

= Jurassic Park III =

Jurassic Park III is a 2001 American science fiction adventure film and the third installment in the Jurassic Park film series . The film stars Sam Neill , William H. Macy , Téa Leoni , Alessandro Nivola , Trevor Morgan , and Michael Jeter . It is the first film in the series not to have been directed by Steven Spielberg , nor based on a book by Michael Crichton (though numerous scenes in the film were ultimately taken from Crichton 's novels Jurassic Park and The Lost World) . The film takes place on Isla Sorna , off Central America 's Pacific coast , the island featured in the second film , where a divorced couple has tricked Dr. Alan Grant into going in order to help them find their son .

After the success of Spielberg 's Jurassic Park , Joe Johnston expressed interest in directing a sequel . Spielberg instead gave Johnston permission to direct the third film in the series , if there were to be one . Production of Jurassic Park III began on August 30 , 2000 . Despite mixed to negative reviews from critics , the film was successful at the box office , grossing \$ 368 million worldwide . A sequel was released in June 2015 .

= = Plot = =

Ben Hildebrand and 12 @-@ year @-@ old Eric Kirby go parasailing around the waters of Isla Sorna . A creature of unknown species attacks and kills the boat crew as it passes through a fog bank . Ben detaches the line ; he and Eric drift towards the island .

Dr. Alan Grant has become famous after his involvement at Jurassic Park . Ellie Sattler is married and has two children . Grant discusses with Sattler how raptors are far more intelligent than they had previously believed . At a dig site , Grant 's assistant , Billy Brennan , demonstrates how he can use a 3D printer to replicate a Velociraptor larynx .

Paul and Amanda Kirby , a wealthy couple , offer Grant funding for his research if he will give them an aerial tour of Isla Sorna . Desperate for research support , Grant reluctantly agrees . He flies there along with Paul , Amanda , Billy , and the Kirbys ' mercenary associates , Udesky , Cooper , and their pilot Nash . On the plane , Grant learns that the Kirbys actually plan to land on the island . When Grant opposes , he is knocked out by Cooper and wakes to the sound of Amanda using a megaphone . This attracts a Spinosaurus , which devours Cooper and causes the plane to crash into the forest . The Spinosaurus devours Nash and destroys the plane . Fleeing , the survivors briefly lose the Spinosaurus , only to encounter a Tyrannosaurus rex . The Spinosaurus returns , but the group escapes while the two carnivores fight each other . The Spinosaurus overpowers the T. rex and kills it .

Grant learns the Kirbys are actually a middle @-@ class divorced couple , who are looking for their son Eric , and Amanda 's boyfriend Ben , who have been missing on the island for eight weeks . Later , the group finds the parasail with Ben 's corpse attached . The group takes the parasail , and then encounter raptor nests . They find an abandoned InGen compound , where Amanda is ambushed by a raptor . The group manages to trap it , but it escapes and contacts the rest of its pack . The group flees into a herd of Corythosaurus and Parasaurolophus , causing a stampede , separating Grant and Udesky from the others . Grant retrieves Billy 's satchel , while Udesky is killed by the raptors .

Grant suspects the raptors are searching for something , while observing two of them communicating . He is then ambushed and cornered by the raptors , but is rescued by Eric , who managed to survive in an overturned water truck . The next day , Grant and Eric hear Paul 's satellite phone ringing and are reunited with the Kirbys and Billy . Paul explains that he gave the phone to Nash before he was devoured , and the group sees the Spinosaurus once again , with the phone ringing from inside the dinosaur . After barely escaping , Grant discovers that Billy took two eggs from the raptor nests and hid them in his satchel to use for funding , which provoked the raptor attacks . He decides to keep the eggs to ensure the group 's survival . The group unknowingly enters a large aviary used to house Pteranodons , which attack the group and fly away with Eric . Billy rescues Eric by using Ben 's parasail , but is then attacked and seemingly killed by the Pteranodons . The rest of the group escapes the aviary , unintentionally leaving the door unlocked .

