



Indiana Jones



Raiders of the lost ark



Main Facts

Year Made: 1981

Production Company: Paramount Pictures and Lucasfilm

Directed by: Steven Spielberg

Written by: [Lawrence Kasdan](#) (screenplay by), [George Lucas](#) (story by) [Philip Kaufman](#)

Genre: [Action](#) | Adventure

Main Actors

1. Harrison Ford
2. Karen Allen
3. [Paul Freeman](#)
4. John Rhys-Davies

Major Plot Summary

The year is 1936. An archeology professor named Indiana Jones is venturing in the jungles of South America searching for a golden statue. Unfortunately, he sets off a deadly trap but miraculously escapes. Then, Jones hears from a museum curator named Marcus Brody about a biblical artifact called The Ark of the Covenant, which can hold the key to human existence. Jones has to venture to vast places such as Nepal and Egypt to find this artifact. However, he will have to fight his enemy Rene Belloc and a band of Nazis in order to reach it.

Financial Information

Budget: \$18,000,000 (estimated)

Money Made: **Opening Weekend USA:** \$8,305,823, 14 June 1981, Wide Release

Gross USA:

\$248,159,971

Cumulative Worldwide Gross:

\$389,925,971

Special Costs: On location shooting in Tunisia

Major Quotes

Marion: You're not the man I knew ten years ago.

Indiana: It's not the years, honey, it's the mileage.

[Marion is being kidnapped]

Marion: You can't do this to me, I'm an AMERICAN.

Indiana: Marion, don't look at it. Shut your eyes, Marion. Don't look at it, no matter what happens!

Bellog: Dr. Jones. Again we see there is nothing you can possess which I cannot take away.

Historical Significance

Based on the 1930s and 1940s adventure serials. Reignited discussion of good v evil with the Nazi Germans as the evil group compared to the Soviets, which were the enemy at the time.

Helped spark the idea of video games based on movies. (Which was delayed a year later by ET)

Filming Information

Filming Location: Yuma, Arizona, USA , Kaua'i, Hawaii, USA, La Pallice, La Rochelle, Charente-Maritime, France, San Francisco, California, USA

Tunisia

Special advances made in film: Video games based on films. Advanced work in film editing and sound from Industrial Light and Magic

Source Material: Story created by George Lucas. Influenced by Uncle Scrooge comics and Saturday morning serial adventures from the 30s and 40s.

Composition/Music

Compositions done by John Williams

I am the Monarch of the Sea (1878) (uncredited) From "H.M.S. Pinafore" Music by Arthur Sullivan Lyrics by W.S. Gilbert

Sung a cappella by John Rhys-Davies

A British Tar (1878) (uncredited) From "H.M.S. Pinafore" Music by Arthur Sullivan Lyrics by W.S. Gilbert

Sung a cappella by John Rhys-Davies

Inane Trivia

The famous scene in which Indy shoots a marauding and flamboyant swordsman was not in the original script. [Harrison Ford](#) was supposed to use his whip to get the sword out of his attacker's hands, but the food poisoning he and the rest of the crew had gotten, made him too sick to perform the stunt. After several unsuccessful tries, Ford suggested "shooting the sucker". [Steven Spielberg](#) immediately took him up the idea, and the scene was successfully filmed.

[Steven Spielberg](#) and [Melissa Mathison](#) wrote a script during shooting breaks on the location of this film. Mathison was there to visit her husband, [Harrison Ford](#), and Spielberg dictated to her a story idea he had. That script was eventually called [E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial](#) (1982).

Most of the body blows you hear were created by hitting a pile of leather jackets with a baseball bat.

The film was originally given an R-rating because of the exploding head at the end. They didn't want the picture to be rated R, so they added layers of fire in front of his face to make it appear less graphic.

The spirit effects at the climax were achieved by shooting mannequins underwater in slow motion through a fuzzy lens to achieve an ethereal quality.

Accolades/Recognition

Oscars

Nominated for 9 Academy Awards, won 4 plus a special achievement award.

Best Art Direction-Set Decoration [Norman Reynolds](#) [Leslie Dilley](#) [Michael Ford](#)

Best Sound [Bill Varney](#) [Steve Maslow](#) [Gregg Landaker](#) [Roy Charman](#)

Best Film Editing [Michael Kahn](#)

Best Effects, Visual Effects [Richard Edlund](#) [Kit West](#) [Bruce Nicholson](#) [Joe Johnston](#)

Special Achievement Award [Ben Burt](#) [Richard L. Anderson](#) For sound effects editing.

Nominated for Best Film, Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Score