

# LRS UNSEATED

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SELF-GUIDED DRIVING TOUR:

## SAN FERNANDO/ SAN GABRIEL VALLEY



PRESENTED BY THE L.A. CONSERVANCY'S  
LAST REMAINING SEATS VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE



*The Last Remaining Seats Volunteer Committee Presents:*

# LRS UNSEATED



Alfred Hitchcock's *REBECCA* at The Orpheum Theatre in 2019. Photo by Mike Hume  
Cover: The Gamble House in Pasadena. Photo by Jim Heaphy, Wikimedia Commons

## WELCOME TO LRS UNSEATED!

Since 1987, thousands of film fans have flocked to Last Remaining Seats, The L.A. Conservancy's signature series of classic films in historic theatres. Last Remaining Seats (LRS) presents films as they were meant to be seen: on the big screen, in a beautiful theatre, surrounded by fellow fans, and accompanied by vintage cartoons, newsreels, and more.

Each year, all of us on the LRS Volunteer Committee work very hard to help plan L.A.'s beloved film series by vetting, curating, and implementing a lineup of exciting and diverse classic films. And since Los Angeles is home to some of the most beautiful historic movie palaces in the world, it's also our goal to show them off in all their extravagant glory at Last Remaining Seats screenings.

But what about the places where beloved classic films were made? As the home of Hollywood's golden age, it's no surprise that many of film history's most iconic locations can be found right here in Los Angeles. What part of Los Angeles doubled for Skull Island in the first movie version of *KING KONG*? Was *SUNSET BOULEVARD* actually filmed anywhere near Sunset Boulevard? Where did James Dean first say hi to Natalie Wood in *REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE*?

### "HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD!"



Jimmie "Scat" Davis and Frances Langford in  
*HOLLYWOOD HOTEL* (1937)

*Occasionally within these tour guides you'll notice a sound icon. Click the icon to listen to a music track specific to your site location!*

*To listen to all tracks featured on this tour, visit [bit.ly/LRSUnseated\\_Spotify](https://bit.ly/LRSUnseated_Spotify)*

That's where LRS Unseated comes in! We've created a collection of self-guided driving and walking tours featuring filming locations across Los Angeles County, from Santa Monica to the San Gabriel Valley. These tours highlight films that have previously screened at Last Remaining Seats over the years, as well as a number of classic film fan favorites, making it a sort of "greatest hits" of filming locales around L.A.

In addition to filming locations, each tour also includes historic legacy businesses connected to film history for you to patronize! Drop in at the historic Walker's Cafe in San Pedro before heading out to Point Fermin on the trail of Jack Nicholson in CHINATOWN, or fuel up at the historic Formosa Cafe before heading out to Barbara Stanwyck's house in DOUBLE INDEMNITY.

We've also included a Spotify playlist featuring motion picture soundtracks (and a few fun extras) to play during your drive.

So join us, as we travel back in time to re-live some of film's most famous moments!

**Helen Ramirez**  
LRS Committee Chair

**Liz Highstrete**  
LRS Committee Vice Chair

## LRS UNSEATED TOURS INCLUDE:

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DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