They make their way downriver using a boat .

That night , the group hears the phone ringing buried in feces of the Spinosaurus and retrieve it . As rain falls , Grant tries to contact Sattler , but the Spinosaurus attacks the boat . Grant and Paul scare it off by setting the boat 's fuel on fire . The next day , the group makes their way towards the shoreline , but are surrounded by the raptors once again . The eggs are surrendered to the raptors , while Grant uses the replicated raptor larynx to confuse the pack , who run off with the eggs . The group flees to the coast and find that Sattler had called in the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy to rescue them . They discover that Billy , while seriously injured , is still alive . As they leave the island , they see the Pteranodons flying free , and Grant muses they are looking for new nesting grounds .

= = Cast = =

Sam Neill as Dr. Alan Grant , the world @-@ famous paleontologist who survived the incident on Isla Nublar and has since developed an apathetic attitude towards the creatures he once admired .

William H. Macy as Paul Kirby , the owner of a hardware store who poses as a wealthy businessman in order to lure Grant into helping search for his son .

Téa Leoni as Amanda Kirby , Paul 's former wife who accompanies the group to Isla Sorna to search for her son .

Alessandro Nivola as Billy Brennan , a young and over @-@ enthusiastic graduate student from Grant 's dig site at Fort Peck Lake .

Trevor Morgan as Eric Kirby , Paul and Amanda 's 12 @-@ year @-@ old son , stranded on Isla Sorna .

Michael Jeter as Udesky , one of the mercenaries .

John Diehl as Cooper , a mercenary and weapons specialist .

Bruce A. Young as Nash , another of the mercenaries who serves as the group 's pilot .

Laura Dern as Ellie , a paleobotanist who also survived Isla Nublar .

Taylor Nichols as Mark , Ellie 's husband .

Mark Harelik as Ben Hildebrand , Amanda 's boyfriend .

Julio Oscar Mechoso as Enrique Cardoso , the owner and operator of the " Dino @-@ Soar " parasailing service .

Blake Michael Bryan as Charlie , Ellie and Mark 's son .

Sarah Danielle Madison as Cheryl Logan , one of Grant 's graduate students at the dig site .

Linda Park as Hannah , Ellie 's secretary .

= = = Creatures on screen = = =

In a deviation from the previous films , the Spinosaurus is considered the primary antagonist : Johnston stated , " A lot of dinosaurs have a very similar silhouette to the T @-@ Rex ... and we wanted the audience to instantly recognize this as something else . " The silhouette of the Spinosaurus is also on the poster behind the Pteranodon , taking the place of the Tyrannosaurus which had been used in the previous films ' posters . Baryonyx was originally considered to be the " big bad " before Spinosaurus was chosen , and early concept posters reflected this . Within film dialogue , Billy interprets the animal encountered as a Baryonyx or Suchomimus , but Dr. Grant corrects his analysis based on its size and its sail .

Due to new discoveries and theories in the field of paleontology , the portrayal of several dinosaurs differed from that of the previous films . Discoveries suggesting that Velociraptor were feathered prompted the addition of quill @-@ like structures on the head and neck of the males in the film . " We 've found evidence that Velociraptors had feathers , or feather @-@ like structures , and we 've incorporated that into the new look of the raptor " , said paleontologist Jack Horner , the film 's technical adviser .

