

Las Palmas  
de Gran Canaria  
CITY

## Cinema route 1

**A Plaza de Santa Ana:** Shirley MacLaine, on her role of a tourist, goes for a walk arm in arm with Billy Connolly through Plaza de Santa Ana [Santa Ana Square] during their city outing in "Wild Oats". The stroll takes them to Columbus House, the San Antonio Abad Shrine and Salsipuedes bar's terrace (3 Montesdeoca Street). In "Fotos", the main character Azucena (Mercedes Ortega) throws here, during the initial sequence, pictures into the air. Close by, at the house at 6 Castillo Street, César's photography study was shot. At the 868 La Casa de Vegueta (5 Pedro Díaz) was filmed Sara's house (Candela Peña) in "Sidelacked". The exterior of Julia's corner shop (Macarena García) in "Palm Trees in the Snow" was shot at the first floor's exterior of the house on the corner of Obispo Codina and Juan de Quesada streets.

**B Plaza de Cairasco | Madrid Hotel:** The first shot filmed in the city was taken here by the Gaumont Company in 1909. In "Allied", spy Max Vatan (Brad Pitt) arrives to Casablanca through this square which was covered with blue screens to digitally recreate the Rivoli Café (the Literary Cabinet can be seen at the back). On Remedios Street, turned into an Arab bazaar, Pitt and fellow spy Marianne Beausejour (Marion Cotillard) walk towards the Nazi embassy. The terrace of the emblematic Madrid Hotel is the back of the shot when Inma Cuesta goes out of her design academy in "Sidelacked". Some sequences between Maria (Ángela Molina) and Abraham (Miguel Ángel Solá) from "El último traje" (Pablo Soler, 2017) were also shot at the hotel.

**C Literary Cabinet:** In "Palm Trees in the Snow", the sequence in which Julia (Macarena García) gets angry at Jacobo (Alain Hernández) takes place at the building's terrace, turned into the Santa Isabel casino in "Sidelacked". The scene of the party and dance between Julia and Kilian (Mario Casas) takes place inside the building as well. In "The Island Inside", the sequence of the failed dinner between Martin (Alberto San Juan) and Coral (Candela Peña) was shot at the Meifrén Hall. The casino night scene

in "Wild Oats", with Shirley MacLaine and Jessica Lange, was shot at the Golden Hall. The Red Hall was a room in London in "Grave of the Living Dead" (Jess Franco, 1962). The bridal store from "Sidelacked" was recreated in the basement, and the lunch in which Candela Peña introduces her boyfriend Jorge Bosch to her sister Inma Cuesta and her mother Kity Manver was also shot at the Meifrén Hall. In "Down a Dark Hall" (Rodrigo Cortés, 2017), Uma Thurman and AnnaSophia Robb recreate the dining room and other areas of the Blackwood boarding school between the Red Hall and the Entrepreneurs' Hall.

**D Malteses Street:** It is the street of Casablanca that appears in different moments of "Allied". At "La Mascota" hairdresser's (number 13), the Canarian extras characterized as pre-Hispanic warriors in "Tirna" had their heads shaved as Mohicans. The radio station where Rafael (Santiago Ramos) works in "Como un relámpago" was shot at 20 Doctor Rafael González Street.

**E Primero de Mayo Avenue:** Down the stairs in front of Maninrida Street goes Rafael (Santiago Ramos) in "Como un relámpago" when he leaves from the neighborhood of La Isleta where he lives to the city to work. Actor Javier Bardem lived on the 12th floor of the building at 17 Primero de Mayo Avenue during the first year of his life. Bardem was born in Las Palmas on March 1, 1969. As Pilar Bardem says in her memories, the family later moved to 13 Bravo Murillo Street, until their departure to Madrid in 1970.

**F 6, Buenos Aires Street:** Eva's house (Barbara Lennie) from "El Niño" was shot in here.

**G Triana Street:** At Bankia's central office (20 Triana), the Caja Insular de Ahorros back when "The Island Inside" was filmed, was shot the scene of the meeting between Coral (Candela Peña) and Iván (Antonio de la Torre), in which she tells him she is pregnant, and he attacks her for lying. The picture of the street taken in 1927 as a long shot is one of the most remarkable of the tour around different areas of Las Palmas that was done at the beginning of "La hija del mestre" (Carlos Luis Monzón, 1928).

**H Rafael Cabrera/Munguía Street:** In "To Steal from a Thief", the car of Ferrán (Raúl Arévalo), the head of the presidential

office, turns around after realizing he has been fooled.

