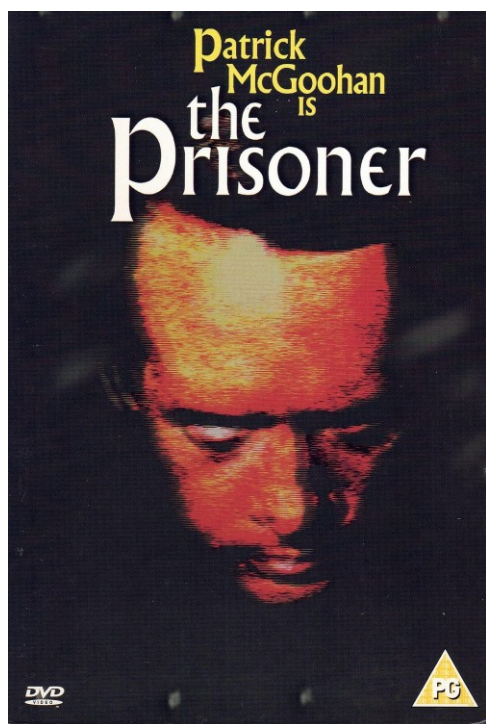


The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **The Prisoner – Box Collection**



TV Series 17 Episodes
Carlton TV (5 Discs)
Library Image



ISBN:5037115010339

5037115009432 (Episodes 1-4)
5037115009531 (Episodes 5-8)
5037115009630 (Episodes 9-12)
5037115009739 (Episodes 13-16)
5037115010438 (Episodes 17 & Companion)

Information

Release **Title:** The Prisoner (United Kingdom)
From: first broadcast from 29 September 1967 to 1 February 1968 in the United Kingdom.
AKA:
Release date: 10th February 2006
Origin: United States, Czech Republic
Genres: Drama, Mystery, Sci-Fi
Disc Nos. - 1
Certification: PG
Duration: 50m
Region Code:
Region: 2
Product Code:
MPN:
EAN:
UPC:



Genre [Spy-Fi](#)
[Sci-fi thriller](#)
[Adventure](#)
[Psychological drama](#)

Created by [Patrick McGoochan](#)

Written by [Patrick McGoochan](#)
[David Tomblin](#)
[Anthony Skene](#)
[Terence Feely](#)
[Vincent Tilsley](#)
[George Markstein](#)

Directed by [Patrick McGoochan](#)
[Pat Jackson](#)
[Don Chaffey](#)
[David Tomblin](#)

Starring [Patrick McGoochan](#)

Theme music composer [Ron Grainer](#)

Composers [Albert Elms](#)
[Wilfred Josephs](#)
[Robert Farnon](#)
[Paul Bonneau etc.^{\[1\]}](#)

Country of origin [United Kingdom](#)

Original language [English](#)

No. of series [1](#)

No. of episodes [17 \(list of episodes\)](#)

Production

Executive producer [Patrick McGoochan](#)

Producer [David Tomblin](#)

Production locations [MGM-British Studios, Borehamwood](#)
[Portmeirion, Wales](#)

Running time [50 minutes](#)

Production company [Everyman Films for ATV](#)

Release

Original network [ITV](#)

Picture format [35 mm film Colour](#)

Audio format [Mono](#)

Original release [29 September 1967 – 1 February 1968](#)

Languages: English
Filming locations: Portmeirion, Gwynedd, Wales, UK
Sound mix: Dolby Digital Restored
Colour: PAL
Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1

Storyline

The series follows an unnamed British man (McGoohan) who, after abruptly and angrily resigning from his high-ranking government job – apparently a secret service post – prepares to make a hurried departure from the country. The most he will later reveal about his resignation is that it was a "matter of conscience".

While packing his luggage, he is rendered unconscious by knockout gas piped into his London home. When he wakes, he finds himself in a re-creation of the interior of his home, located in a mysterious coastal "village" within which he is held captive, isolated from the mainland by mountains and sea.

Although internal physical movement of residents around the Village is unconstrained, the premises are secured by numerous high-tech monitoring systems and security forces, including a balloon-like automaton called Rover, that recaptures or kills those who attempt escape. The man encounters the Village's population, hundreds of people from all walks of life and cultures, all seeming to be peacefully and mostly enjoyably living out their lives. They do not use names, but have been assigned numbers which, aside from designations such as Two, Three, and Six, give no clue as to any person's status within the Village, whether as prisoners or warders. Potential escapees, therefore, have no idea whom they can and cannot trust. The protagonist is assigned Number Six, but he repeatedly refuses the pretence of his new identity.

Number Six is monitored heavily by the constantly changing Number Two, the Village administrator, who acts as an agent for the unseen Number One. Several techniques are used by Number Two to try to extract information from Number Six, including hallucinogenic drugs, identity theft, mind control, dream manipulation and forms of social indoctrination and physical coercion. All of these are employed not only to find out why Number Six resigned as an agent, but also to elicit other information he gained as a spy. The position of Number Two is assigned to a different person in each episode, with two making repeat appearances. This is assumed to be part of a larger plan to disorient Number Six, but sometimes the change of personnel seems to be the result of the failure of the previous incumbent, whose fate is unknown.

