.hr**.

The Croatian bus network is well developed and even the remotest parts of Croatia are reachable by bus. Regular international bus lines connect Croatia with neighbouring countries and the majority of Central European and Western European countries.

For details, check the Zagreb Bus Terminal (AKZ): **akz.hr**
or contact Information service
(for calls from outside Croatia)
+385 (0)1 611 2789.



Slavonia, Mario Romulić

Traffic and Roads

The Croatian highways network is considered to be of very good overall quality and excellent security. Croatia has over 1,400 km of motorways connecting the capital Zagreb to the rest of the country. The best-known motorways are A1, connecting Zagreb to Split and A3, passing east–west through northwest Croatia and Slavonia. There is also a smaller network of roads connecting to the highways. When travelling to Croatia by car, be sure that you carry a valid driver's license, your vehicle registration papers and the Green Card or Certificate of Insurance. A toll is charged on most motorways. Cash payments are in Kunas. Euros and all major credit cards are accepted. Check the highway toll fee calculator for estimates about motorway charges to various destinations within the country: **hac-onc.hr**.

For full details about road travel in Croatia, please visit the Croatian Motorways (HAC) web: **hac.hr**.



Permits and equipment

Courtesy of Blue Sky Adriatic



Game of Thrones, Željko Tutnjević/Croatian Audiovisual Centre

Under the terms of the Law on Audiovisual Activities, all productions filming in Croatia are obliged to register the shoot with the Croatian Audiovisual Centre by filling out the standardized Filming Registration form, available at: filmingincroatia.hr. Upon the receipt of the Filming Registration form, the Croatian Audiovisual Centre can issue a Filming Registration Certificate. This document is intended solely for the local administrative needs and **does not represent a shooting permit** which has to be obtained from the owner or the authority responsible for the location in question.



Lifeboat, Nikola Prđović/Snowglobe/MP Film Productions

Location Permits

For any shooting permits you may need, we recommend teaming up with a local production company, as the local know-how of the policies and procedures will greatly reduce the time spent on preparing and executing your project. A Croatian partner can help with obtaining funding from various public and private sources and can also provide a full range of production services from pre-production to principal photography and post-production, as well as sharing all important local knowledge and personal contacts. Please consult our Industry Directory, an online production company search engine available on our website filmingincroatia.hr, to find Croatian companies for the project you want to make in Croatia.



Fan, Courtesy of Formula Film © Yash Raj Films

Shooting with Unmanned Aircraft Systems (drones)

Commercial operation of an unmanned aircraft (drone) is regulated by the Croatian Civil Aviation Agency, and all flight operations must be performed in accordance with applicable regulations on use of Croatian airspace and the provisions of the Directive on aerial photography and the Ordinance on unmanned aircraft systems. In order to carry out flights with UAS in Croatia, and depending on the mass of your unmanned aircraft and the category of operations, requirements to get permits range from filling out the Operator's Declaration to CCAA Approval.

All aerial filming activities must be notified in advance to National Geodetic Administration, and foreign camera operators are required to register for approval at least 30 days in advance, as the process involves cross-border institutional communication.

Also, in controlled airspace, flights of unmanned aircraft (including model aircraft) and other self-driven remote controlled or uncontrolled flying objects can be performed only with a prior written consent by Croatia Control. The completed request form must be submitted to the CCAA's Airspace Utilisation Department at least 8 working days before the planned date of activity.

All information can be found at CCAA website ccaa.hr; CCAA's website crocontrol.hr; DGU website dgu.hr or you can contact Croatian Unmanned Systems Association hubs.hr.



Visas

Citizens of the EU and European Economic Area (EEA) member states, as well as Australia, Canada and the US do not require a visa to enter Croatia.

Continuous stay or total duration of consecutive stays may not exceed 90 days in the period of 6 months, counting from the date of first entry. Citizens of other countries who are subject to visa requirements are obliged to apply for a visa prior to their entry to the Republic of Croatia. If there is no Croatian diplomatic mission or consular post in the applicant's country, a visa application may be submitted to the nearest Croatian diplomatic mission/consular post.