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HOLLYWOOD

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WEST LOS ANGELES

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KOREATOWN / USC / SAN PEDRO

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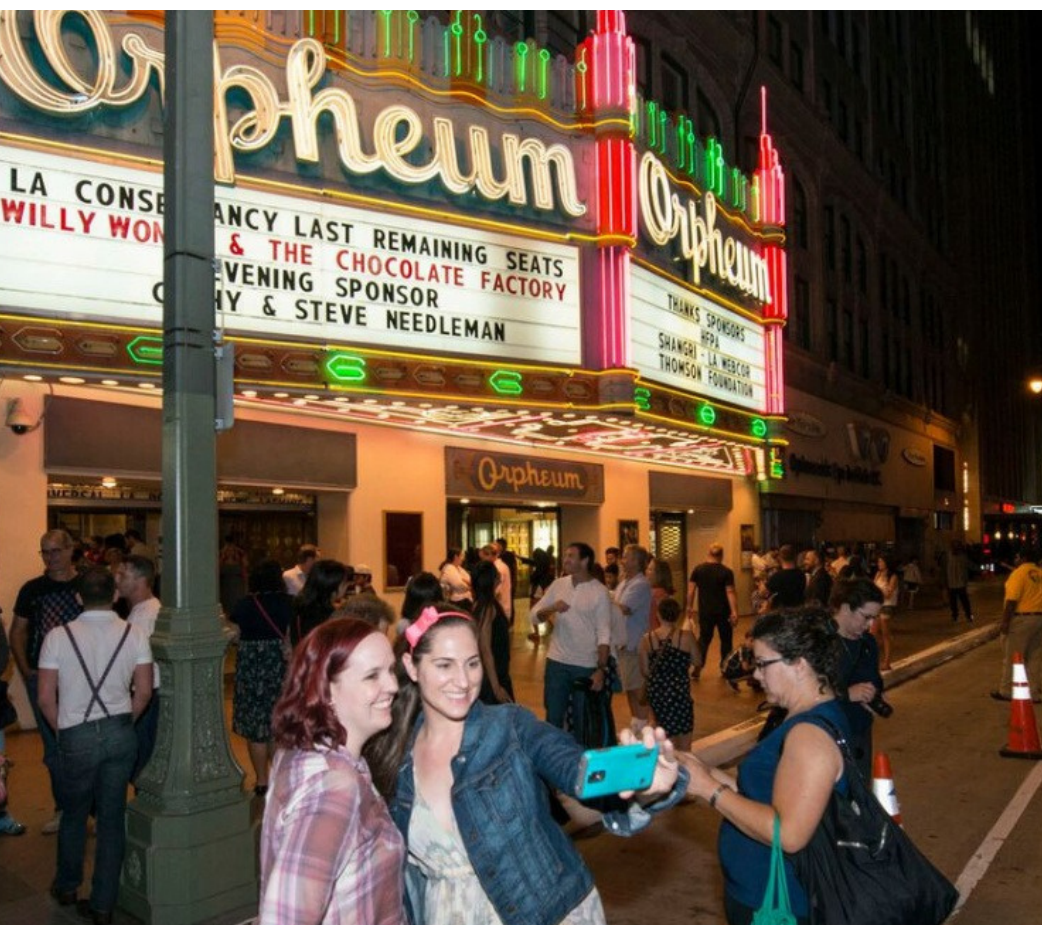
GRIFFITH PARK / SILVER LAKE  
LOS FELIZ

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SAN FERNANDO /  
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

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## GET SOCIAL!

Please consider sharing your experiences during these tours on social media using hashtag [#LRSUnseated](#)! We love hearing from LRS fans and it's a great way to connect with fellow film lovers.

Be sure to tag the L.A. Conservancy so we can share your tour experience: [@LAConservancy](#)