Spielberg insisted to Johnston that he include Pteranodons in the film , after they had been cut from the previous films for budget reasons . An aquatic reptile was featured in the first draft , but was

ultimately removed from the final script . The special effects used for the creatures were a mixture of animatronics and CGI . The following creatures appear in the film :

Ankylosaurus
Brachiosaurus
Ceratosaurus
Compsognathus
Corythosaurus
Parasaurolophus
Pteranodon
Spinosaurus
Stegosaurus
Triceratops
Tyrannosaurus
Velociraptor

= = Production = =

= = = Early development = = =

Joe Johnston had been interested in directing the sequel to Jurassic Park and approached Spielberg , a friend of his , about the project . While Spielberg wanted to direct the first sequel , he agreed that if there was ever a third film , Johnston could direct . The second film , entitled The Lost World : Jurassic Park , included the scene of the Tyrannosaurus rampaging through San Diego . Spielberg had initially wanted the scene to be saved for a third film , but later decided to add it into the second film after realizing that he would probably not direct another film in the series . After the release of the second film in May 1997 , Spielberg was busy with other projects and was asked about the possibility of a third Jurassic Park film ; he responded , " It would give me a tremendous Advil headache just to think about it . "

= = = Pre @-@ production = = =

Universal Pictures announced the film on June 29 , 1998 , with Spielberg acting as a producer . Michael Crichton was reportedly going to collaborate with Spielberg to create a storyline and write a script . The film was set for release in summer 2000 . Spielberg initially devised a story idea that involved Dr. Alan Grant , who was discovered to have been living on one of InGen 's islands . According to Johnston , " He 'd snuck in , after not being allowed in to research the dinosaurs , and was living in a tree like Robinson Crusoe . But I couldn 't imagine this guy wanting to get back on any island that had dinosaurs in it after the first movie . "

In June 1999 , Craig Rosenberg began writing the first draft of the script , which involved teenagers who get marooned on Isla Sorna . Johnston was announced as the film 's director in August 1999 , with Rosenberg still attached . Production was expected to begin in early 2000 . Rosenberg 's draft about teenagers on Isla Sorna was rejected in September 1999 . Although Johnston felt that it was " not a badly written script , " he also said , " It read like a bad episode of Friends " . By December 1999 , new writers had been hired to devise a better story for the film .

The film 's second script involved Pteranodon escaping from Isla Sorna and causing a spate of mysterious killings on the mainland , which was to be investigated by Alan Grant and a number of other characters including Billy Brennan , a naturalist named Simone , a tough military attaché , wealthy Paul Roby , and Roby 's teenage son Miles . Grant 's group crash @-@ lands on the island , while a parallel investigation is being carried out on the mainland . The aviary sequence and laboratory set piece were initially much longer and more complex , including Velociraptor stealthily entering the hatchery as the team spends the night there . Sets , costumes , and props were built for this version .

In February 2000 , filming was reportedly set to begin in Fiordland , New Zealand around the end of the month . Scenes were originally planned to be filmed there for The Lost World : Jurassic Park . In March 2000 , Maui , Hawaii was reportedly chosen instead of New Zealand . Sam Neill signed on to the project in June 2000 , with 18 weeks of filming expected to begin by August 2000 , for a release in July 2001 . Macy originally turned down his role due to scheduling conflicts . Trevor Morgan and Téa Leoni were cast in August 2000 , with Utah 's Dinosaur National Monument and an Oahu military base being considered as possible filming locations . During the pre @-@ production phase , concept artists created advertising for the film using a number of working titles including Jurassic Park : Extinction and Jurassic Park : Breakout .

Five weeks before filming began , Johnston and Spielberg rejected the entire script as they were dissatisfied with it ; \$ 18 million had already been spent on the film at that time . Johnston felt that the script 's story was too complicated . The simpler " rescue mission " plot , which had been suggested by David Koepp , was used for the film instead . Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor began rewriting the script in July 2000 .

= = = Filming = = =

Johnston said that the script was never finished during production : " We shot pages that eventually went into the final script but we didn 't have a document " . Principal photography began on August 30 , 2000 , at Dillingham Airfield in Mokuia , Hawaii . Macy , commenting on the slow pace of filming the script , said " we would do a quarter @-@ page--some days , an eighth of a page . And that would be a full 12 @-@ hour day . "

Filming continued on Oahu until September 9 . Aerial footage of Molokai 's North Shore cliffs was then shot over the next two days , followed by a week of filming in Kauai . Filming concluded in Hawaii on September 20 , 2000 . Production then moved to California . John August was hired to do uncredited work on the script in September 2000 . Scenes were filmed at Occidental College in Los Angeles on October 10 , 2000 .

