

Recommended Foreign Films

Films can provide a unique insight into foreign cultures and places. The following list features a selection of films from some of the most popular WorldStrides destinations and comes from the WorldStrides online course Global Perspectives. In this course for international travelers, we ask students to watch a film from their destination country and compare their own experiences to the themes presented in the film.

Looking to practice your language skills? Films are also an excellent medium for learning a foreign language – regardless of travel. In this list, you will find many excellent films that are presented entirely, or predominantly, in a foreign language. What better way to learn about other cultures while also improving your language skills?

Films are arranged alphabetically and sorted by country. An asterisk (*) indicates the film is recommended only for mature audiences.



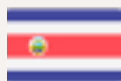
Austria

- Die Stadt ohne Juden / The City Without Jews (1924)
- *Jules and Jim (1962) – French/German
- The Seventh Continent (1989)
- Sissi (1955)
- The White Ribbon (2009)
- Woman in Gold (2015) – English/German



China

- Chung Kuo, Cina (1972)
- Close to Eden (1992)
- Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (2000)
- Girl From Hunan (1986)
- Hero (2003)
- Jug Dou (1991)
- Life on a String (1991)
- Not One Less (1999)
- Once Upon a Time in China (2003)
- Raise the Red Lantern (1992)
- Red Sorghum (1989)
- Small Happiness (1984)
- The Forbidden City (1918)
- The Last Emperor (1987)
- To Live (1994)
- Unruly Dragon (1988)
- Yellow Earth (1988)



Costa Rica

- Agua fría de mar (2010)
- Bonne année (2006) – short film
- C'est comme ça (2005) – short film
- El Camino (2007)
- *Gestación (2009)
- *Presos (2015)



Cuba

- The Beauty of the Alhambra (1989)
- Buena Vista Social Club (1999) – English/Spanish
- Death of a Bureaucrat (1966)
- I Am Cuba (1964)
- The Last Supper (1976)
- Memories of Underdevelopment (1968)
- Portrait of Teresa (1979)
- Strawberry and Chocolate (1993)
- Suite Habana (2003)
- Viva Cuba (2005)



Czech Republic / Czechoslovakia

- Adelheid (1969)
- Alois Nebel (2011)
- Closely Watched Trains (1966) – Czech/German
- *Daisies (1966)
- The Ear (1970)
- The Firemen's Ball (1967)
- I Served the King of England (2006)
- Intimate Lighting (1965)
- *Marketa Lazarová (1967)



France

- The 400 Blows (1959)
- Amélie (2001)
- Au revoir les enfants (1987)
- *Bande à part / Band of Outsiders (1964)
- Le Cercle Rouge (1970)
- Les Choristes (2003)
- *Day for Night (1973)
- The Dinner Game (1998)
- *The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie (1972)
- Les Enfants du Paradis / Children of Paradise (1945)
- Entre les murs / The Class (2008)
- Etre et avoir (2002)
- Les femmes du sixième étage (2010)
- Les Misérables (2019)
- Girlhood (2014)
- La Grande Illusion / The Grand Illusion (1937)
- *La Haine (1995)
- The Hunchback of Notre Dame (1939, 1996)
- The Intouchables (2011)
- Jean de Florette (1986)
- Mon Oncle (1958)
- Le Papillon (2002)
- Playtime (1968)
- La Reine Margot (1994)
- The Umbrellas of Cherbourg (1964)
- Van Gogh (1991)
- La Vie en rose (2007)



Germany

- 1, 2, 3 (1961)
- All Quiet on the Western Front (1930)
- Amen. (2002)
- *The Baader Meinhof Complex (2008)
- Bach's Fight for Freedom (1995)
- *Berlin Alexanderplatz – miniseries (1980)
- *Berlin Alexanderplatz – film (2020)
- A Coffee in Berlin (2012)
- Das Wunder von Bern (2003)
- The Diary of Anne Frank (1959)
- Die Blechtrommel / The Tin Drum (1979)
- Downfall (2004)
- The Edukators (2004)
- The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser (1974)
- Europa! Europa! (1991)
- Germania Anno Zero (1948)
- Good Bye Lenin! (2003)
- Head-on (2004)
- Heimat is a Space in Time (2019)
- Ich war zuhause, aber / I Was at Home, But (2019)
- *The Lives of Others (2006)
- The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum (1975)
- M (1931)
- Metropolis (1927)
- Rosa Luxemburg (1979)
- Rosenstrasse (2003)
- Signs of Life (1968)
- Sophie Scholl (2005)
- Systemsprenger / System Crasher (2019)
- *Toni Erdmann (2016)
- Valkyrie (2008)
- Walk on Water (2004)
- The Wave (2008)
- The White Rose (1982)
- Wings of Desire (1987)
- Woyzeck (1979)
- The Young Karl Marx (2017) – German/French



