

Film Crew Friendly Accommodation

Productions filming on location away from London or a production hub, will generally require accommodation for both cast and crew and could offer opportunities to fill rooms during off peak periods. Productions can range from feature films, TV series, commercials, and short films and all have varying budgets and requirements. Accommodation and per diems (payments to cover cost of reasonable expenses incurred whilst filming away from home) can absorb a large amount of the production budget so they will be looking to negotiate reasonable rates.

Do remember, cast and crew are business visitors to the area. If they have a good experience they may return as higher paying leisure guests or recommend your establishment to friends and family and other productions interested in filming on location in the area. Furthermore, if the project is an on-screen success (TV or film) you can use your association with the production within your marketing materials or on your website.

What is involved? A film company may have between 50-150+ people working on location at the same time. These include the director, producer, designer, crew and actors. They will be looking for both affordable hotel accommodation within 30-45 minutes of the filming site as well as potential luxury accommodation options for talent and above-the-line crew. Unlike leisure tourists, film crews typically work 12-18 hour days and sometimes six days a week. On this basis here is a list of things to consider if you are approached by a production company:

Rates & Booking

- ✓ Try to offer a discount on block bookings for single occupancy rooms – particularly if required for a long period.
- ✓ Discounted rates on individual and group accommodation in hotels, serviced apartments and private housing.
- ✓ Offer accommodation on 'room only' basis – meals are often provided on set which rules out early breakfasts all required at the same time.
- ✓ Flexible rates on out of hours and late check-in and check-out times to accommodate the crews' working hours.
- ✓ Hold a pencil booking for longer than normal - the nature of filming is such that decisions are often made at the eleventh hour.
- ✓ Flexible payment cancellation and amendment policies

Rooms

- ✓ Rooms must be comfortable and quiet – after a long day's filming crew need a good night's sleep.
- ✓ Single occupancy rooms will be required with ensuite as standard.
- ✓ Ground floor accommodation – welcomed if managing large amounts of luggage/kit.



Facilities

- ✓ Complimentary WiFi and good connectivity.
- ✓ Free onsite parking - fixed height barrier with lower gate access may be an issue for large production vehicles.
- ✓ Auxiliary rooms and spaces available for production meetings, kit/wardrobe and make-up space if required is always a bonus.
- ✓ Sustainable accommodation practices – productions are looking to source suppliers and accommodation providers with a green policy in place.

Accommodation Flexibility

- ✓ If appropriate, keep the bar open longer at the end of the day – crew like to relax and unwind after a hard day's work.
- ✓ As appropriate, provide room service outside normal restaurant hours – unsociable work hours can play havoc with eating habits.
- ✓ Efficient check out services – early starts mean early rises.
- ✓ Discretion concerning high profile artists – the accommodation provider may be requested to sign an NDA for a large-scale production.
- ✓ Onsite team for service and security as part of their stay.
- ✓ Dedicated point of contact from the initial enquiry and during the crews stay

Media Accommodation Provider/Directories

- ✓ [Filming in England Suppliers Directory](#)
- ✓ [Access Bookings](#) – TV, film & media accommodation booking specialists.
- ✓ [The Knowledge: Film, Television and Commercial Production Directory](#)
- ✓ [KAYS Film, Television & Commercials Directory](#)
- ✓ [TV Rooms](#) – hotels for production
- ✓ [Comfy Workers](#) - film & media crew accommodation