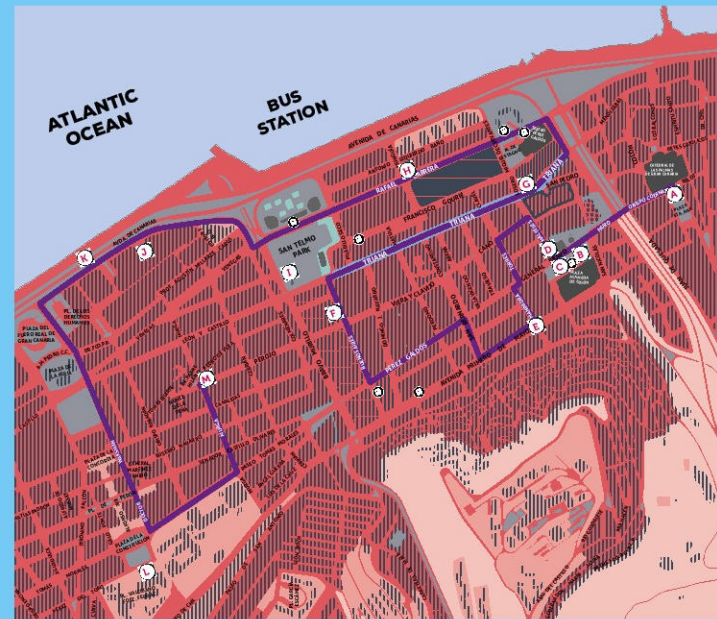
**I San Telmo Kiosk:** In the first sequence of "Fotos", Azucena (Mercedes Ortega) is reproached by her boyfriend for her frigidity and lack of clear answers at this terrace.

**J AC Iberia Hotel:** The police post in which Luis Callejo runs the response to the robbery in "To Steal from a Thief" was recreated on the first floor of the hotel. The office sequences of the Government's political party were shot in the adjoining buildings (Usos Múltiples II and ClinicVisión).

**K Maritime Avenue:** In "Children of the Wind", the main character Magaly walks by the wall singing "Cantinerero de Cuba", since the maritime promenade reminds her of La Habana's pier, her hometown. Looking at the sea, in this area toward the rising sun were filmed the shots of the final scene from "Moby Dick", with the huge scale model of the whale pulled by a tugboat so that it could sink and emerged from the sea and supported by tenders with provisioning, hoses and sprinklers. It was filmed in here, without seeking it, the most important shot for its director, John Huston, in which Gregory Peck emerges from the sea, drowned, pointing with his arm to the rest of the sailors that they must continue the hunt. Also in this strip of sea lands the seaplane that brings the protagonists of "S.O.S. Pacific" (Guy Green, 1959) to the island of the French Polynesia to which they arrive in the fiction.

**L Giner de los Ríos State School:** The sequence from "The Island Inside" in which Martin (Alberto San Juan) makes his student Claudia read a fragment of a book by Hemingway was shot in here. For the same film some scenes were shot inside ULPGC's Faculty of Humanities and cafeteria. The scene in "The Summer Side" between Macarena Gómez (Tana) and Eduardo Casanova (Tomás), when he's just left home and Tana runs to find her boyfriend Raúl, who gives her the letter that allows her to leave for Australia, was filmed at the library of this faculty.

**M Plazoleta Padre Hilario:** Marion Cotillard's house in "Allied" was shot at 11 Núñez de la Peña. This street and its adjacent square were used for hers and Brad Pitt's ins and outs during their stay in Casablanca.



## Cinema route 2

**A Santa Ana and Santa Catalina Parks:** One of the first shots filmed in the city, by the Gaumont Company, in 1909, shows a beautiful panoramic view of La Luz Port that ends at the Santa Catalina Dock. This dock also appears in documentary maker Richard Leacock's first film, "Canary Bananas" (1935), which he shot when he was 14 years old. In "S.O.S. Pacific" (Guy Green, 1959), starring Eddie Constantine, Las Palmas pretends to be the capital of one of French Polynesia's islands. Travelers arrive to the city through that dock. In "Wonderful Life", Cliff Richard and The Shadows start a musical number that takes them from the dock to Santa Catalina Park. They rent there a camel which takes them to different parts of the city. In "Grave of the Living Dead" (Jess Franco, 1982), the park is turned into a Moroccan bazaar.

