

sky NOW



Festive Season on Sky & NOW

# What to Watch this Festive Season

It's official, we're calling it. It's time to get into the festive spirit.

Some might think we're starting early but after a summer that was, well, pretty un-summery we may as well have something to look forward to and what better than knowing that there's a cracking festive line-up coming to Sky & NOW.

From **festive specials** of your favourite **comedy and entertainment** series to a **brand-new Sky Original Christmas special**, starring James Nesbitt and Timothy Spall, there's plenty to keep you busy. Plus, with all your **favourite festive films** available on Sky Cinema (anyone for a Harry Potter marathon?), you'll be fighting for the remote this Christmas.

And if that wasn't enough, we've even got some **brand-new shows and films** for the Grinches amongst you. We get it. Not everyone is as into Christmas and festive-themed TV as us, so, we've included some new shows that haven't got a whiff of Christmas about them besides the fact that they'll be coming to Sky & NOW in December.

So, what are you waiting for? Have a look through our festive highlights and see the best of what we've got coming up over the holiday period.

PS. Haven't found anything that takes your fancy? Well, these are just our top picks...there's plenty more available on Sky over the festive period, so keep an eye out as you'll be sure to find something that hits the spot!

*NB: Please note TX dates are subject to change*

**For info on Festive TV highlights, please contact:** [Natasza.Tytko@sky.uk](mailto:Natasza.Tytko@sky.uk)



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# Festive Scripted Specials



# The Heist Before Christmas

Get ready for a new, Sky Original Christmas Special!

Twelve-year-old Mikey Collins, who's dirt-poor and hates Christmas, finds two Santa Clauses in the woods. One has just pulled off a bank heist (James Nesbitt) and is on the run with the cash, the other Santa (Timothy Spall) claims to have fallen out of his sleigh. Mikey has no time for this second guy – he's well past believing any of the Jingle Bells, spirit-of-the-season rubbish, even if his little brother Sean insists on treating the old man like a superstar. Instead, Mikey's determined to get his hands on the bank-robber's cash, convinced that this is the answer to giving his family the Christmas they all crave. But as Mikey risks everything for the loot, he comes to realise that maybe the spirit of Christmas is alive after all...

**Coming (TBC – WK52) December on Sky Max & NOW**

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*To discuss image exclusives, please contact Dominic Collett on the email above.*

*Screeners available on Sky Media Village.*



## A Very Brassic Christmas

Nobody does Christmas like the Brassic gang. The plan is to kick back, relax and enjoy life to the max. But then comes the inevitable. A call from Dr Chris saying his aunt is in crisis and needs looking after and a robbery at Tyler's school ruining his nativity. Vinnie, Erin Tommo, Cardi, Carol Ashely and JJ must now bring on their A Game and help save Christmas the Brassic way. Bring on a heist at a winter wonderland, a fight with a man called Dick Dolphin, babysitting Chris's Aunt and the best Nativity ever staged.

This extra special Brassic Christmas episode co-stars Imelda Staunton as Aunt Edie and Greg Davies as Dick Dolphin.

**Coming (TBC Wk51) December on Sky Max & NOW**

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*To discuss image exclusives, please contact Dominic Collett on the email above.*



# Seasonal Entertainment Specials



# Never Mind the Buzzcocks: Christmas Special

Much loved comedy panel show, Never Mind the Buzzcocks is giving fans a Christmas gift in the form of a one-off Christmas special hot off the heels of a hilarious third series. Celeb guests include Harry Hill, Leigh-Anne Pinnock and Ricky Wilson plus guest appearances from DJ Luck & MC Neat, Paul Potts and Ritchie Neville of Five fame.

**Coming December on Sky Max & NOW**

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# The Unofficial Science of Die Hard & The Unofficial Science of Indiana Jones

This Christmas, Chris Ramsey and Paul Chowdry, alongside engineer Zoe Laughlin, will scientifically assess stunts from much-loved Christmas action film, **Die Hard**. From rooftop escapes to walking over shattered glass, Chris and Paul will put stunts to the test to discover how to tackle them in real life. Along the way, the pair will set out to answer the biggest question of all: is Die Hard a Christmas film?