For more detailed information on the visa regime and a full list of countries subject to visa requirements visit the Consular section of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs: **mvep.hr**.



Game of Thrones, © Macall B. Polay/HBO

Work Permits for Foreign Nationals

Foreign nationals filming in Croatia may work on the basis of issued stay and work permit or based on the work application certificate. You can find all the information and the Application form on the Ministry of Interior web: **mup.hr**.

The Croatian Audiovisual Centre can put you in touch with Croatian partners who can assist you with obtaining all the necessary paperwork for a foreign crew member.

For further information on how to regulate the legal status of foreign citizens in Croatia, please contact your local Croatian embassy.

For list of Croatian embassies / consulates worldwide see Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs at: **mvep.hr**.



Renegades: Courtesy of Pakt Media © EuropaCorp

Customs Regulations

Customs regulations in the Republic of Croatia are almost entirely harmonized with EU regulations and standards. Foreign and local currency and traveler's cheques may be freely taken in and out of the country by both foreign and Croatian citizens with foreign residence, but transfers of an amount of 10,000 Euros or more must be declared to a customs official. Valuable professional equipment and other technical devices must also be declared to a customs official at the border crossing. VAT is refunded to persons who do not have permanent or temporary residence in Croatia and the EU, for individual goods purchased in Croatia, for amounts in excess of 740,00 Kunas, upon the presentation of a Tax Refund Cheque form verified by a customs official during the export of purchased goods, at the latest 3 months from the day of purchase. Foreign nationals must claim Tax refund within six months of the receipt issue date.

For additional information, please contact the customs administration: **carina.gov.hr**.



Lifeboat, Nikola Predovic/Snowglobe/MP Film Productions

Temporary Import of Professional Equipment

The procedure of temporary admission is regulated under the Customs Law of the Republic of Croatia. In the temporary admission procedure, foreign goods may be used on the customs territory of the Republic of Croatia, with full or partial exemption from payment of import duties and exemption from trading measures, when the foreign goods are intended to be re-exported in the same state as they were in at import, except for impairment loss resulting from the use of these goods. Goods may remain in temporary admission procedure for up to 24 months, with the option for determination of special deadlines. Goods can be imported into the Republic of Croatia on the basis of an ATA Carnet (Admission Temporaire/Temporary Admission) issued by the Croatian Chamber of Commerce (**hgk.hr**). An ATA Carnet is a simple international customs document used for simplifying temporary admission to a foreign country with a validity date of one year. This document provides temporary admission of certain categories of goods in the customs territory of any country that has adopted the Convention on temporary admission without using national customs documents, customs duties or deposits, which is part of the regular procedure for temporary import or export.



**Made in
Croatia**

McMafia, Nikola Predović/Cuba Pictures/BBC/MP Film Production

Overview of International Productions that benefited from the Croatian Production Incentive Programme

2012

Cure - The Life of Another, directed by Andrea Štaka, starring Silvija Marinković, Lucija Radulović, Marija Škaričić, Mirjana Karanović. Produced by Okofilm Productions, Deblokada produkcija, Produkcija Živa

Diana, directed by Oliver Hirschbiegel, starring Naomi Watts, Douglas Hodge and Geraldine James. Produced by Ecosse Films

Game of Thrones, Season 3, created by David Benioff and D.B. Weiss, starring Kit Harrington, Emilia Clarke, Peter Dinklage, Lena Headey, Sophie Turner, Maisie Williams, Nicolaj Coster-Waldau. Produced by HBO

On the Road with Elsa, directed by Bettina Woernle, starring Michaela May, Ulrike C. Tscharre and Alicia von Rittberg. Produced by Rowboat Film

The Volcano, directed by Alexandre Coffre, starring Denis Ménochet, Malik Bentilha, Tiphaine Daviot, Dany Boon. Produced by Quad Films