**B 3 Puntos Aguadita Millares Solé Street:** The place where nowadays stands the Mapfre Building was in the fifties the central office of Carbonera Canaria, which belonged to the English company Casa Miller, and was next to the sea. There, Canarian shore-carpenters built the 25-metre-long model of the giant albino sperm whale "Moby Dick" on a barge using iron, wood and latex. The radio station of "Sidelacked" was shot at the first floor of the building, which is the main office of Canarias Radio.

**C 50 Los Confiales Street:** In this telephone booth El Niño (Jesús Castro) has an argument with Moroccan Halil because he fooled him with the drug bundles in "El Niño".

**D La Roquette:** The team of "Moby Dick", led by John Huston and Gregory Peck, went through here to the beach to get onto the boats that took them to the shooting in this part of the bay. The Juan Pérez Bar (19 Prudencio Morales) was the resting and snack point of the team. A sequence from the German detective film "Peter Voss, héroe del día" (Georg Marischka, 1959) that shows some houses hanging over the sea, and which were supposed to be in the fictitious city of Palmaria, was shot in the terraces that nowadays are in front of the Casa Carmelo restaurant (2 Paseo de Las Canteras). The

great helicopter shot that shows the entire Santa Catalina isthmus, with which "Que parezca un accidente" (Gerardo Herrero, 2008) starts, ends on the last floor of the same building of the restaurant (access by 1 La Naval), at the terrace where main character Carmen Maura is.

**E Asopio Canillo Restaurant:** Two sequences of "Como un relámpago", one with Santiago Ramos and Eloy Azorin, and the second one with Ramos avoiding a creditor, were shot at this restaurant, before its current remodeling.

**F La Roquette-B Confial Promenade:** "The Island Inside" begins with this outdoor picture of the red building at the foot of the scarp, the house where the main family lives, which is actually an old water pumping station. The interiors were shot at the flat located at 105 Secretario Artes Street.

**G Plaza Agustín Ramos:** Turning by Agustín Ramos Street from La Puntilla Promenade one gets to a little square where it was filmed the exterior of Rafael's house (Santiago Ramos) in "Como un relámpago".

**H Paseo de los Confiales Park:** The place is chosen as a nautical platform. If we look down on the sea where the Cabrón rock, which in high water seems like a big ground sperm whale, stands out, we can imagine the five whaling rowboats of "Moby Dick", led by Gregory Peck, Richard Basehart, Leo Genn, Harry Andrews, Edric Connor, Seamus Kelly, Bernard Miles, Tom Clegg, Jed Lewis and Friedrich von Ledebur, shooting the hunt of the great albino sperm whale, which is the final sequence of Huston's film. The epilogue of the film was also shot in here, with Ishmael (Richard Basehart) as the only survivor, seizing the coffin built for his friend Queequeg in the middle of the ocean. Photographer Frick Lessing, from the agency Magnun, documented the historical shooting. Facing north, to the shanty town that existed in El Confital, Fernando (Fernando Merinero) spies Magaly (Magaly Santana) in "Children of the Wind" and discovers her secret.



Gregory Peck, Shirley MacLaine, Brad Pitt, Uma Thurman, Marion Cotillard, John Huston, Robert Zemeckis, Ángela Molina, Mario Casas, Carmen Maura, Dani Rovira, Inma Cuesta, Geraldine Chaplin, José Coronado, Candela Peña, Eduard Fernández, Bárbara Lennie, Alberto San Juan, Natalia de Molina, Antonio de la Torre, Manuel Velasco, Raúl Arévalo, Eduardo Casanova, Macarena Gómez and AnnaSophia Robb are some of the stars that have taken part in a shooting in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. But this city hides many other secrets related to cinema. Did you know that actor Javier Bardem was born in here.

TEXTS: Luis Roca Anencibia

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:  
Juan Antonio Castaño, Juan Gordón, Adrián Guerra, Mapi Laguna, Toni Novella, Fernando Macías, Fernando Merinero, Ruth Michel, Francisco Moreno, Elio Quirga, Lourdes Rojas, Antonia San Juan.



Out of route:

**Santa Catalina Hotel:** In "Wonderful Life", the hotel re-creates the set of a shooting office. The British film also shot at the near Full Gospel Las Palmas Korean Church, which was the Altavista Club back then. Jess Franco filmed in here the erotic thriller "Ópalo de fuego: mercedes del sexo" (1980), and the Nazi-zombie one, "Grave of the Living Dead" (1982), at the adjacent Canarian Village.

**Plaza Manuel Becerra:** At the old Ice Factory were shot the exterior and corridors of the Nazi embassy in Casablanca in "Allied", where Brad Pitt and Marion Cotillard enter to commit an attack. Nearby, at the Gran Canaria dock of the port, it was built the terrace of Casablanca where Pitt and Cotillard talk, while they are spied from the next table.

