

Want a Piece of the (Lights, Camera) Action?



The worlds' most glamorous and exciting industry – **the movies** – could come to the Colchester area and you could become part of it!

Yes it's true – Film and TV producers are making the most of the county's great transport links, industrial sites, rural locations and film friendly councils and local people to avoid the overcrowding in London and the usual locations immediately around the capital.

In 2004, 597 productions contacted Screen East about filming in Essex, and made 2,137 enquiries about possible filming locations. It's all go!

So how can you be part of it?

Get in touch with Screen East Locations!

Screen East Locations is a non-profit making location finding service, which offers free advice and support to the film and TV industries, assisting to find locations, crew, facilities and production bases for TV, film and media productions. It also facilitates filming by working with location owners, local councils, police and highways agencies to make sure the filming process goes as smoothly as possible!

Screen East Locations is part of Screen East, the Regional Screen Agency for the East of England, which is funded by the UK Film Council and the East of England Development Agency (EEDA).

Screen East goes all over the world to promote the East of England as the ideal location for film and TV production. A Screen East team attended the UK Showcase event in Los Angeles in November 2004 and have just returned from the Cannes Film Festival to encourage the US and international industry players to come to the East of England.

The cornerstone of the location finding service is the 7000 locations registered in Screen East's library. These range from petrol stations to toilets, stately homes to alleyways, all of which are photographed, documented and entered on to a database so that when a filming enquiry is made by a production company interested in filming in the region, Screen East's bespoke software can search for the location that best fits the description.

Your property could be the one that a Location Manager is looking for right now!

Whatever the condition, age, size or use of your property, contact Screen East for a Location Registration Form. There is no restriction on the type of property that Screen East is looking for – locations can be residential or commercial, rural or urban, empty or occupied! The team will send you a Registration Form by return and ask that you complete it and send it back with photos. Then sit back and wait!

What happens then?

Screen East will log your property details onto the database, and add it to the library. An image will also appear in the Location Search section of the website. AT NO TIME will your contact details be given to anyone EXCEPT a Location Manager who has expressed a direct interest in your property.

Screen East cannot guarantee that you will have Location Managers flocking to your door, but Screen East will put your property forward when a suitable enquiry is made.

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What do you get out of it?

Money – all locations can charge fees, although you can price yourself out of the market so be wary. Screen East does not get involved in fee negotiation but can advise if you have concerns.

However – be aware that film crews often involve a lot of vehicles, generators, heavy lights and scaffolding, and of course people, not to mention props/artistic designs on your property. Make sure you have all the information and a signed contract before the unit/crew arrives – and stay in touch with Screen East – they are on hand to help!

How else can you be involved?

Do you have a company that could supply a feature film or TV production company? Or are you an electrician builder, carpenter or other skilled tradesman that would like to offer your services? Get your details onto the Screen East database by contacting them to request a registration form, and they will send you one by return. Screen East get enquiries all the time from productions trying to find local suppliers and trades people – so get in touch with them today!

There is no cost involved in registering your property, skills or company – contact them now either by calling 01923 495 051, or e-mailing locations@screeeast.co.uk. You can also visit the website www.screeeast.co.uk.

DID YOU KNOW?

- September 2004 was Screen East Location Dept's busiest month ever with 319 enquiries.
- Films out now or soon that were shot in the region include 'Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy', 'Batman Begins' & 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory'.
- In 2004, 1495 shoot days were recorded in the region that meant there were almost nearly 6 film crews were shooting per day throughout the East of England.
- Screen East also has Production, Enterprise and Skills, and Audiences and Education departments that develop talent, skills, media businesses and opportunities for the screen industries in the East of England.
- Screen East's investment in Colchester has included the training support of a local writer, company development funding for a local music company, two travel bursaries for freelancers to attend film festivals, funding towards audience and digital projection equipment for Colchester Film Society, core funding for Signals Media Arts and funding to Boreham Millennium Arts Group towards a film production involving villages communities
- Screen East's Grant in Aid investments supports Signals Media Arts, an audiovisual development centre supporting young people, people from disadvantaged backgrounds and people interested in film and multimedia projects. Signals offers multimedia facilities at discounted rates, short film screenings and productions courses, as well as branching out in 2005 with a short film festival, also supported by Screen East's festival fund.