

# BritBox December 2020 Highlights

Published Thu 19 Nov 2020



## [BritBox](#)

**London, 19th November : BritBox today announced content available throughout December 2020.**

In addition to 'Britmas' which will be celebrated throughout the month and offers subscribers over 200 festive Christmas specials, December also offers additional films from Film4, classic and cult entertainment like Auf Wiedersehen, Pet, Minder, The Persuaders!, The Beiderbecker Collection, Hornblower and much more. The ITV archives have also been opened with classic episodes from 'An Audience With' available for the first time in decades.

## **Britmas**

Available from 26th November throughout the month of December, BritBox's collection of Christmas treats includes over 200 TV specials, pantomimes and soaps. Fans of festive telly can look forward to Christmas episodes from the likes of All Creatures Great and Small, Allo 'Allo!, Are You Being Served, Bergerac,

Bread, Hi De Hi!, Last of the Summer Wine, Some Mothers Do 'Ave Em, To the Manor Born, Absolutely Fabulous, Birds of a Feather, Blackadder, French and Saunders, Gavin & Stacey, Keeping Up Appearances, Only Fools and Horses, The Good Life, The Vicar of Dibley, Downton Abbey, Call the Midwife, The Catherine Tate Show, Les Dawson's Christmas Box and many more. A selection of pantomimes will also be made available for the first time this festive season, including Cinderella: The Shoe Must Go On (1986) starring Danny La Rue, Jack and the Beanstalk (1998) narrated by Paul Merton and Aladdin (2000) featuring the music of S Club 7 to name but a few. The best festive episodes from Coronation Street and Emmerdale will round off the collection.

### **1st December**

#### Under the Skin (2013)

Surreal Film4 sci-fi horror starring Scarlett Johansson. An alien who has adopted the guise of a beautiful woman roams Glasgow, using her looks to attract men and lure them to an unspeakable fate.

#### Time Bandits (1981)

Off-beat Film4 comedy fantasy from Terry Gilliam, starring John Cleese and Sean Connery. A young boy travels through time with a band of thieves looking for treasure.

### **3rd December**

#### Heartbeat S1-3 (Exclusive to BritBox)

One of the most loved and successful series of all time, Heartbeat is set in the fictional North Yorkshire village of Aidensfield and brilliantly evokes the heady mood of the 1960s- all driven by a wonderfully nostalgic soundtrack of hit songs from the era. Nick Berry stars as PC Nick Rowan in this hugely popular series centres on the local police and the many fascinating village characters; deftly combining humour and drama in its intriguing crime and medical storylines.

#### The Complete Minder (1979 - 1994)

The legendary George Cole plays Arthur Daley, an "entrepreneur" and king of the dodgy deal. If there's money to be made Arthur's interested! Arthur needs a bodyguard – enter Terry McCann (Dennis Waterman); just out of prison and in need of work, Terry becomes Arthur's business associate and "Minder".

Drinking in the Winchester Club run by Dave "The Barman" Harris (Glynn Edwards), driving the Capri and chatting up the ladies, Arthur and Terry cook up one half-baked scheme after another and their relationship strains to the limit, but ultimately they remain the best of friends.

When Terry finally tires of Arthur and escapes to Australia, Arthur takes his nephew Ray Daley (Gary Webster) under his wing, and so begins a whole new chapter of wheeling and dealing the Arthur Daley way!

#### **4th December**

##### Gemma Collins: Diva Forever & Ever (2020)

Before the lockdown, successful businesswoman Gemma Collins was searching for her new dream home. With Gemma closing the doors to her Brentwood shop, will the lockdown put her dream home and future in jeopardy?

#### **6th December**

##### The Mallorca Files (2019)

The attraction sizzles between workaholic DC Miranda Blake and her laid-back partner Max. They're assigned to investigate crimes in the sunny Balearics. Starring Elen Rhys and Julian Looman.

#### **10th December**

##### The Persuaders! (1971)

They're a pair of playboys with nothing in common but trouble...Roger Moore is Lord Brett Sinclair, a classic English aristocrat who finds his elegant life a bit dull. Tony Curtis is Danny Wilde, a rough-and-tumble Yank who worked his way from New York City's slums to great wealth. Thrown together by a judge who wants a second shot at criminals he's been obliged to let walk, they are The Persuaders!, operating in the name of justice, on the fringes of the law.

##### Jekyll & Hyde (2015)

In 1930s London opportunity fills the air, but for the young, sensitive and naïve Doctor Robert Jekyll a dark past lurks in the shadows. Jekyll has inherited his grandfather's curse, and in extreme moments is overcome by an inexplicable power - Hyde. Superhuman and uninhibited, the devilishly alluring Hyde is everything Jekyll isn't. Stunning CGI, a captivating score and mesmerising performances with a subtle wit and romance capture Jekyll's struggle to balance

the light and dark inside himself as he falls deeper into Hyde's fearsome yet magical world. Here, no-one is quite as they seem – and monstrous creatures and sinister organisations will stop at nothing in the fight for his soul. Starring Tom Bateman and Richard E. Grant.