**Reina Sofia Dock:** Here is held César's funeral, that ends with the slay Azucena (Mercedes Ortega) gives Jacinto (Mily Molina). The documentary film "Anclados" (Carlota Nelson, 2009) tells the story of some Ukrainian sailors based on this dock that were left without legal protection inside their Soviet boats after the disbandment of the USSR. Most of the shooting of "REC 4: Apocalypse" took part in a Russian boat anchored at Nelson Mandela dock, another part of La Luz Port.

**Doctor Negrin University Hospital of Gran Canaria:** In "The Island Inside", Coral (Candela Peña), Martín (Alberto San Juan), García (Cristina Marcos) and Victoria (Geraldine Chaplin) remain seated in the waiting room with the city at the back. Geraldine Chaplin goes through the corridors of the hospital until she arrives to the room where her husband Juan (Celso Bugallo) is, who opens his eyes giving cause for the flashback that takes place in the film.

**Las Canteras Beach:** In front of the Reina Isabel Hotel was shot the beach sequence in "Fotos", when Narciso (Gustavo Salmerón) confess to Azucena (Mercedes Ortega) that he identifies himself as a woman. In "The Island Inside", the sequence takes place at night. Coral (Candela Peña) and Martín (Alberto San Juan) discuss, while lying on the sand of Playa Chica, the intention of the latter of going to Paris. Later, in the area of El Charcón, they bump into the married couple for whom Coral works, who also have a secret affair with the husband, Iván (Antonio de la Torre). In "The Summer Side", Estela's (Mariam Hernández) wedding party is held at the top-floor terrace of the Reina Isabel Hotel. There Tana (Macarena Gómez) will receive the news of her boyfriend Raúl's death.

**Tafira:** At the first floor of the house at 19 Párrcoo Bartolomé Hernández Street, Benita's shop for the locals, were shot the scenes of the inside of the inn from the Lanzarote village of Femis and the candle-lit dance in "Mararía", liven up with traditional Canarian music played by temple player José Antonio Ramos. Mararía (Goya Toledo) waits in vain for Don Fermín (Carmelo Gómez) to take her to dance and, in a later sequence, dances with the Englishman Bertrand (Iain Glen). The inn of the character interpreted by Antonio Dechent is a meeting point for the men of the village, played by Carmelo Gómez, José Manuel Cervino, Manuel Manquín and Juli Mira.

**Plaza Churrucra:** At the stands between the basketball courts and the Josefin de la Torre beach-library was shot the sequence in which Natalia de Molina and Roger Berrueto have the idea of taking part in the contest imitating the Spice Girls in "Como sobrevivir a una despedida". At Las Canteras promenade behind the Alfredo Kraus Auditorium, Natalia de Molina tells the plan to her friends Úrsula Corberó, Celia de Molina, María Hervás and Brays Efe immediately after it.

**El Mirador Shopping Center Parking Lot:** In "El Niño", the blocks of the Jinámar housing estate as a backset place the action in Algeciras. At the parking lot, the characters El Niño (Jesús Castro) and el Compi (Jesús Carroza) get in the drug trafficker's car and are handed the agreed 12.000 euros for carrying the drug.

**San Cristóbal Neighborhood:** The old woman from "La hija del mestre" goes out the door of the house at 13 Marina Street. At the beach of pebbles were shot, in this film, the sequence of the net fishing and, in "Como un relámpago", the decisive dialogue between Santiago Ramos and Eloy Azorín at the end of the film.

**Gran Canaria Arena:** In "To Steal from a Thief", the head of the Government's presidential office, Ferrín (Raúl Arevalo), gets the call that informs him about the robbery while he attends an inauguration.

**Estadio Insular:** The detective film "A tiro limpio" (Jesús Mora, 1996), a remake of the homonym film of 1963, by Francisco Pérez-Dolz, shot here one of its main sequences during a real rock concert in the Curved Stands of the old football stadium.

CINEMA ROUTES

Film Descriptions



MOBY DICK | JOHN HUSTON, 1956

Hollywood adapted Herman Melville's literary classic, with a script by Ray Bradbury and John Huston, and starring Gregory Peck as Captain Ahab. It was the biggest box-office draw in the USA. It is considered one of the best hundred movies in film history.



TIRMA | PAOLO MOFFA, CARLOS SERRANO DE OSMÁ, 1956

An ambitious Spanish-Italian coproduction starring Marcelo Mastroianni, Silvana Pampanini and Gustavo Rojo, about the Conquest of Gran Canaria in the 15th century. It is the film that has mobilized the most amount of local resources for a shooting, with numerous anecdotes.



