



STAR WARS AT MADAME TUSSAUDS

A SCENE-BY-SCENE GUIDE

Star Wars at Madame Tussauds is a major new and unique, immersive experience bringing to life some of the most iconic moments in film history. Extraordinarily life-like wax figures of the favourite heroes and villains from Episodes I-VI of the legendary movie franchise appear in authentic walk-in sets inspired by key scenes. Dramatically themed and featuring dynamic special effects, guests can step right into the sets and star alongside 16 characters - from Luke Skywalker and Obi-Wan Kenobi, to Darth Vader and the evil Emperor Palpatine.

THE TRADE FEDERATION BRIDGE

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace*)

The journey begins aboard a Trade Federation landing ship. As the unmistakable *Star Wars* theme tune plays out, guests find themselves on one of the giant vehicle's sleek, metallic walkways, where massive windows reveal a galaxy of shining stars.

DRAMATIC LIGHTSABER DUEL with Qui-Gon Jinn, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Darth Maul

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace*)

Emerging from the walkway, guests find themselves looking down on one of the most epic of all *Star Wars* lightsaber battles, as Qui-Gon Jinn and Obi-Wan Kenobi duel with Darth Maul. Progressing downwards into the set, the sound of clashing lightsabers gets louder as the Jedi Knights take on the dark power of the Sith Lord. Spanning the height of both floors of the attraction, the scene is dominated by one of the gigantic light cylinders which form the backdrop to much of the battle, its flickering energy beams dramatically recreated by state of the art flexi flash lighting effects. As the trio lock lightsabers to the soundtrack of John Williams' famous "Duel of the Fates" theme, fans can step right into the heart of the action and feel the tension mounting. Portrayed in dynamic battle poses, all three characters' wax figures are amazingly realistic, right down to Darth Maul's red and black tattooed skin and piercing yellow eyes to Obi-Wan's delicate Padawan braid.

MUSTAFAR with Anakin Skywalker

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith*)

Go 'saber-to-saber' with Anakin Skywalker as he turns to the dark side on the molten landscape of Mustafar, recreated with fiery special effects. The scene captures Anakin in the middle of his fateful duel with his Jedi Master, Obi-Wan Kenobi, precariously balanced on a bridge of debris over a pool of deadly lava, lightsaber lifted in anger and hatred. Guests can step into Obi-Wan's shoes, try to convince Anakin of Darth Sidious' evil intentions and look into his fury-filled eyes before he makes his final transformation into Darth Vader.

IN THE CANTINA with Han Solo

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode IV A New Hope*)

Join wise-cracking hero Han Solo in the infamous Mos Eisley Cantina as he faces down Jabba the Hutt's double-crossing bounty hunter, Greedo. In typically maverick stance, the rebellious Solo is portrayed lounging casually in a cantina booth, foot nonchalantly up on a bar table to hide his concealed blaster, faithfully mirroring the film scene. With the cantina band's lively music providing the backing track, guests can slide right into Greedo's seat opposite Solo as he coolly engages in a highly-charged stand-off with one of the galaxy's most un-trustworthy villains before it reaches its deadly climax.

TATOOINE LANDSCAPE with C-3PO and R2-D2

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode IV A New Hope*)

The only characters to be featured in ALL *Star Wars* films, the bickering protocol and astromech droids were first seen in 1977's *Star Wars: Episode IV A New Hope*, on Anakin and Luke's home planet of Tatooine. Guests can enjoy a close encounter with the duo just as they first appeared, a little battered and in need of a spruce up after their abduction by Jawas.

THE MILLENNIUM FALCON with Chewbacca

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode IV A New Hope*)

Han Solo's faithful co-pilot is portrayed in all his hairy glory, as the magnificent 2m tall Wookiee takes his place at the controls of the *Millennium Falcon*. The set recreates one of the most famous flight decks in film history and guests can actually 'stand in' for Han in the pilot's chair and, alongside Chewie, take the ship into hyper-drive triggering special visual and audio effects as the ship rumbles and zooms to light-speed. As a fighter attack theme from the movie fills the scene, fans will really feel like they are bound for adventure as the deceptively shabby freighter goes after its next Imperial target.

DEATH STAR WALKWAY protected by two Stormtroopers

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode IV A New Hope*)

Sinister Stormtroopers stalk the corridors of the Imperial battle station, the Death Star. Fans can go head-to-head with two of Darth Vader's henchmen as they protect the Death Star from the Rebel Alliance.

THE SWAMPS OF DAGOBAH with Yoda

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode V The Empire Strikes Back*)

His 'home this is,' and Master Yoda is waiting for fans to join him in his remote world of swamps and forest on Dagobah. This is the scene of Luke Skywalker's training by one of the wisest and most renowned Jedi in galactic history, and guests can feel the Force just as Luke did in this harsh habitat. Mossy tree trunks, twisted roots and branches, decaying foliage and swirling fog perfectly recreate Yoda's place of exile. His figure has been faithfully recreated in accurate detail using information gathered at a special 'sitting' with one of the original Yoda models at Skywalker Ranch in California. Yoda is one of the smallest figures in the attraction at just 66cm tall, but set so evocatively in his swampy home that it is undoubtedly one of the most impactful. In the words of the Jedi Master himself - "*Size matters not. For my ally is the Force, and a powerful ally it is.*"

'I AM YOUR FATHER' SCENE with Darth Vader

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi*)

One of the most quoted lines in popular culture, Luke Skywalker learns of his parentage in *Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi*, when Darth Vader utters the fateful words ... "*I am your father*". Guests will feel the wind in their hair as they step up to recreate possibly the most famous moment in *Star Wars* history to date. Standing with Vader they will hear him say the iconic words as they take Luke's place perched on an airshaft gantry within Cloud City, with a high impact infinity effect giving a real feeling of precarious height. The set was recreated using original source material - a delicate and fine detailed miniature scale model of the entire 1980 movie scene from the Skywalker Ranch in California.