### Soapy Slip Ups (2020)

Coronation Street is one of the world's longest running and most loved TV soap operas and this programme will take viewers on an affectionate rollercoaster ride through Weatherfield and its bloopers.

Misbehaving props, wardrobe malfunctions, corpsing and missed lines, this half hour special has them all and will feature some of Coronation Street's biggest stars including Simon Gregson (Steve McDonald), Jimmi Harkishin (Dev Alahan), Ben Price (Nick Tilsley), Jane Danson (Leanne Battersby), Alex Mardell (Emma Brooker), Jack P Shepherd (David Platt) and Jenny McAlpine (Fiz) all talking us through their biggest bloopers.

### The Best of An Audience With (1980-2013)

A selection of the best episodes of the iconic entertainment show in which a celebrity host performs for an exclusive audience of celebrity guests. Episodes feature Billy Connolly, Bob Monkhouse, Cliff Richard, Harry Hill, Jimmy Tarbuck, Ken Dodd, Kenneth Williams, Peter Ustinov, Ronnie Corbett, Victoria Wood and Dame Edna.

## **12th December**

### Ferne McCann First Time Mum S6 (2020)

Ferne McCann as she navigates her biggest challenge yet: motherhood. We follow Ferne as she adapts to life as a single parent following the birth of her first child in 2017, baby daughter Sunday.

## **17th December**

### The Only Way is Essex S26 (2020)

Having navigated their way through lockdown, the Essex elite are back, and TOWIE royalty makes a welcome return to the fold. Amy Childs is back.

## **18th December**

### Gold Digger (2019)

Julia Ormond and Ben Barnes star in the new BBC One domestic noir *Gold Digger*, about a woman falling in love with a much younger man and the effect it has on her already damaged family.

## **24th December**

### Auf Wiedersehen Pet Seasons 1&2 (1983)

Looking forward to bierkellers, frauleins, high wages and no taxes, Dennis (Tim Healy), Neville (Kevin Whately) and Oz (Jimmy Nail) leave Newcastle for work on a building site in Dusseldorf, meeting up with fellow ex-pats Wayne (Gary Holton), Bomber (Pat Roach), Barry (Timothy Spall) and Moxey (Christopher Fairbank). This box set contains series one and two of the classic comedy showing the lads adventures in Germany, Spain and back home in Blighty.

### The Dream Machine (1964)

A fascinating glimpse behind the scenes of early television production as producer Francis Essex attempts to assemble his variety show *Six Wonderful Girls*, footage of which is juxtaposed with a lecturer teaching his students about the new medium of television. Essex is trying to juggle his finances, arguing with executive Bill Ward over having to reduce his budget by £1,000. The Daily Telegraph critic asks him if he's bothered about the ephemeral nature of television. Essex's reply... 'TV is a transient medium'. We see Honor Blackman and Millicent Martin rehearsing with ATV's top scriptwriters Sid and Dick in attendance. Finally, the tension of the recording!

## **31st December**

### Hornblower (1998)

The *Hornblower* series begins in 1974 in Portsmouth, England and is based on the character of Horatio from C.S. Forester's stories. As a fierce squall rages in the English Channel, a pale-faced 17-year-old midshipman huddled at the stern is just embarking upon his career in the Royal Navy. Sea-sick and drenched, Horatio Hornblower is laughed at by his new comrades as he boards a ship for the very first time. Little do they realise, however, that this young boy is destined to become one of the most courageous heroes of the Napoleonic Wars. Starring Ioan Gruffudd, Robert Lindsay and Cherie Lunghi.

### The Beiderbecke Collection (1984-1988)

The entire comedy-drama series from Alan Plater. In 'The Beiderbecke Affair' (1984), woodwork teacher and jazz buff Trevor Chaplin (James Bolam) has always fantasised that a beautiful blonde will enter his life and simultaneously provide him with rare recordings of his hero Bix Beiderbecke. Unlikely as it seems, this is just what happens one evening when Trevor is at home in his flat. In 'The Beiderbecke Tapes' (1987) Trevor and Jill find themselves plunged into another jazz-related mystery when the former purchases some Bix Beiderbecke tapes from a pub barman. In the final part of the trilogy, 'The Beiderbecke Connection' (1988), Trevor and Jill are still living together, and they now have a baby boy to look after as well. Their household is increased still further when old friend Big Al asks them to take in a refugee as a favour; Trevor is reluctant until he discovers that his new guest is, like him, an ardent jazz fan.

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## About BritBox

BritBox is a digital video subscription service created by the BBC and ITV. The service brings the very best in past, present and future British programming and award-winning content to viewers all in one place for £5.99 per month in HD. British TV boxsets from All 4 and British films from Film 4 are also available. The service includes high quality factual and entertainment content from Channel 5 plus original British comedies from Comedy Central UK. BritBox features the biggest collection of British content available on any streaming service, and brand new commissions for British production companies specifically created for BritBox. BritBox also offers expert curation and playlists that will enable viewers to easily find programmes they know and discover new favourites via web, mobile, tablet, connected TVs and streaming devices including Fire TV, Apple TV, Freesat & Chromecast. Content on BritBox can be downloaded and viewed offline where rights allow.

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