LRS volunteers at the Los Angeles Theatre, 2019. Photo by Mike Hume

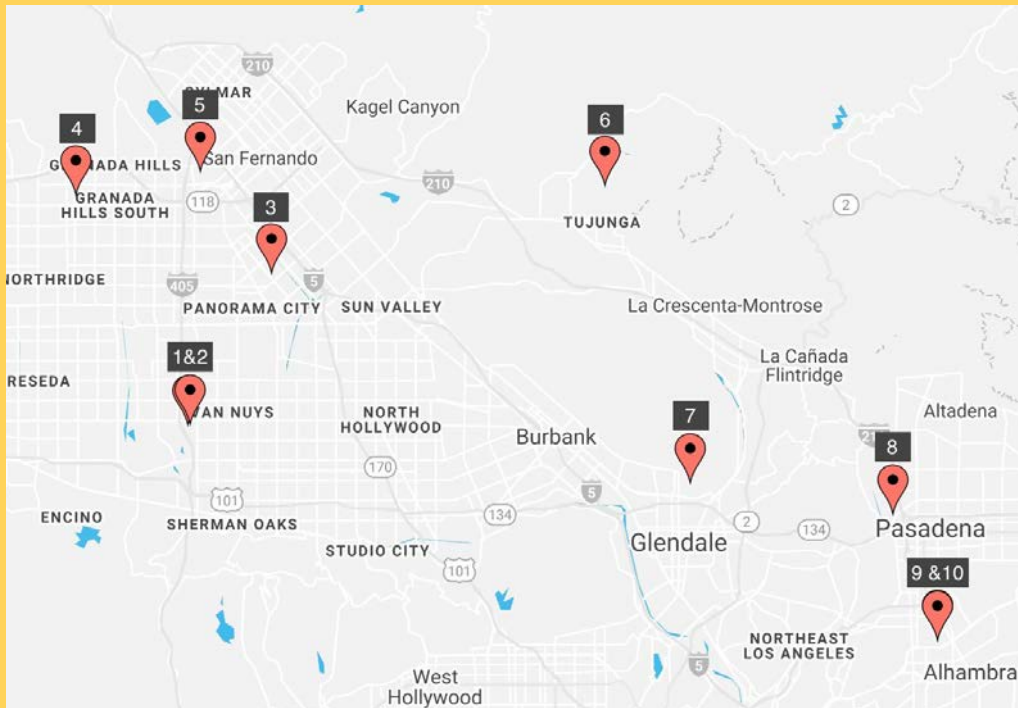


# LRS UNSEATED

## Filming Locations of Los Angeles

Ah, the Valley. Whether it's the San Fernando or San Gabriel, the fact remains that these communities are home to a rich and diverse array of neighborhoods, cuisines, and historic places. The Valley is also home to a number of film and television studios (like Universal, Warner Bros., and Disney) so of course, it's also chock full of filming locations. On this tour, we're focusing on some of the most beloved films ever made.

### SAN FERNANDO & SAN GABRIEL VALLEYS DRIVING TOUR



For more information about Last Remaining Seats, visit  
**[laconservancy.org/lrs-unseated](https://laconservancy.org/lrs-unseated)**

*Please be respectful of all businesses and residents and do not enter private property.*

## 1. **LA BAMBA (1987)**

### Donna's House

6238 Orion Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91411

In this biopic about one of the architects of early rock and roll, Ritchie Valens (Lou Diamond Phillips) walks his sweetheart Donna Ludwig (Danielle von Zerneck) home to this house, built in 1948. In 2013, Last Remaining Seats screened LA BAMBA in partnership with the Latin American Cinemateca of Los Angeles.



#### **"OH, DONNA"**

Performed by Ritchie Valens



## 2. **LA BAMBA (1987)**

### Contest Winners' House

6233 Orion Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91411

Across the street from Donna's home is the house where Ritchie delivers pizzas to the lucky winners of a radio contest. The real Ritchie Valens grew up about 7 miles north of this location, in Pacoima.



## 3. **BACK TO THE FUTURE (1985)**

### The McFly House

9303 Roslyndale Avenue, Arleta, CA, 91331

In BACK TO THE FUTURE, Marty McFly's (Michael J. Fox) family lives in a housing tract called Lyon Estates in fictional Hill Valley, California. While Hill Valley was filmed on the Universal lot, the house is actually in the neighborhood of Arleta in the San Fernando Valley. This home was built in 1954...one year before Marty and Doc broke the space-time continuum.



#### **"THE POWER OF LOVE"**

Performed by Huey Lewis and the News, 1985



## 4. **E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL (1982)**

### The Flying Bikes Street

10848 - 11074 White Oak Avenue, Granada Hills, CA 91344

As Elliott (Henry Thomas), E.T. and the boys try to escape the government agents on their bikes, they take to the air on this stretch of White Oak Avenue just north of Tulsa Street.



#### **"E.T. MAIN TITLES"**

Oscar winning score by John Williams, 1982

## 5. **LA BAMBA (1987)**

### San Fernando Mission Catholic Cemetery

11160 Stranwood Avenue, Mission Hills, CA 91345

In the film's heartbreaking conclusion, Ritchie Valens is laid to rest at this San Fernando cemetery. This is actually the real site of Valens' final resting place, and if you so choose, you may pay your respects by visiting Section C of the cemetery.



## 6. *E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL* (1982)

### Elliott's House

7121 Lonzo Street, Tujunga, CA 91042

Elliott (Henry Thomas), Gertie (Drew Barrymore) and Michael (Robert MacNaughton) live in this suburban California house, built in 1980, along with Elliott's new un-Earthly friend.



#### "MEETING E.T."

Oscar winning score by John Williams, 1982

## 7. *MILDRED PIERCE* (1945)

### Mildred Pierce's House

1143 N Jackson Street, Glendale, CA 91207

Michael Curtiz's film noir classic *MILDRED PIERCE* is set in and around Glendale, and this Spanish Revival style house was used for the exteriors of Mildred Pierce's (Joan Crawford) home. Built in 1927, the house is still standing, palm tree and all, in Glendale. Notice the house is a one-story bungalow, but in the film the interior includes a staircase leading to upstairs bedrooms!



