



# Weekly Highlights

Week 50/51 - Saturday 16th - Friday 22nd December 2023

## The Winter King ITVX





## The Winter King

Full series drop on ITVX on Thursday 21st December

ITVX

**This series set in the fifth century in a brutal land of warring factions and tribes where lives were often fleeting follows Arthur Pendragon as he becomes a leader.**

The series stars Iain De Caestecker (The Control Room, Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.) as Arthur Pendragon, alongside Eddie Marsan (The Thief, His Wife and the Canoe, Deceit) as High King Uther, Ellie James (Giri/Haji, I May Destroy You) as Nimue, Nathaniel Martello-White (Small Axe, I Hate Suzie) as Merlin, Stuart Campbell (Rogue Heroes, Clique) as Derfel, Daniel Ings (I Hate Suzie, The Crown) as Owain, Valene Kane (The Fall, Gangs of London) as Morgan, Jordan Alexandra (Mammals) as Guinevere and Simon Merrells (Good Omens, Knightfall) as Gundleus - the ensemble cast also features Steven Elder as Bishop Bedwin, Andrew Gower as Sansum, Aneirin Hughes as Gorfydd, Emily John as Ceinwyn, Tatjana Nardone as Ladwyss, Ken Nwosu as Sagramor, and Billy Postlethwaite as Cadwys.



**Mamma Mia! I Have A Dream -  
Behind the Scenes**  
**Saturday, 4pm**  
**16th December**  
**ITV1**

**A talent search for the next Sophie and Sky in the musical Mamma Mia! - seven boys and seven girls will compete for the roles in singing, dancing and acting challenges.**

This is your access-all-areas pass to see how the team behind the toe-tapping contest brought it to life - with backstage footage, exclusive interviews, and two incredible unseen performances from the final two Sophies and Skys, you won't want to miss it.



**The Voice UK**  
**Saturday, 8pm**  
**16th December**  
**ITV1**

**This reality talent show allows thousands to audition, but only one can win as the search is on for the next singing superstar - who will win an incredible record deal?**

Our superstar coaches oversee the last of the Blind Auditions and the Callback stages before being joined by superstar mentors Luke Evans, Paloma Faith, RAYE and Jamie Callum as they have the agonising task of whittling their singers down from ten to three.





**Capital's Jingle Bell Ball**  
**Sunday, 5pm**  
**17th December**  
**ITV1**

Highlights from the UK's biggest Christmas party at The O2, with artists including Alicia Keys, Take That, RAYE, Rita Ora, Tom Grennan, Leigh-Anne and Tate McRae.

Zara Larsson - who will be also performing at the 2023 Royal Variety Performance - Busted and S Club are among the other performers at this year's sold-out event, and an estimated 16,000 people will be on hand to enjoy all of the Ball's festive entertainment.



**Gino's Italian Christmas:**  
**The South**  
**Sunday, 6.30pm**  
**17th December**  
**ITV1**

Gino D'Acampo goes on an odyssey - both on land and in the depths of the sea - to discover the well-kept food secrets of Italy's deep south in Puglia and Basilicata.

As a festive finale, Gino heads back to Puglia's capital of Bari and the town of Cisternino to discover Italy's fishy alternatives to the UK's turkey with all the trimmings, the nation's answer to the British mince pie - fried cartellate - and a super Zuccotto ice cream cake.



**Deal or No Deal  
Christmas Special  
Sunday, 7pm  
17th December  
ITV1**

The iconic TV series is back with new host Stephen Mulhern, and this time he's getting everyone in the festive spirit with a special edition of the iconic game show.

Footballing legend Michael Owen takes on the infamous Banker while supported on the wings by his family, friends and a few famous faces - will Michael open the right boxes in the right order and resist the Banker's tempting cash offers to win a fortune for charity?



**The Royal Variety  
Performance 2023  
Sunday, 8pm  
17th December  
ITV1**

Bradley Walsh hosts the 2023 event including performances from Cher, Zara Larsson, and a very festive treat from Hannah Waddingham and the ENO Chorus.

There is also a special five-musical medley to celebrate Disney's 100th anniversary, comedy from the likes of Tom Allen and Rosie Jones, and more show-stopping moments from the West End casts of Sister Act, Crazy for You, and The Little Big Things.



**Sorry, I Didn't Know**  
**Sunday, 10.45pm**  
**17th December ITV1**

Jimmy Akingbola hosts the return of the panel show with a twist that takes a tour of Black history across the globe in an insightful take on history with a touch of colour.

Charlene White, Shazia Mirza, Jessica Fostekew and Stephen K Amos join team leaders Chizzy Akudolu and Eddie Kadi to take viewers on a tour of Black British history for an educational, bold, tongue-in-cheek and above all very funny battle over four rounds.



**Vanishing Act**  
**Monday-Wednesday, 9pm**  
**18th-20th December**  
**ITV1**

This three-part series portrays Australia in the grip of the mystery of the disappearance of Melissa Caddick, who vanishes after being accused of mass fraud.

