

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them



Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them is a marvelous romp through the always charming New York City following the mystical adventures of magizoologist Newt Scamander (aka J.K. Rowling). Newt is played to perfection by Eddie Redmayne. The beasts range from truly beautiful to truly fugly and everything in between.

The game is afoot as Scamander sets off to capture his wayward creature pets who he works to keep from forced extinction. There is a sweet and tender romance between a fetching witch and a baker played by the delicious Alison Sudol and adorable Dan Fogler. I hope we see more of them in the next installments. They are a perfect match in true Beauty and lovable Beast fashion.

But back to the beasts –They are full of mischief and ready to empty your pockets as well as steal your heart. I liked this story and while a lot of prequels fall flat, this one is definitely one that has a lot to offer if you are a *Harry Potter* fan. The Wizarding World is always changing, exciting, dangerous and ready to whisk us along. This is a fun time for all and a good break from the reality of holiday madness.



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You will want to pack your suitcase and follow along with these engaging characters. While not as elaborate or grand as *Harry Potter*, this movie seeks to find its own place in the franchise and sets the stage for things to come.

The special effects are amazing and serve to pull you into this enchanted land even further. So relax and enjoy the search for some truly fantastic creatures. I give *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* four golden tickets.