2013

Game of Thrones, Season 4, created by David Benioff and D.B. Weiss, starring Kit Harrington, Emilia Clarke, Peter Dinklage, Lena Headey, Sophie Turner, Maisie Williams, Nicolaj Coster-Waldau. Produced by HBO

A Patriotic Man, directed by Arto Halonen, starring Martti Suosalo, Pamela Tola, Janne Reinikainen and Miko Kouki. Produced by Art Films Productions and MP Film Production

Love Island, directed by Jasmila Žbanić, starring Ariane Labed, Ada Condeescu, Ermin Bravo, Franco Nero and Leon Lučev. Produced by Produkcija Živa, Komplizen Film, Okofilm Production

Itsi Bitsi, directed by Ole Christian Madsen, starring Joachim Fjelstrup and Marie Tourell Soderberg. Produced by Nimbus Film and MP Film Production

2014

Borgia, Season 3, created by Tom Fontana, starring Mark Ryder, Isolda Dychauk, John Doman. Produced for Canal+ by Atlantique Productions

The Lost Treasure of Aquila, directed by Anna Zackrisson, starring Alexandra Breschi, Buster Isitt, Lea Stojanov. Produced by Tre Vänner for SVT – Sveriges Television

Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell, directed by Toby Haynes, starring Bertie Carvel, Eddie Marsan, Marc Warren. Produced by BBC America

Full Contact, directed by David Verbeek, starring Grégoire Colin, Slimane Dazi, Lizzie Brocheré. Produced by Lemming Film and Nukleus Film

Winnetou's Wives, directed by Dirk Regel, starring Maren Kroymann, Floriane Daniel, Nina Kronjager, Josephin Busch and Teresa Wessbach. Produced by UFA Fiction

Game of Thrones, Season 5, created by David Benioff and D.B. Weiss, starring Kit Harrington, Emilia Clarke, Peter Dinklage, Lena Headey, Sophie Turner, Maisie Williams, Nicolaj Coster-Waldau. Produced by HBO

Dig, Season 1, created by Tim Kring and Gideon Raff, starring Jason Isaacs, Anne Heche, Alison Sudol, Ori Pfeffer and David Costabile. Produced by NBC Universal

The Witness, directed by Mitko Panov, starring Bruno Ganz, Pádraic Delaney, Gary Whelan. Produced by Tipi'mages Productions, Pirej Film, Samson Films and MP Film Production

2015

Dig, Season 1 (cont'd), created by Tim Kring and Gideon Raff, starring Jason Isaacs, Anne Heche, Alison Sudol, Ori Pfeffer and David Costabile. Produced by NBC Universal

Fan, directed by Maneesh Sharma, starring Shahrukh Khan, Sayani Gupta, Atul Sharma. Produced by Yash Raj Films

Crossing Lines, Season 3, created by Edward Allen Bernero, starring Goran Višnjić, Elisabeth Mitchell and Donald Sutherland. Produced by Tandem Productions for Canal+

Upstream, directed by Marion Hänsel, starring Sergi Lopez and Olivier Gourmet. Produced by Man's Films

Winnetou Trilogy, directed by Philipp Stölzl, starring Nix Xhelilaj and Wotan Wilke Möhring. Produced by Rat Pack Filmproduktion, Mythos Film, Rialto Film

The Day My Father Became a Bush, directed by Nicole van Kilsdonk, starring Celeste Holsheimer, Matsen Montsma, Anneke Blok, Noortje Herlaar. Produced by Lemming Film and Nukleus Film

Chris the Swiss, directed by Anja Kofmel. Produced by Dschoint Ventschr Filmproduktion and Nukleus Film

Renegades, directed by Steven Quale, starring Sullivan Stapleton, Charlie Bewley, Sylvia Hoeks and JK Simmons. Produced by EuropaCorp