And because Christmas is the time for giving, this December Sky also brings you The Unofficial Science of Indiana Jones which will see Greg James and Maisie Adam team up to take on family favourite, **Indiana Jones**. Join the pair as they learn how to dodge poisonous darts, outrun giant boulders, and survive fireballs.

Whilst both duos explore the stunts of the films, Alex Brooker returns to explore the sets and meet iconic cast members to hear their favourite memories.

**Coming Christmas on Sky Max & NOW**

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## Rob & Rom Vs. Lapland

For Christmas 2023, Rob & Romesh are spending the festive season in Lapland. The domain of elves, reindeer, festive magic and 'Santa Clause', Rob and Romesh will be trying their hand at all these jobs to see if there's one Christmas activity that they have the Christmas spirit for.

**Coming December on Sky Max & NOW**

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# A League of Their Own Christmas Special

In this Christmas special, Romesh and the gang are joined in the studio for festive fun and games by Manchester United and France legend Patrice Evra as well as award winning comedian Rob Beckett. There is also a special VT of their visit to Brentford FC to cook up a Christmas lunch for the players...

**Coming December on Sky Max & NOW**

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# Festive Films



# Genie

This Christmas, from Richard Curtis, the Oscar®-nominated screenwriter of *Love Actually*, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Notting Hill*, comes a holiday fairytale comedy about a genie, a man, and landing one last chance to fix the mess you've made of your life.

Oscar® nominee Melissa McCarthy stars as Flora, a genie trapped for more than 2,000 years inside an antique jewellery box because of one teeny-tiny little misunderstanding with a sorcerer back in 77 B.C.

After millennia of being summoned to grant wishes of gold doubloons and hot babes for greedy men, Flora is accidentally called to service by Bernard Bottle (Emmy nominee Paapa Kwakye Essiedu; *I May Destroy You*), whose life is unravelling around him.

Bernard's been so busy working that he has lost sight of his marriage to his wife Julie (Tony nominee Denée Benton; *The Gilded Age*) and the childhood of his young daughter, Eve (Jordyn McIntosh; *Emancipation*). When Bernard misses Eve's birthday 12 days before Christmas because of work, Julie decides it's time for a trial separation. And then Bernard's tyrannical boss (Tony winner Alan Cumming; *The Good Wife*) fires him.

Alone in his New York City apartment, a despondent Bernard dusts off a jewellery box he finds in their home and unintentionally releases the one entity who just might be able to help him get his family back. Maybe. Possibly. It's a longshot, frankly. But in the process, Flora and Bernard will discover that love, and an unexpected friendship, can unleash a special holiday magic all its own.

**Coming 1 December to Sky Cinema & NOW**

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Sky and NOW: What to Watch this Festive Season 2023



## Wizarding World

Did you know that Sky is home to the entire Wizarding World collection? This means that you can find all the **Harry Potter** & **Fantastic Beasts** films on Sky & NOW.

We've crunched the numbers and watching all eleven films will take you around 26 hours...perfect for that Chrimbo Limbo time between Christmas and New Year.

**Available on Sky Cinema & NOW**

**Contact:** [skypress@sky.uk](mailto:skypress@sky.uk)

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## Christmas Collection

To keep the festivities going, Sky Cinema is giving viewers the ultimate gift...a bunch of Christmas films curated in one place - the Christmas Collection pop-up.

From festive favourites like **Elf** and **Arthur Christmas** to Christmas classics including **Love Actually** and **The Holiday**, Sky Cinema is bringing you all the feels to round out 2023.

**Available on Sky Cinema & NOW**

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And for the Grinch in the household...

# Dynamo is Dead

The world-renowned magician Dynamo is back as you've never seen him before – embarking on a transformative and soul-searching journey to explore the depths of mental health and well-being. As he grapples with his own struggles, Dynamo seeks answers from inspirational figures around the world so that he can bury his past and find a new beginning.