WONDERFUL LIFE | SIDNEY J. FURIE, 1964

A musical comedy starring Cliff Richard and The Shadows that concluded the trilogy made up of "The Young Ones" (1961) and "Summer Holidays" (1963).



CHILDREN OF THE WIND | FERNANDO MERINERO, 1995

A film about a Madrid-born lawyer that travels to Las Palmas to meet again the woman she is in love with, an ex-drug-addict and ex-delinquent Cuban he defended before. It was selected at the Cannes Festival's International Critics' Week.



COMO UN RELÁMPAGO | MIGUEL HERMOSO, 1996

Thanks to it, actor Santiago Ramos won the Goya Award for Best Actor. It was Eloy Azorín's first film, on the role of the son of the characters played by Ramos and Assumpta Serna.



FOTOS | ELIO QUIROGA, 1996

The Gran-Canarian director won with his first film the Best Screenplay Award and a Special Jury Award at the Sitges Festival. The film, bold and bizarre, was praised by Quentin Tarantino.



MARARÍA | ANTONIO JOSÉ BETANCOR, 1998

The most ambitious Canarian film in history had five nominations to the Goya Awards, winning the one for Best Cinematography. It was produced by Andrés Santana, starring Goya Toledo, Carmelo Gómez and Iain Glen, with a soundtrack by Pedro Guerra and the participation of José Manuel Cervino.



THE ISLAND INSIDE | FÉLIX SABROSO Y DUNIA AYASO, 2009

This film, the last one by the Canarian director duo because of Dunia Ayaso's death in 2014, meant the directors' return to their hometown in order to shoot. Starring Alberto San Juan, Candela Peña and Geraldine Chaplin, it won the Best Film Award of TVE's Versión Española program.



THE SUMMER SIDE | ANTONIA SAN JUAN, 2012

A sour portrayal of a suburban family of Las Palmas with Eduardo Casanova, Macarena Gómez and Antonia San Juan as their lead actors.



EL NIÑO | DANIEL MONZÓN, 2014

A box-office hit nominated to 16 Goya Awards. It is a thriller about drug trafficking in the Strait of Gibraltar. Starring Luis Tosar, Eduard Fernández and Bárbara Lennie, it made actor Jesús Castro known.



REC 4: APOCALYPSE | JAUME BALAGUERO, 2014

Last film of the horror franchise "REC", by Jaume Balagueró and Paco Plaza. For its lead actress, Manuela Velasco, the Russian oil tanker from La Luz Port where the film was shot is one of the most sinister characters of the franchise.



SIDETRACKED | ÁLVARO FERNÁNDEZ ARMERO, 2015

A comedy about a young couple in crisis, played by Inma Guesta and Raúl Arevalo, that takes place between Madrid and a village in the mountains. Also starring Kiti Mánver, Alberto San Juan, Jorge Bosch and Candela Peña.



CÓMO SOBREVIVIR A UNA DESPEDIDA | MANUELA MORENO, 2015

Natalia de Molina, Brays Efe, Úrsula Corberó, María Hervás, Celia de Molina and Roger Berrueto star in this crazy comedy about a group of friends that celebrate in Gran Canaria a bachelorette party. Produced by Adrián Guerra.



PALM TREES IN THE SNOW | FERNANDO GONZÁLEZ MOLINA, 2015

Based on the bestseller by Luz Gabás, it portrays for the first time in cinema, through a love story, Equatorial Guinea's independence from Spain. Produced by Adrián Guerra with Mario Casas and Berta Vázquez as the lead characters, it was the Spanish second biggest box-office draw of 2016.



WILD OATS | ANDY TENNANT, 2016

A crazy comedy starring Shirley MacLaine, Jessica Lange and Demi Moore about a seventy-year-old woman who gets by mistake a millionaire check and spends the money on a trip to Gran Canaria.



TO STEAL FROM A THIEF | DANIEL CALPARSORO, 2016

A thriller about a bank robbery starring Raúl Arevalo, José Coronado and Raúl de la Serna. One of 2016's biggest box-offices draws. Las Palmas became the Spanish city of Valencia.



ALLIED | ROBERT ZEMECKIS, 2016

A Hollywood production starring Brad Pitt and Marion Cotillard that tells a spy story during World War II. "Allied" transformed Las Palmas into the Moroccan city of Casablanca and has reminiscences of the mythical film by Michael Curtiz starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman.

