

Cheshire on Film and TV

Cheshire's great range of architecture and landscapes make it a popular choice when it comes to filming locations. From quaint villages and rolling hills to stately homes and industrial towns, not forgetting the city of Chester, Cheshire has it all. It has also inspired popular TV dramas with the stories of Chester Zoo and Quarry Bank Mill being brought to life in 'Our Zoo' and 'The Mill' respectively.

Below are some of the TV dramas and feature films that have used locations in Cheshire for filming in recent years.

Home Fires (2015)

Popular ITV drama 'Home Fires', based on the book 'Jambusters' by Julie Summers, follows a group of inspirational women during World War II and was set and filmed in the village of Bunbury. The village hall, pub and some of the local shops were used, as well as some of the local villagers featuring in the series as extras.

Our Zoo (2014)

The BBC drama 'Our Zoo' brought the story of the Mottershead family and their struggle to open Chester Zoo to life. Filming locations included Walton Hall in Warrington, which was used as Oakfield Manor, the house that the Mottershead family bought and where Chester Zoo began. The village of Little Budworth and Lyme Park were also used for filming a number of scenes.

The Mill (2013/14)

Channel 4 drama 'The Mill' focussed on the story of some of the mill workers at Quarry Bank Mill in Styal, Cheshire. Not only is the drama series based on real stories from the mill's past, it was also filmed there.

Evermoor (2014)

Disney's 'Evermoor' used Arley Hall as the exterior for Evermoor Manor and also shot some scenes in the picturesque village of Great Budworth. Evermoor is the first UK Disney production ever to be shown on Disney US and was shown in more than 160 countries. It follows the story of an American teenager who is uprooted from her home in a US city to move to Evermoor Manor in England with her family.

The Village (2013)

Lyme Park was used as 'the big house' in the BBC drama 'The Village' which follows the residents of an English village and their turbulent lives throughout the 20th century.

The Wedding Video (2012)

The Wedding Video was released in cinemas in 2012 and follows an engaged couple's best man as he creates a video documentary of their wedding day as a wedding present. The story focusses on a family trying to throw the best Cheshire wedding that money can buy and the city of Chester was used as a filming location with shoots taking place in shops, pubs, on some of the city's streets and at Chester races.

Other programmes to use Cheshire locations for filming include:

- Ordinary Lies (TV 2015) – filmed at various locations in Warrington
- Foyle's War (TV 2002 - 2015) – filmed on Albion Street in Chester
- Mrs Biggs (TV 2012) – filmed at Chester Crown Court
- The Awakening (TV 2011) – filmed at Lyme Park