Through candid conversations with iconic actors, musicians, sports stars, journalists, and activists, each with their own powerful stories to tell, Dynamo learns of the struggles behind their success as they open up about their own journeys and share the wisdom and tools to navigate the complexities of life.

Throughout his journey Dynamo shares his unparalleled magical talents with each of his guests, performing ground-breaking new magic inspired directly by their stories.

The heart-pounding climax of the show will be broadcast live. In order to embrace his future Dynamo must first bury his past, and his journey of recovery will end with him attempting his most dangerous stunt ever... being buried alive.

**Coming 14 December on Sky Max & NOW**

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## Based on a True Story

A dark comedic thriller, *Based on a True Story* is about a realtor, a former tennis star and a plumber who seize a unique opportunity to capitalize on America's obsession with true crime.

Emmy Award nominee Kaley Cuoco (*The Flight Attendant*) stars as 'Ava Bartlett,' alongside Chris Messina (*Air*) as 'Nathan' and Tom Bateman (*Thirteen Lives*) as 'Matt' in your next obsession.

**Coming Christmas / New Year period on Sky Max & NOW**

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# Smothered

Will they? Won't they? Should they? Shouldn't they? Created by Monica Heisey (Workin' Moms, Schitt's Creek), and produced by the multi award-winning Roughcut TV, Smothered, is a not so typical rom-com. Starring Danielle Vitalis and Jon Pointing in a tale of two worlds colliding, where romance blossoms but the pressures of modern dating linger.

Sammy (Vitalis) is a fiercely independent young woman who is done with dating apps, sick of immature men, and here for a good time. Tom (Pointing) has never been inclined to swipe left or right; he's a settled man with a warm heart but carries his fair share of baggage. On a night out, the two strangers meet, and end up singing out their drunken souls in a karaoke booth. Then the inevitable happens. (They hook up).

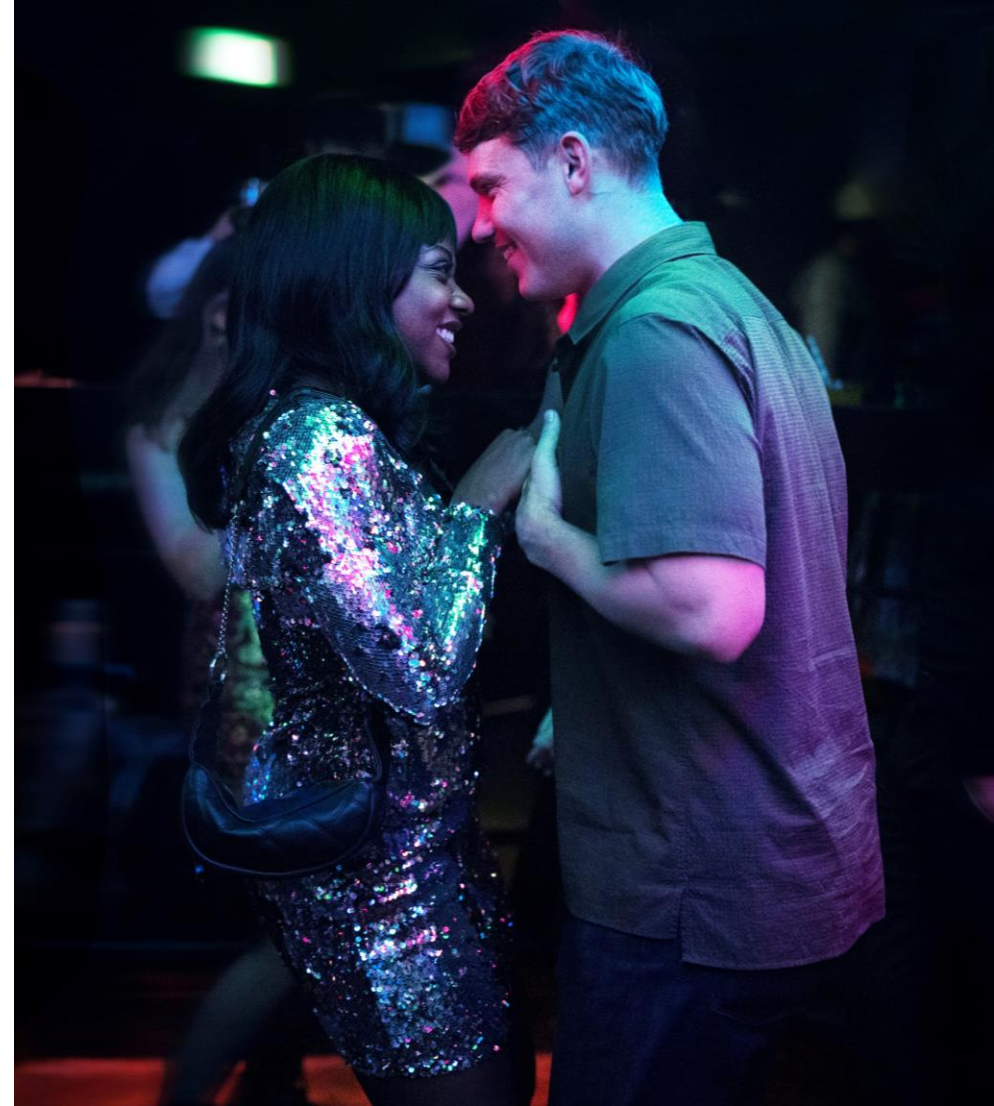
What seems like a great idea at the time, the strangers agree to have a no strings attached affair for three weeks – but on the condition that they never speak again. Sounds simple, right? However, what was supposed to be a few weeks of great sex, pasta in bed and first names only, the sparks flying around them cannot be ignored. But Sammy soon makes a shocking discovery that there is another woman in Tom's life...his six-year-old daughter Ellie.

