

## THE BEATLES 'ABBEY ROAD' 50TH ANNIVERSARY: WATCH LIVE WEBCAM OF FAMOUS ABBEY ROAD STREET CROSSING IN LONDON

By Sophia Waterfield • September 26, 2019



Today marks the 50th anniversary of the release of The Beatles album Abbey Road. It was the final album to be recorded (if not released) by the band before tensions led them to split up in 1970.

But where is the famous street crossing that features on the album cover, and what is Abbey Road named after?

The crossing itself is situated just outside the Abbey Road Recording Studio, which is in the NW8 area of London, U.K. It sits on Abbey Road in St. John's Wood, which runs through the borough of Camden and the City of Westminster. The road itself contributes to tourism in the city, with many wanting to reenact The Beatles' iconic shot, and was given Grade II Listed Building status by English Heritage.

The Abbey Road Studios, which the album was recorded, is one of the most famous recording studios in the world. It is situated in what was originally a nine-bedroom house, built in 1829 according to its website, and was transformed by the Gramophone Company into a studio when they bought it in 1928.

The studio itself is home to many innovations within the music industry. Engineer Alan Blumlein made one of the first recordings with his patented stereo technique there in 1934, and since it has been famed for developments in record engineering. According to its website, innovations include the REDD and TG desks, as well as studio techniques such as Artificial Double Tracking (ADT), created by studio technician Ken Townsend, who went on to become the studios' managing director.

The place itself isn't just famous for hosting The Beatles. It was originally a venue for classical recordings, with jazz and big bands brought into the fold, but it spans to supporting bands such as Pink Floyd to The Hollies, and artists such as Shirley Bassey, Cliff Richard and Aretha Franklin. Many film score recordings have also taken place at Abbey Road Recording Studios such as The Lord of The Rings, Skyfall, the Harry Potter film series, Black Panther, Solo: A Star Wars Story and The Shape of Water.

Abbey Road can be viewed live using [EarthCam](#), where viewers can see people trying to recreate the famous album cover photograph amongst busy London traffic. The location is also close to Lord's Cricket Ground, south Hampstead and Regents' Park in the capital city.

The Abbey Road 50th anniversary edition is available to pre-order from The Beatles' website and will be released on September 27. Fans can also listen to the full album on Spotify.