Number Six, distrustful of everyone in the Village, refuses to co-operate or provide the answers they seek. He struggles, usually alone, with various goals, such as determining for which side of the Iron Curtain the Village functions, if either; remaining defiant to its imposed authority; concocting his own plans for escape; learning all he can about the Village; and subverting its operation.

His schemes lead to the dismissals of the incumbent Number Two on several occasions (including one, played by Patrick Cargill, who is driven to paranoia and a near nervous breakdown). Despite foiling the system, however, Number Six never manages to escape successfully.

By the end of the series, the administration, becoming desperate for Number Six's knowledge, as well as fearful of his growing influence in the Village, takes drastic measures that threaten the lives of Number Six, Number Two, and, indeed, the entire Village.

A major theme of the series is individualism, as represented by Number Six, versus collectivism, as represented by Number Two and the others in the Village. McGoohan stated that the series aimed to demonstrate a balance between the two points.

The Village
Number Six wakes up in the mysterious coastal location known to "residents" as the Village. Most of the "residents" are prisoners, with others embedded as spies or guards. The Village is surrounded by mountains on three sides and the sea on the other. Would-be escapees who make it to sea are tracked by CCTV and perimeter alerts, which trigger the arrival of Rover, a seemingly intelligent capture pod resembling a huge translucent

white balloon. Rover repatriates' escapees who make it to sea and occasionally kills (by absorbing and asphyxiating) whomever it is instructed to by Number Two and/or other high-ranking Village officials.

Everyone uses numbers for identification, although names are infrequently used. Most of the villagers wear a standard outfit consisting of coloured blazers with piping, multicoloured capes, striped sweaters, plimsolls, and a variety of headwear, with straw boaters being prominent.

Several facilities are listed on a local map of the Village, including the labour exchange, hospital, Palace of Fun (which is never seen), old people's home, and the green dome where Number Two resides. A taxi service operates around the village's buildings. The village of Portmeirion in north Wales was used extensively for exterior scenes of the Village.

Cast

Patrick McGoohan as Number Six

Recurring cast

Angelo Muscat as The Butler

Peter Swanwick as Supervisor

Denis Shaw as The Shop Keeper

Fenella Fielding as The Announcer/Telephone Operator (voice only)

Number Two actors

The episodes featured guest stars in the role of Number Two. Of those listed below, only Leo McKern and Colin Gordon reprised the role.

Number Two actors

The episodes featured guest stars in the role of Number Two. Of those listed below, only Leo McKern and Colin Gordon reprised the role.

George Baker	Colin Gordon	Eric Portman
David Bauer	Kenneth Griffith	Robert Rietti (voice)
Patrick Cargill	Rachel Herbert	Anton Rodgers
Georgina Cookson	Leo McKern	John Sharp
Guy Doleman	Mary Morris	André van Gyseghem
Clifford Evans	Derren Nesbitt	Peter Wyngarde

Guest cast

Annette Andre	John Castle	Basil Hoskins	Virginia Maskell	Hugo Schuster
Sheila Allen	Dennis Chinnery	Peter Howell	John Maxim	Donald Sinden
Nike Arrighi	Michael Chow	Patricia Jessel	Betty McDowall	Patsy Smart
Michael Balfour	George Coulouris	Alf Joint	Jane Mellow	Nigel Stock
Kenneth Benda	Rosalie Crutchley	Alexis Kanner	Martin Miller	Kevin Stoney
Christopher Benjamin	Hilary Dwyer	Katherine Kath	Norman Mitchell	Larry Taylor
Michael Billington	Paul Eddington	Gertan Klauber	Aubrey Morris	Wanda Ventham
Michael Bilton	Mark Eden	Lloyd Lamble	Bartlett Mullins	Zena Walker
Peter Bowles	Max Faulkner	Jon Laurimore	David Nettheim	Norma West
Angela Browne	Ian Fleming	George Leech	Michael	Alan White
James Bree	Valerie French	Charles Lloyd-Pack	Nightingale	
Michael Brennan	Nadia Gray	Justine Lord	Frederick Piper	
Earl Cameron	Lucy Griffiths	Duncan Macrae	George Pravda	
Annette Carrell	John Hamblin	Victor Maddern	Keith Pyott	

Frank Maher served as McGoohan's stunt double.

McGoohan was the only actor credited during the opening sequence, with Angelo Muscat the only actor considered a co-star of the series. Several actors — among them Alexis Kanner, Christopher Benjamin and Georgina Cookson — appeared in more than one episode, playing different characters. Maher, McGoohan's stunt double, can be seen at the start of almost every episode, running across the beach; he also appears extensively in "The Schizoid Man" and in "Living in Harmony" as Third Gunman.

Parents Guide

Certification

Australia:PG Finland:K-18 (2011, self applied) France:Tous Public Germany:12 Singapore:PG United Kingdom:PG
United States:TV-PG

Sex & Nudity

None

Violence & Gore

Mild

Profanity

None

Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking

Mild

Frightening & Intense Scenes

Moderate