Scenes were filmed at Center Bay Studios in Los Angeles at the end of October . Other filming locations in California included South Pasadena and a rock quarry in Irwindale . Filming also took place at Universal Studios ' backlot in Los Angeles . Production returned to Hawaii in January 2001 , to film the movie 's ending , which had yet to be written during the previous Hawaiian shoot . The ending was filmed on Kauai 's Pihia Beach .

The storyline contains minor scenes from Crichton 's Jurassic Park and The Lost World novels that were ultimately not featured in the film versions , such as the Pteranodon aviary and the use of the boat . Laura Dern 's cameo was shot in a day . In an earlier draft , Neill and Dern 's characters were a couple in the process of splitting up . Johnston said , " I didn 't want to see them as a couple anymore . For one thing , I don 't think they look like a couple . It would be uncomfortable to still see them together . And Laura Dern doesn 't look like she 's aged for the past fifteen years ! " The film 's longest rough cut was approximately 96 minutes , without credits . According to Johnston , " We lost maybe 8 minutes , so it was never really that long . "

= = = Music = = =

Given John Williams was busy writing the music for Spielberg 's own A.I. Artificial Intelligence , he recommended Don Davis to write the Jurassic Park III score . Williams ' original themes were integrated into the score as well as several new ones , such as one for the Spinosaurus that focused on low sounds , with tubas , trombones and timpani . The fight between the Spinosaurus and the Tyrannosaurus , compared by Davis to King Kong fighting a dinosaur in the 1933 film , had a juxtaposition of the Spinosaurus theme with the one Williams wrote for the T. rex . In addition , " Big Hat , No Cattle " , a song by Randy Newman , was used in a restaurant scene .

= = Release = =

Jurassic Park III premiered at the Universal Amphitheater in Los Angeles , California , on July 18 , 2001 , followed two days later by a release in the United States and other countries . The film earned \$ 181 @, @ 171 @, @ 875 in the United States and \$ 368 @, @ 780 @, @ 809 worldwide , making it the eighth @-@ highest @-@ grossing film of the year worldwide but it is the lowest grossing Jurassic Park film in the entire series . The film was released on VHS and DVD in December 2001 . It was re @-@ released with both sequels in December 2001 as the Jurassic Park Trilogy , and as the Jurassic Park Adventure Pack in November 2005 . The film has also been released as a two @-@ disc DVD set alongside Hulk . In 2011 , the film was released on Blu @-@ ray as part of the Jurassic Park Ultimate Trilogy . The soundtrack was released in July 2001 .

= = Reception = =

Jurassic Park III has received a mostly mixed to negative response from critics and fans alike . Rotten Tomatoes gives the film a 50 % rating based on 163 reviews , with an average rating of 5 @. @ 2 / 10 . The site 's consensus states : " Jurassic Park III is darker and faster than its predecessors , but that doesn 't quite compensate for the franchise 's continuing creative decline . " It also has a 42 out of 100 on Metacritic , indicating " mixed or average reviews " . On both sites , it is the lowest rated film out of the Jurassic Park franchise .