As theories abound about Melissa's fate following the discovery of her disembodied foot inside her running shoe, the story of this charismatic con artist - as well as those who found themselves grieving and coming to terms with being betrayed - plays out.



**Love Your Garden**  
**Tuesday, 8pm**  
**19th December**  
**ITV1**

**Alan Titchmarsh and his team of experts transform barren plots and small neglected grounds into stunning gardens and lifestyle-enhancing outdoor living spaces.**

This time Alan and the team are in the Oxfordshire town of Bicester to transform the drab new-build garden of local community heroes Adam and Alice, who run football training for children with disabilities and work with deaf young people respectively.



**The Real Vanishing Act -  
 Missing Millionairess**  
**Thursday, 9pm**  
**21st December**  
**ITV1**

**This documentary explores the extraordinary disappearance of committed fraudster Melissa Caddick and serves to aid and narrate the story of her victims.**

Caddick's demise has spawned countless competing theories amongst web-sleuthing communities and generated thousands of news articles, and this film offers victims true closure in a modern-day tale of deceit, mystery, and the still-missing millions of dollars.





**Family Guy**  
**Monday, 9pm & 9.30pm**  
**18th December**  
**ITV2**

**A dysfunctional family in a wacky Rhode Island town strive to cope with everyday life as they are thrown from one crazy scenario to another in this animated sitcom.**

In the first of two festive-themed episodes of the show, Meg takes Stewie to see Santa at the mall when things soon get out of hand and leave Brian to try to pick up the pieces - in the second, Peter and the guys set out to throw Jesus the best birthday party ever.



**Gordon, Gino and Fred:**  
**Desperately Seeking Santa**  
**Thursday, 9pm**  
**21st December**  
**ITV2**

**Gordon, Gino and Fred are getting together for another extraordinary culinary Christmas adventure in Lapland - is it possible they could meet Santa in person?**

After Gino led them to the deserts of Morocco in 2019, Gordon is determined that they celebrate properly, so he has arranged a boys' trip away - before the madness of a family Christmas kicks in - to the ultimate winter wonderland and the official home of Santa.



# itvBe Weekly highlights



**Love Island: Australia**  
**Monday-Thursday, 10pm**  
**Friday, 10.15pm**  
**18th-22nd December**  
**ITVBe**

This version of the hit relationship-based reality show follows a group of gorgeous young and single Australian contestants as they experience the holiday of a lifetime.

Last week's action saw Tasia and Reid's flirtation complicate Nate's pursuit of Georgia, the Islanders play a provocative kissing game, and Tyra's date with Kale end in a shocking recoupling... and that was all in just one episode. What will happen this week?



**The Big Bake: Holiday**  
**Sunday, 7pm**  
**17th December**  
**ITVBe**

The festive run of the larger-than-life baking competition in which professional baking teams create grand-scale cakes based on different themes in each episode.

When the work is done, it's time to have some fun as the baking teams create some cakes designed to show the North Pole crew getting up to no good this time - the mischievous results are all for judges Ron Ben-Israel, Eddie Jackson, and Danni Rose.



**The Savoy at Christmas**  
**Sunday, 9pm**  
**17th December**  
**ITV3**

**The Savoy hotel... its very name is synonymous with glamour and exclusivity, but what really goes on behind those famous revolving doors? We find out in this series.**

Christmas at the Savoy begins in mid-November as staff work through the night to create a festive wonderland - Guest Experience Manager Sean battles staff sickness, a 13-year-old opera singer gets to perform, and one family get a Christmas to remember.



**Doc Martin Christmas Special**  
**Friday, 8pm**  
**22nd December**  
**ITV3**

**Another chance to see the very last episode of the popular comedy-drama series starring Martin Clunes as the gruff but ever-loveable GP Doctor Martin Ellingham.**

The village of Portwenn is alive with festive cheer until Martin has the local grotto shut down - when James is disappointed, Louisa takes matters into her own hands and arranges a Christmas parade that soon comes with an organisational challenge or two...



**Sharpe**  
**Sunday, 1.30pm, 3.45pm,**  
**& 5.50pm**  
**17th December**  
**ITV4**

A classic period drama series based on novels by Bernard Cornwell and following the fortunes of Richard Sharpe, a soldier who is sent to fight in the Napoleonic Wars.

Sharpe's three forays into combat this week see him reunite with Teresa as Wellesley - who is now the Duke of Wellington - sets his sights on Badajoz, take a ransom to a group of deserters, and be challenged to a duel by a Spanish marques bent on vengeance.



**All Elite Wrestling: Collision**  
**Wednesday, 9pm**  
**20th December**  
**ITV4**

Hard-hitting action from AEW's newest show that features all your favourite stars including Bryan Danielson, FTR, The House of Black, Thunder Rosa, Miro and more.

The biggest and the best stars in all of AEW come together in more unmissable bouts. Expect high-flying, high-risk manouvers, some of the strongest grapplers that the world of wrestling has to offer, and more charisma on the microphone than ever before.