The Odyssey, directed by Jérôme Salle, starring Lambert Wilson, Audrey Tautou, Pierre Niney. Produced by Fidélité Films and Pan-Européenne

Der Kroatien Krimi, 2-part TV film directed by Michael Kreindl, starring Neda Rahmanian, Lenn Kudrjawizki, Kasem Hoxha, Alexander Jovanovic, Andreas Guenther, Max Herbrechter. Produced by Constantin Television

2016

Star Wars: The Last Jedi, directed by Rian Johnson, starring Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Mark Hamill, Laura Dern, Benicio Del Toro. Produced by Lucasfilm, Ram Bergman Productions and Walt Disney Pictures

Three Heists and a Hamster, directed by Rasmus Heide, starring Mick Øgendahl, Rasmus Bjerg, Zlatko Burić, Sonja Richter. Produced by Fridthjof Film

Knightfall, created by Don Handfield and Richard Rayner, starring Tom Cullen, Pádraic Delaney, Simon Merrelis. Produced by A+E Studios for History Channel

Pound for Pound, directed by Mikkel Serup, starring Mikkel Boe Følsgaard, Arnold Oceng, Lene Maria Christensen. Produced by Nimbus Film and MP Film Production

All Inclusive, directed by Karin Fahlen, starring Suzanne Reuter, Liv Mjones, Jennie Silfverhjelm, Goran Bogdan. Produced by Avanti film

McMafia, created by Hossein Amini and James Watkins, starring James Norton, David Strathairn, Caio Blat, Faye Marsay, Juliet Rylance, Aleksey Serebryakov, Maria Shukshina. Produced by BBC, AMC and Cuba Pictures

Year Million, directed by Mark Elijah Rosenberg, produced by PSYM Kft and Radical Media Limited for National Geographic

2017

The Guardian Angel, directed by Arto Halonen, starring Josh Lucas, Pilou Asbæk, Rade Serbedžija. Produced by Art Films Productions, Tähtiloiste Elokvatuotanto and MP Film Production

Robin Hood, directed by Otto Bathurst, starring Taron Egerton, Jamie Dornan, Jamie Foxx, Ben Mendelsohn, Eve Hewson. Produced by Appian Way, Lionsgate, Safehouse Pictures and Thunder Road Pictures.

Der Kroatien Krimi III-IV, directed by Michael Kreindl, starring Neda Rahmanian, Lenn Kudrjawizki, Adriana Altaras. Produced by Constantin Television

The Terror, created by David Kajganich and Soo Hugh, starring Jared Harris, Ciarán Hinds, Tobias Menzies. Produced by AMC, EMJAG Productions, Entertainment 360 and Scott Free Productions.

Kiss me first, created by Bryan Elsley, starring Tallulah Haddon, Simona Brown, Matthew Beard. Produced by Balloon Entertainment and Kindle Entertainment

Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again, directed by Ol Parker, starring Lily James, Amanda Seyfried, Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgård, Julie Walters, Christine Baranski, Dominic Cooper, Josh Dylan, Jeremy Irvine, Alexa Davies, Jessica Keenan Wynn. Produced by Legendary Entertainment and Universal

McMafia, (cont'd), created by Hossein Amini and James Watkins, starring James Norton, David Strathairn, Cao Blat, Faye Marsay, Juliet Rylance, Aleksey Serebryakov, Maria Shukshina. Produced by BBC, AMC and Cuba Pictures

Ibiza, directed by Alex Richanbach, starring Gillian Jacobs, Richard Madden, Vanessa Bayer. Produced by Gary Sanchez Productions, Good Universe.

Lifeboat, directed by Josefine Kirkeskov, starring Sofia Helin, Sebnem Hassanisoughi. Produced by Snowglobe and MP Film Production.

Rafaël, directed by Ben Sombogaart, starring Melody Klaver, Nabil Mallat, Mehdi Meskar. Produced by Rinkel Film, Evangelische Omroep (EO), Menuet Producties, Nukleus film.

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