WARNER BROS. STUDIO TOUR LONDON

FIRST YEAR AT HOGWARTS – WHERE THE FILMMAKING MAGIC BEGAN

7th May – 7th September 2026

RELIVE THE JOY FROM THE FIRST FILM THIS SUMMER AT WARNER BROS. STUDIO TOUR LONDON – THE MAKING OF HARRY POTTER AND ENJOY A BRAND-NEW OPENING NIGHT EVENT

Fans won't need their Time-Turners to revisit the magic this summer as they are invited to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first film in the iconic Harry Potter film sets

3rd March 2026: This summer, Warner Bros. Studio Tour London will transport fans back to where the Harry Potter film series started. To mark the 25th anniversary of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, the Studio Tour will unveil a brand-new feature, First Year at Hogwarts – Where the Filmmaking Magic Began. Visitors will have the chance to feel how Harry Potter did during his first year at Hogwarts as the tour showcases iconic moments, displays and props that are introduced in the first film.

The Great Hall hosts many special occasions; including the moment first-year Hogwarts students are assigned their houses at the annual Sorting Ceremony. Before beginning the Studio Tour visitors will relive the scene where Harry Potter encounters the Sorting Hat, complete with Professor McGonagall placing the hat on Harry's head as he wishes to not be in Slytherin.

Gryffindor house banners will hang proudly above the long tables in the Great Hall, setting the scene for a first-year End of Term Feast. A flurry of floating hats will be suspended from the ceiling capturing the joyful moment students toss them into the air as Gryffindor secures the House Cup.

The Gryffindor common room will display the scene from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* where Hermione Granger casts the Petrificus Totalus spell on Neville Longbottom as he attempts to stop his friends leaving the common room after-hours.

Visitors will learn how flying lessons and Quidditch matches were filmed at the demonstration stage. The original Quidditch polearm rig will be showcased and the techniques used that set the standard for Quidditch throughout the film series will be revealed.

The Backlot Stage will debut a brand-new show, Secrets of Sound Effects, a behind-the-scenes exploration of the art of Foley. The new audiovisual experience will unveil how sound effects are used to bring the films to life.

Fans are introduced to Hagrid's love for animals in the first film and one of his greatest purchases from someone he met in the pub is Fluffy. The three-headed dog was lent to Dumbledore, as one of the obstacles protecting the Philosopher's Stone. The Studio Tour will house Fluffy's paw mould, brought back to life by some of the original Creature Effects Team, accompanied by the original self-playing harp that lulled the dog to sleep, a secret Hagrid didn't mean to spill!

Visitors will be able to take part in a brand-new Wizard's Chess photo opportunity, inspired by the dramatic, high stakes challenge Harry, Ron and Hermione must overcome on their journey to the Philosopher's Stone. The display will feature moving chess pieces as well as the original Knight that Ron sacrifices himself on. Visitors can also enjoy a newly expanded Activity Passport, taking a trip down Diagon Alley to check-off their first-year wizarding supplies list at shops such as Ollivanders and the Magical Menagerie, following in the footsteps of Hogwarts students.

That's not all, a brand-new exclusive preview event First Year at Hogwarts - Opening Night will also be coming to the Studio Tour in celebration of the anniversary. Guests will have the chance to see the feature up close with insight from behind-the-scenes talent who worked tirelessly to bring the first film to life.

– ENDS –

About Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter

After opening its doors to visitors on 31st March 2012, Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter celebrated its 13th 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 and cannot be bought at the attraction.

Warner Bros. Worldwide Studio Tours & Retail division is home to an expanding portfolio of Warner Bros. Discovery-owned visitor attractions and experiential retail stores around the world, each created with visitor engagement and exceptional customer service at their heart.

The division includes Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter and Warner Bros. Studio Tour Tokyo – The Making of Harry Potter where wizarding world fans and newcomers alike can delight in learning behind-the scenes secrets and filmmaking magic.

For fans of Hollywood blockbusters and classics, the division boasts Warner Bros. Studio Tour Hollywood, a guided tour showcasing the production secrets behind the best loved films and television shows in the world of entertainment at the studios where they were made. In addition,

Warner Bros. Worldwide Studio Tours & Retail specialises in experiential retail and is home to the Platform 9 ¾ retail shops and Harry Potter New York - the iconic flagship store.

About the Harry Potter franchise:

From the moment eleven-year-old Harry Potter met Rubeus Hagrid, Keeper of Keys and Grounds at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, his adventures have left an indelible mark on popular culture. Today, over 25 years later, the Harry Potter phenomenon thrives as one of the most successful and best-loved entertainment properties in history.

J.K. Rowling's best-selling Harry Potter novels have been brought to life in an ever-evolving, interconnected universe which is loved by millions of fans worldwide. Eight blockbuster Harry Potter films and three epic Fantastic Beasts films bring the spellbinding action to life on screen, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* mesmerises on stage, full-cast and single-voice audiobook productions bring the written words to life, and state-of-the-art video and mobile games from Portkey Games allow players to experience the wizarding world like never before. Fans can proudly showcase their passion through innovative consumer products, and thrill at spectacular location-based experiences - including themed lands at six Universal Destinations and Experiences theme parks around the world.

This expanding portfolio of Warner Bros. Discovery-owned Harry Potter and Fantastic Beasts offerings includes ground-breaking touring experiences and events, each developed to celebrate special moments and locations that fans cherish, as well as Harry Potter Shops in King's Cross, New York, Chicago, Akasaka, and Harajuku. Wizards, Witches and Muggles alike can also discover something new as they explore 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 HBO Original TV series based on the Harry Potter books on the way, this extended world continues to provide the community with fresh and exciting ways to interact. For its global fans, and for generations to come, it invites everyone in to find the magic for themselves.

For the latest Harry Potter and Fantastic Beasts news and features, visit www.harrypotter.com.

WBSTL Press Office

press@wbstudiotour.co.uk