## 8. *BACK TO THE FUTURE* (1985)

### The Gamble House

4 Westmoreland Place, Pasadena, CA 91103

Doc Brown's house is actually The Gamble House in Pasadena. This masterpiece of Craftsman-style architecture was designed in 1908 by architects Greene & Greene as the winter residence for David and Mary Gamble, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In the film, Doc uses the carriage house as his workshop.



#### "IT'S BEEN EDUCATIONAL"

Oscar nominated score by Alan Silvestri, 1985



## 9. *BACK TO THE FUTURE* (1985)

### George McFly's House

1711 Bushnell Avenue, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Teenage George McFly (Crispin Glover) lives in this Craftsman-style house built in 1907. Pasadena's Marengo neighborhood, with its Craftsman homes and Camphor trees, is highly coveted. In December 2020, *ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT* writer Jim Brandon bought this home for \$2.2 million.

## 10. *BACK TO THE FUTURE* (1985)

### Lorraine Baines' House

1727 Bushnell Avenue, South Pasadena, CA 91030

A few doors down from George's home is Lorraine Baines' (Lea Thompson) house, also Craftsman-style and built in 1909.



#### "MR. SANDMAN"

Performed by The Four Aces, 1954

# WHILE YOU'RE HERE ...

*(Please check business websites for latest hours of operation.)*

## THE COWBOY PALACE SALOON

**21635 Devonshire Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311**

**[thecowboypalacesaloon.com](http://thecowboypalacesaloon.com)**

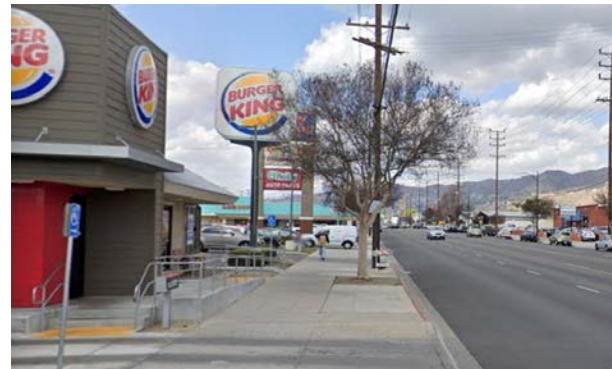
The Cowboy Palace is known as the last real honky tonk in Los Angeles and is famous for its live country music and line dancing. In the film LA BAMBAA, this is the location of Ritchie Valens' (Lou Diamond Phillips) first live performance. According to L.A. Weekly, the film's location manager Richard Davis Jr. was looking for a cowboy bar for Ritchie Valens' first performance in the film. The scene introduced Valens' devoted mother and his wildcard of a brother, illustrating how Valens' music was indeed a family business.



## THE BURBANK BURGER KING

**535 N Victory Boulevard, Burbank, CA, 91502**

You'll probably pass a dozen or more Burger Kings along the way, but if you really want to immerse yourself in BACK TO THE FUTURE lore, you must make a pit stop at this Burbank location. It's the Burger King where Marty McFly famously bums a ride on the back of a pickup truck, on his trusty skateboard. (We don't think you'll be judged for blaring "The Power of Love" as you drive through.)



## CASA VEGA

**13301 Ventura Boulevard, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423**

**[casavega.com](http://casavega.com)**

If you're willing to take a slight detour, this Sherman Oaks legacy business is worth the drive. Enjoying renewed popularity due to Quentin Tarantino's ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD, this family-owned and operated Ventura Boulevard staple actually has roots in downtown L.A.'s Olvera Street! Ray Vega's parents owned a successful Olvera Street restaurant throughout the 1930s, which inspired their son to open his own establishment, here, in 1956. The intimate atmosphere and delicious comfort food have made Casa Vega a true San Fernando Valley legend and much-loved legacy business.



## UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

**100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608**

**[universalstudioshollywood.com](http://universalstudioshollywood.com)**

If you're thirsting for more BACK TO THE FUTURE fun, why not head down to Universal Studios and see Hill Valley in person? Courthouse Square, a centerpiece of Universal's famous studio tour, is one of the most recognizable sets in all of Hollywood, appearing in everything from TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD to ESCAPE FROM L.A.