**Coming 7 December on Sky Comedy & NOW**

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**Trailer:** Available [here](#)



## Whale with Steve Backshall

In this brand-new series, Steve will free dive with iconic whales and their dolphin cousins, getting closer than ever before to these ancient mariners, witnessing new and rarely seen behaviours. In immersive stunning blue chip natural history sequences, we'll see mighty sperm whales, caring humpback whales, intelligent killer whales and ingenious bottlenose dolphins, exploring their complex social relationships, revealing their surprising hunting techniques, and discovering that just like us, many whales have close family units.

As a naturalist, conservationist and Sky Ocean Hero Ambassador, Steve will team up with world-leading scientists to confront the uncomfortable and urgent truths of overfishing and pollution, along the way uncovering how whales and dolphins are adapting to changing oceans in unexpected ways. Joining whale advocates across the globe who are already achieving great conservation successes, Steve will discover why whales are essential for the health of our oceans, what we can do to ensure their survival, and ensure the most remarkable conservation story of all.

**Coming 3 December on Sky Nature & NOW**

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## May December

May December follows married couple Gracie and Joe Atherton-Yoo (Julianne Moore and Charles Melton) whose 23-year age gap sparked a notorious tabloid romance that gripped the nation two decades ago. Cut to modern day, and their marriage comes under renewed strain when Hollywood actress Elizabeth Berry (Natalie Portman) comes to spend time with the family to better understand Gracie, who she will be playing in a film about the scandal.

**Coming 8 December on Sky Cinema & NOW**

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**Trailer:** Available [here](#)





## Leo Reich: Literally Who Cares?!

Hot. Young. Cool. Fresh. Ripped. Hilarious. Groundbreaking. Avant-garde. These are just some of the words that comedian and writer Leo Reich uses to describe himself.

In his first TV comedy special, this self-diagnosed important young mind faces the swirling uncertainty of our collective future, asking the big questions, such as: "Is this helping?", "Am I hot?", and "No offense guys but literally what is going on?" Treading the line between hilarious stand-up and humourless performance art, LEO REICH: LITERALLY WHO CARES?! blends songs, anecdotes, and anxious non-sequiturs in a valiant attempt to raise awareness about important social and political causes... or something.

