

New enhancements coming this Spring to popular 『The Wizarding World of Harry Potter』 area based on *Harry Potter* series loved across generations!
Hippogriff, Niffler, and other vibrant Magical Creatures appear before you in new, interactive magical experience
『Magical Creatures Encounter』

Coming for limited time starting Friday March 17th, 2023

Universal Studios Japan's popular "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter" area will feature a new magical experience, "Magical Creatures Encounter" for a limited period starting Friday, March 17th, 2023. Interact with some of the magical creatures that bring life and emotion to the wizarding world in person for a Super Emotional, Super Exciting experience only possible at Universal Studios Japan.



The magical world, which has brought magic into the lives of so many fans both in and outside of Japan since its opening in 2014, will once again thrill its guests. Four magical creatures, including the proud magical creature, the Hippogriff, which Harry met in his first Care of Magical Creatures class in the third installment of the *Harry Potter* series, "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," the "Niffler," who loves shiny treasures and escaped from Newt Scamander's suitcase in the *Fantastic Beasts* series, along with an adorable "Pygmy Puff" and smoke-breathing "Baby Dragon" will physically appear before your very eyes. Feel the creatures' vibrant breath, look into their eyes full of emotion and watch as the hair on their bodies move in the wind, listen to their voices and actually touch them in a emotional and exciting experience.

Twenty-five years since its debut, the Harry Potter series remains a timeless masterpiece with films, a stage play, and games across entertainment genres continuing to move fans around the world. “The Wizarding World of Harry Potter,” the area based on the popular series, brings fans the excitement they felt when first introduced to the stories and the thrill of being immersed in the world of magic by stepping into Hogsmeade village recreated with amazing quality, and now, through the introduction of this new magical experience.

◆ 『Magical Creatures Encounter』

Wailing mandrakes, talking portraits, biting books, and flames burning bright along to chanted spells, the popular The Wizarding World of Harry Potter area thrills once again. Magical creatures like those from the seen in the films appear before your very eyes. As the world of magic continues to awaken, interact with vibrant magical creatures just like a student from Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry would, in a magical journey.

○ 『Hippogriff Magical Lesson』

The majestic, yet strange and giant magical creature known as the “Hippogriff,” like the one Harry met in the Forbidden Forest, appears before you!

Learn how to approach the proud creature alongside Hogwarts students in a thrilling new show!

A “Hippogriff,” with the head of an eagle, the body of a horse, just like the one Harry met in his first Care of Magical Creatures class, appears before you with outstretched wings. Learn how to approach and interact with the proud creature without offending it, alongside students from all four of the houses at Hogwarts in “Hippogriff Magical Lesson,” a thrilling, new show. Feel like a student of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry and interact with the giant Hippogriff in this exciting magical experience.



< Location >

Performance Stage

< Times & Length >

Approximately 10 minutes in length. 8 to 10 times per day. *Number of performances to differ depending on day.

○ 『Meet the Hogsmeade Magical Creatures』

Beloved magical creatures appear here and there throughout Hogsmeade! Interact with the magical creatures with care, as you create everlasting memories with them!

Beloved magical creatures have appeared all over the vibrant town of Hogsmeade where wizards reside. A “Niffler,” who loves shiny treasures, rummages through a cart of mail in front of the Owl Post. A creature trader secretly carries a newly hatched “Baby Dragon” in the plaza in front of Hogsmeade Station. The sounds of a “Pygmy Puff” can be heard in front of Zonko’s Joke Shop. These magical creatures may be small and cute but they are still magical creatures, so take the utmost care when interacting with them while taking pictures to create everlasting memories.



< Location >

Niffler: in front of Owl Post

Baby Dragon: Hogsmeade Station Plaza

Pygmy Puff: Next to Zonko’s Joke Shop

< Times >

8 to 10 times per day. *Number and time of performances to differ depending on day.

◆ Comments from Pierre Bohana, Harry Potter films, Head Prop Maker

In The Wizarding World of Harry Potter you can really encounter the magical creatures. The Hippogriff is so authentic and awe-inspiring to watch its every movement. These creatures can be fussy, so when you meet them, I encourage you to watch the film first for tips on how to interact with them before you come to interact with them or before touching them! The Niffler and Pygmy Puff are so lovely and emotional, you are sure to become friends with them. But take care, or you might get scolded or sulked at. The baby dragon is adorable because its so young, but you never know what they will do, so take the utmost care.

Meeting these magical creatures in person gave me a strong sense that magic really does exist. I hope you can see them up close, touch them and feel their true magic. I believe you will feel that everything in the beloved films really does exist.

■ About Pierre Bohana

Pierre Bohanna, a film production modeler/designer, engages in concepting, designing, development, manufacture and support for props, models and special costumes used in filmmaking. He has worked on all 8 Harry Potter films and Fantastic Beast films as head prop maker.

◆ Don't Miss Must-Have Items Based on Cute Creatures from the "Fantastic Beast" Series!

Coming this spring are exclusive "Bowtruckles" product, based on the small, magical creatures from the "Fantastic Beast" film series. Take these creatures with you wherever your adventures take you, with themed drink holders and other items so that guests can enjoy the world of magic not just at Universal Studios Japan but at home too!



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■ About Universal Studios Japan

Universal Studios Japan is wholly owned by Comcast NBCUniversal. Universal Studios Japan located in Osaka, Japan, has succeeded in establishing its position as a prominent entertainment and leisure landmark drawing many guests from distant areas in Japan as well as overseas. "Bringing You the Best of the World" - a theme park where its guests can have the world's best experiences and create the world's best memories, Universal Studios Japan offers world-class entertainment such as authentic attractions and shows, based not only on Hollywood blockbusters but also popular entertainment brands, and a variety of seasonal events entertaining its guests to the fullest. Universal Studios Japan has continued to evolve since its opening and has recently accelerated its growth with the launch of world-class entertainment experiences such as The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, The Flying Dinosaur, Minion Park and SUPER NINTENDO WORLD, a new area where guests can unleash their passion to play in an immersive environment based on world-renowned Nintendo characters and their worlds.

■ About Wizarding World

In the years since Harry Potter was whisked from King's Cross Station onto Platform nine and three quarters, his incredible adventures have left a unique and lasting mark on popular culture. Eight blockbuster Harry Potter films based on the original stories by J.K. Rowling have brought the magical stories to life and today, the Wizarding World is recognized as one of the world's best-loved brands.

Representing a vast interconnected universe, it also includes three epic *Fantastic Beasts* films, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* – the multi-award-winning stage-play, state-of-the-art video and mobile games from Portkey Games, innovative consumer products, thrilling live entertainment (including four theme park lands) and insightful exhibitions.

This expanding portfolio of Warner Bros. owned Wizarding World tours and retail also includes the flagship Harry Potter New York, Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter, Warner Bros. Studio Tour Tokyo, and the Platform 9 3/4 retail shops.

The Wizarding World continues to evolve to provide Harry Potter fans with fresh and exciting ways to engage. For the worldwide fan community, and for generations to come, it welcomes everyone in to explore and discover the magic for themselves.

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