



# The Brits in Europe

Celebrating 60 years  
of the British Film Club



T H E  
BRITISH  
FILMCLUB  
TRIESTE

**Thursday 21st May, 2026**

**h 3, 5, 7 & 9 pm**

## The Lady Vanishes

by Alfred Hitchcock, 1938, 97'

with Margaret Lockwood,

Michael Redgrave

Set on a train travelling through continental Europe in 1938, Alfred Hitchcock's glorious murder-mystery is a perfect example of British attitudes to "foreignness" at the time, with a general suspicion of continental behaviour and cuisine. A young Englishwoman realises her older travelling companion has disappeared, but her fellow passengers deny ever having seen her. Puzzled and distressed, the young woman is helped by a young musicologist, the two proceeding to search the train for clues as to the woman's disappearance. Blessed with great characters and many witty and imaginative touches, this is Hitchcock at his very best: the film frequently ranks among the best British films of all time.



**Wednesday 27th May, 2026**

**h 2, 4, 6 & 8 pm**

## The Italian Job

by Peter Collinson, 1969, 99'

with Michael Caine, Noel Coward,

Benny Hill, Rossano Brazzi

Here we have the quintessential "Brits in Europe" comic caper film. Michael Caine stars as Charlie Croker, a Cockney criminal just released from prison who forms a gang with the aim of stealing a cache of gold bullion being transported through the city of Turin, Italy, in an armoured security truck. How? By creating a traffic jam. Enter the Mini Coopers. The film is famous, of course, for using three classic Mini Coopers for a high-octane chase through Turin's streets, pedestrian arcades, and the rooftop track of the Fiat factory. How did they even get permission to do that??

**Wednesday 10th June, 2026**  
**h 2, 4, 6 & 8 pm**

## **A Room with a View**

by James Ivory, 1985, 111'  
with Maggie Smith,  
Helena Bonham-Carter, Judi Dench,  
Daniel Day-Lewis

Winner of three Academy awards, this is a brilliant social comedy about the British at home and abroad at the beginning of the twentieth century. Lucy (Helena Bonham-Carter ) and her starchy elder cousin Miss Bartlett (Maggie Smith) have come away to Florence, a key stop-off on any high-cultural tour to Europe since the days of the Grand Tour. Lucy will soon discover an Italy that is altogether headier and more sensual than she has read about in books or might primly imagine via the city's medieval architecture. A hugely entertaining and ravishing account of the fussiness and foibles of the well-heeled Edwardians abroad.



**Thursday 18th June, 2026**  
**h 3, 5, 7 & 9 pm**

## **Shirley Valentine**

by Lewis Gilbert, 1989, 108'  
with Pauline Collins, Tom Conti,  
Alison Steadman and Joanna Lumley

Pauline Collins is a middle-aged, working-class Liverpoolian housewife who would like to escape her dull suburban life in a cold, rainy country full of boring, unimaginative people. When she gets the chance of a free holiday in Greece with a friend, she grabs at it with both hands, and dives into a new exciting culture and identity, allowing herself to be seduced both by the beauty of the landscape and by the owner of a local taverna. The island of Mykonos has never looked better. It may be a comedy, but it also has something serious to say about the condition of women in the 1980s.

# The Brits in Europe Celebrating 60 years of the British Film Club

We wanted to mark the 60th anniversary of the British Film Club with something special. It was founded in 1966 by an Englishwoman called Patricia Coales and amazingly, is still the biggest original language film club in Italy. Of course, 2026 also marks a less felicitous anniversary – it's been 10 years since that disastrous Brexit vote, which has made the United Kingdom so much poorer in many different ways. However, there are some encouraging signs of a closer relationship with Europe in the very near future. Fingers crossed!

So here we are with four great films about the Brits "on the Continent", as they would put it. Stories about their trips abroad have been a staple of British movies for decades. These films take characters out of their comfort zones and drop them into unfamiliar places where confusion over the language and other culture clashes ensue, often resulting in the kind of behaviour they wouldn't get away with at home.



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al canale ufficiale  
Whatsapp

  [britishfilmclubtrieste.it](https://www.britishfilmclubtrieste.it)

Admission free to British Film Club members.

Performances on Wednesdays at 2, 4, 6 & 8pm and Thursdays at 3, 5 7 & 9pm

Enjoy the films - and Happy Anniversary!

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All films will be shown at the  
Ariston Cinema, viale Romolo  
Gessi 19 (buses 8, 9 & 15).  
Tel.040 304222