**Coming December on Sky Comedy & NOW**

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## The Super Mario Bros. Movie

The movie tells the story of two Brooklyn plumbers who are brothers and best friends: Mario, the brave one with the "let's-a go" attitude, and the perpetually anxious Luigi, who would prefer to go nowhere. We open with the Super Mario Brothers reckoning with their struggling plumbing business, and wind up in a whirlwind adventure through Mushroom Kingdom. Through their journey, we meet a cast of familiar, lovable characters, ultimately uniting together to defeat the power-hungry villain, Bowser. The Super Mario Bros. Movie takes what millions of gamers worldwide have loved for thirty-five years and levels it up to a new and breathtaking cinematic experience.

**Coming December on Sky Cinema & NOW**

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## Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse

Miles Morales returns for the next chapter of the Oscar®-winning Spider-Verse saga, an epic adventure that will transport Brooklyn's full-time, friendly neighbourhood Spider-Man across the Multiverse to join forces with Gwen Stacy and a new team of Spider-People to face off with a villain more powerful than anything they have ever encountered.

**Coming December on Sky Cinema & NOW**

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# Sky Arts at Christmas

## Dickens: Phantoms and Fiction

Alongside the brand new, two-part series, *Dickens in Italy with David Harewood*, actor and writer David is bringing Dickens fans a one-off Christmas documentary: *Dickens: Phantoms and Fiction*.

The documentary explores the haunting world of Charles Dickens' supernatural tales, delving into his eerie and atmospheric worlds through actor readings and archive footage, and exploring the popularity of ghost stories during the Victorian era.

**Coming Christmas on Sky Arts, Freeview channel 37 & NOW**

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## Mica Paris A Gospel Christmas

*Mica Paris A Gospel Christmas* is a heartwarming and soul-stirring gospel concert bringing the community together in the spirit of Christmas. Set in St Alfege Church in Greenwich, the concert – directed by music industry legend Chris Cowey (*Top of the Pops*) – features the extraordinary talent of renowned musical artist Mica Paris, accompanied by a powerful choir of ten gifted gospel singers and a dynamic four-piece band. The carefully curated repertoire blends timeless gospel classics with contemporary festive favourites, such as *I'll Be Home for Christmas*, *Amazing Grace* and *Oh Holy Night*, all infused with the soulful and passionate renditions that Mica Paris is known for.

**Coming Christmas on Sky Arts, Freeview channel 37 & NOW**

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# Something for the Little Ones

## Christmas on Sky Kids

Over on Sky Kids, we're keeping the magic alive this festive season and have got plenty of shows to help you keep the kids entertained.

If you weren't able to make it in person, fear not as **KIDZ BOP: Never Stop Live Concert** is coming to Sky Kids this December.

Part fairy and part vampire, Isadora Moon, is back for her very own winter special titled **Isadora Moon's Winter Magic**.

And don't forget to tune in for the **BooSnoo! Christmas Special**, where BooSnoo! takes a journey through a snowy world of presents, music and festive spirit.

### Coming December on Sky Kids & NOW

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# Stocking Fillers



## The best of the months just gone

And if that isn't enough, don't forget that the holiday season is the perfect time to get stuck into all the shows you might have missed over the years and where better to start than the best of Autumn 2023 on Sky and NOW.

From brand new documentary **House of Kardashian** to dramas including **The Lovers** and **The Lazarus Project S2**, there's plenty to keep you busy. For all you comedy fans, catch up on **Brassic S5** so you're up to speed when the Christmas special drops in December.

And for the Harry Potter fans out there **David Holmes: The Boy Who Lived** arrives on Sky Documentaries on 18 November. A must-watch documentary film telling the extraordinary story of Daniel Radcliffe's stunt double, David Holmes.

Enjoy some of the best TV series and films that have streamed on Sky and NOW this year. We've got you covered!