Iceland

- *101 Reykjavik (2000)
- Angels of the Universe (2000)
- Bjarnfreðsson (2009)
- Börn náttúrunnar / Children of Nature (1991)
- Djúpið / The Deep (2012)
- Dreamland (2010)
- Eldfjall / Volcano (2011)
- *Hafið / The Sea (2002)
- Hjartasteinn / Heartstone (2016)
- Hross í oss / Of Horses and Men (2013)
- Hrútar / Rams (2015)
- Lof mér að falla / Let Me Fall (2018)
- Metalhead (2015)
- Vonarstræti / Life in a Fishbowl (2014)



Italy

- 8 ½ (1963)
- Bicycle Thieves (1948)
- Caterina in the Big City (2003)
- Cinema Paradiso (1988)
- Diva (1981)
- *Divorce Italian Style (1961)
- Gomorrah (2008)
- Human Capital (2013)
- I Cento Passi (2000)
- Il Divo (2008)
- Il Postino / The Postman (1994)
- *L'Avventura (1960)
- *L'Eclisse / The Eclipse (1962)
- La Dolce Vita (1960)
- La grande bellezza / The Great Beauty (2013)
- La vita è bella / Life is Beautiful (1997)
- Plein Soleil / Purple Noon (1999)
- Quo Vado? (2016)
- Rocco ei suoi Fratelli / Rocco and his Brothers (1961)
- Roma, città aperta / Rome, Open City (1945)
- We Have a Pope (2011)



Japan

- An Autumn Afternoon (1962)
- *The Ballad of Narayama (1983)
- Castle in the Sky (1986)
- Floating Weeds (1959)
- Godzilla (1954)
- Hanging Garden (2005)
- Ikiru (1952)
- Late Spring (1949)
- Like Father, Like Son (2013)
- Linda Linda Linda (2005)
- Memories of Matsuko (2006)
- Mind Game (2004)
- My Neighbor Totoro (1988)
- Princess Mononoke (1997)
- Ran (1985)
- Rashomon (1950)
- Seven Samurai (1954)
- Shin Godzilla (2016)
- *Shoplifters (2018)
- Spirited Away (2001)
- Still Walking (2008)
- Tokyo Story (1953)
- The Wind Rises (2013)
- Woman in the Dunes (1964)
- Yojimbo (1961)



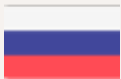
Mexico

- Alamar (2009)
- *Amores perros (2000)
- Ánimas Trujano / The Important Man (1961)
- Colosio: El asesinato (2012)
- *Como agua para chocolate / Like Water for Chocolate (1992)
- *Ensayo de un crimen / The Criminal Life of Archibaldo de la Cruz (1955)
- *The Exterminating Angel (1962)
- Godfather Mendoza (1934)
- Güeros (2014)
- Hecho En México (2012)
- I Hate Love (2012)
- La misma luna / Under the Same Moon (2007)
- Los Olvidados / The Young and the Damned (1950)
- Macario (1960)
- The Pearl (1947)
- Red Dawn (1989)
- Roma (2018)
- La sombra del Caudillo (1960)
- The Violin (2005)
- Viridiana (1961)



Peru

- Asu Mare (2013)
- Caídos del cielo / Fallen from Heaven (1991)
- Ciudad de M (2000)
- Días de Santiago (2004)
- Gregorio (1984)
- Juliana (1989)
- La boca del Lobo / In the Mouth of the Wolf (1988)
- La ciudad y los Perros (1985)
- La teta asustada / The Milk of Sorrow (2009)
- Madeinusa (2005)
- *No se lo digas a nadie (1998)



Russia / Soviet Union

- Alexander Nevsky (1938)
- Andrei Rublev (1966)
- Ballad of a Soldier (1959)
- The Barber of Siberia (1998)
- Battleship Potemkin (1925)
- Brother (1997)
- Burnt by the Sun (1994)
- *Come and See (1985)
- The Cranes Are Flying (1957)
- The Dawns Here Are Quiet (1972)
- The Diamond Arm (1969)
- Dersu Uzala (1975)
- Elena (2011)
- How I Ended This Summer (2010)
- The Irony of Fate (1975)
- Ivan's Childhood (1962)
- Leviathan (2014)
- Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears (1980)
- Russian Ark (2002)
- Silent Souls (2011)
- Solaris (1971)
- White Sun of the Desert (1970)



Spain

- L'auberge espagnole / The Spanish Apartment (2002) – French/Spanish/Catalan/English
- Belle Epoque (1992)
- *Broken Embraces (2009)
- Carmen (1983)
- Carol's Journey (2002)
- Cría Cuervos (1976)
- The Devil's Backbone (2001)
- El Cid (1961)
- *Hable con ella / Talk to Her (2002)
- La aldea maldita / The Cursed Village (1942)
- La prima Angélica (1974)
- Little Ashes (2009)
- Mamá cumple cien años (1979)
- Ocho apellidos catalanes (2015)
- Ocho apellidos vascos (2014)
- Off Course (2015)
- Rosita (1923)
- Salvador (1986)
- The Spirit of the Beehive (1973)
- *That Obscure Object of Desire (1977)
- Viridiana (1961)
- *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (1988)