JABBA'S THRONE ROOM with Princess Leia, Jabba the Hutt and Salacious B. Crumb (and Han Solo in Carbonite)

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi*)

The attraction's largest and smallest figures are united in the biggest set bringing one of the galaxy's most notorious gangsters, Jabba the Hutt, together with his sadistic court jester, Salacious B. Crumb. The scene is Jabba's Throne Room and Jabba's figure, at 2.9m long, 1.5m high and weighing a whopping 35 stone is one of the largest ever created by Madame Tussauds. By contrast, his Kowakian monkey-lizard sidekick stands at just 41.2cm tall including his 14cm long ears. Crumb is portrayed tucked into his gross crime lord boss' tail as Princess Leia, in her famous gold bikini, sits shackled before him. Fans can sit beside Leia, marvel at Jabba's grotesqueness as he sucks on his hookah pipe and listen out for sounds of torment from beneath the floor when they step across the Hutt's concealed rancor pit. Han Solo makes his second appearance, but this time frozen in carbonite, a helpless frozen hostage of the Hutt.

DEATH STAR THRONE ROOM with Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader and Emperor Palpatine

(featured in *Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi*)

In the final scene, Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader embark on their final duel under the menacing gaze of Emperor Palpatine in the Death Star's Throne Room. The mood is dark, with Skywalker, Vader and Palpatine dressed in head to toe black. The galaxy's jet night sky speckled with diamond bright stars can be seen through the giant circular windows that frame the Emperor's black throne as he sits willing Vader to help him turn Luke to the dark side or destroy him. The powerful scene is brought to life with intimate intensity and fans can circle around the dueling pair with their green and red lightsabers extended mid-fight, in complete 360 degrees. Luke's expression is one of total focus as he battles for his life... and to save his father from the clutches of Palpatine and the evil of the dark side. Will goodness prevail?

IN COLLABORATION WITH DISNEY AND LUCASFILM

Star Wars by Madame Tussauds has been created in close collaboration with Disney and Lucasfilm. The artistic team at Madame Tussauds London was given rare access to the *Star Wars* archives at Skywalker Ranch in California to catalogue costumes, models and designs from the movies, including taking precise measurements of one of the original Yoda models. Expert consultants, from *Star Wars* costumiers to set and prop designers, including the team behind the lightsabers featured in the films, have helped to authentically bring to life some of the most powerful film scenes in history. A team of 180 talented sculptors, hair artists and colourists at the Madame Tussauds studios in London worked for over a year to create 16 amazingly life-like wax figures of *Star Wars*' most famous names. Find out more about how the experience was created at www.madametussauds.com/London for in the making footage/shots etc.

Ends

For further information please contact Amy Sadler or Tansy Ratcliffe–James at freerange communications – amys@freerange.eu, 0207 402 9966

Notes to Editors

Madame Tussauds London and Merlin Entertainments plc

- Prices to Madame Tussauds London start from £22 (May 2015 onwards) when you pre-book at www.madametussauds.com/london
- Madame Tussauds London is located next to Baker Street tube station and open seven days a week – opening times vary, check the website for details before visiting, www.madametussauds.com/london
- Madame Tussauds Studios London has been making wax figures for over 150 years. Each masterpiece takes four months, and a team of 20 dedicated sculptors, to create. Over 500 precise body measurements are referenced, real head hairs are inserted one by one, and countless layers of paints and tints are applied to build up skin tones - all to achieve the kind of astonishing realism that has kept Madame Tussauds world renowned for over two centuries.
- Madame Tussauds has attractions in London, Hollywood, Las Vegas, New York, San Francisco, Washington D.C., Amsterdam, Berlin, Vienna, Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai, Singapore, Wuhan, Blackpool UK and Sydney, with interactive figures and experiences built around fame and celebrity. In London, guests can get up close and personal with incredibly lifelike replicas of 21st century stars like Johnny Depp and Amy Winehouse, brave the scariest Chamber Of Horrors yet, complete with actors as bloodthirsty serial killers and take a time-travelling taxi ride through 400 years of amazing London history.
- MERLIN ENTERTAINMENTS plc is the leading name in location-based, family entertainment. Europe's Number 1 and the world's second-largest visitor attraction operator, Merlin now operates 105 attractions, 11 hotels/3 holiday villages in 23 countries and across 4 continents. The company aims to deliver memorable and rewarding experiences to its almost 60 million visitors worldwide, through its iconic global and local brands, and the commitment and passion of its managers and c25,000 employees.
- Among Merlin's attractions are - SEA LIFE, Madame Tussauds, LEGOLAND, The London Eye, Dungeons, Gardaland, LEGOLAND Discovery Centres, Alton Towers Resort, Warwick Castle, THORPE PARK Resort, Blackpool Tower, Heide Park Resort, WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo, Sydney Tower Eye and SKYWALK. All brands which are distinctive, challenging and innovative – and which have great potential for growth in the future. Visit www.merlinentertainments.biz for more information.