Entertainment Weekly 's Owen Gleiberman , who praised both the previous Jurassic Park films , awarded the third film only a C grade , writing " Jurassic Park III has no pretensions to be anything more than a goose @-@ bumpy fantasy theme @-@ park ride for kids , but it 's such a routine ride . Spielberg 's wizardry is gone , and his balletic light touch as well , and that gives too much of this 90 @-@ minute movie over to the duller @-@ than @-@ dull characters . " Derek Elley of Variety Reviews felt likewise , calling the film " an all @-@ action , helter @-@ skelter , don 't @-@ forget @-@ to @-@ buy @-@ the @-@ computer @-@ game ride that makes the two previous installments look like models of classic filmmaking " . Ben Varkontine of PopMatters called it " not as good a ride as the first " , but " better than the second . " Much of the criticism was leveled at the plot as simply a chase movie with no character development ; Apollo Movie Guide panned the film as being " almost the same as the first movie " with " no need for new ideas or even a script " . Empire magazine gave the film 3 stars out of 5 , commenting that it was " Short , scrappy and intermittently scary " and that the film ultimately " skews young " .

On Ebert and Roeper , Richard Roeper gave it a Thumbs Down , while Roger Ebert awarded a Thumbs Up . In a subsequent review , Ebert called it " the best blockbuster of the Summer " . In his written review , Ebert gave the film three stars and wrote that while the film was not as awe @-@ inspiring as the first film or as elaborate as the second , " it 's a nice little thrill machine . [...] I can 't praise it for its art , but I must not neglect its craft ... " .

Early pioneer of the dinosaur @-@ bird connection Robert T. Bakker has quipped that the feathery quills added to the Velociraptor for Jurassic Park III " looked like a roadrunner 's toupee . " However , he conceded that feathers are difficult subjects for computer animation and speculated that Jurassic Park IV 's raptors would have more realistic thorough plumage . As of 2002 , Crichton said he had not seen the film .

= = Awards and nominations = =

= = Marketing and merchandise = =

A teaser trailer was released online in September 2000 . Universal avoided excessive early marketing to prevent possible backlash , as it believed that awareness of the film was high enough . Marketing began in April 2001 , three months before the film 's release . The first footage from the film was aired during the second @-@ season finale of Survivor in May 2001 . Promotional partners included Kodak and The Coca @-@ Cola Company . No fast @-@ food promotions took place in the United States , although kids ' meal toys based on the film were offered in Canadian Burger

Kings .

Seven video games were released to coincide with the film , as well as a novelization by Scott Ciencin that was aimed at young children . Ciencin also wrote three children 's books to tie in with the film 's events : Jurassic Park Adventures : Survivor , the first book , detailed the eight weeks Eric spent alone on Isla Sorna ; Jurassic Park Adventures : Prey had Eric and Alan returning to Isla Sorna to rescue a group of teenage filmmakers ; Jurassic Park Adventures : Flyers involved Eric and Alan leading the Pteranodon home after they nest in a Universal Studios theme park .

Hasbro released a line of 3 @. @ 75 " action figures in the spring of 2001 to coincide with the release , including electronic dinosaurs , humans , and vehicles . The figures were scaled down from the original Kenner action figures from the pre @-@ Jurassic Park III toy lines . A line of toys were also released through the Lego Studios brand . Playskool released a line of toys aimed at younger children , called Jurassic Park Junior . A smaller die @-@ cast line of toys was also produced , along with clothes . In November 2001 , to promote the film 's upcoming home media release , Universal launched a viral marketing website for Isla Travel , a fictional Isla Sorna travel agency .

= = = Cell phone promotion = = =

For the film 's home media release , Universal and cell @-@ phone company Hop @-@ On partnered to produce " the world 's first @-@ disposable cell phone " , available through an in @-@ package offer upon purchase of the film . The phones were to be delivered for free to customers who responded to a winning promotional card that came with select copies of the film . Approximately 5 @, @ 000 copies of the film contained a winning promotional card ; approximately 1 @, @ 000 of them were redeemed .

However , the promotion was cancelled when the cell phones could not be finished on time . An investigation by the San Francisco Chronicle revealed that sample versions of Hop @-@ On 's cell phones were actually modified Nokia cell phones , as Hop @-@ On was having problems with its own design . Customers who were to receive the cell phones instead received a \$ 30 check and a free DVD .