

## BEFORE YOU WATCH

## 1 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- Where would you most like to live? Why?
- Where would you least like to live? Why?
- Tell your partner about your dream home.

## 2 Match words 1–5 with their meanings a–e.

- |                 |     |              |     |
|-----------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| 1 extraordinary | ___ | 4 cave       | ___ |
| 2 ladder        | ___ | 5 lighthouse | ___ |
| 3 narrow        | ___ |              |     |

- measuring a short distance from one side to the other; the opposite of *wide*
- something that you use to climb to high places
- a tall building with a light next to the sea; it warns boats and ships of danger
- a large, natural hole in a hill or under the ground
- very unusual; special

## 3 a Read the text. Does it mention any of the homes in the photos at the bottom of this page?

## Unusual homes around the world

Have you ever lived in an unusual home? Most of us live in traditional homes with walls and windows, but some people prefer living in more interesting places, like lighthouses, caves, houseboats, and even treehouses! And some people design and build homes which are even more extraordinary.

Simon Dale designed an eco-friendly Hobbit house in Wales for him and his family which is made from natural materials, like wood and mud. It only took four months to build and cost just £3,000.

Another unusual home is Keret House in Warsaw. It only measures between 92 and 152 centimetres wide, which makes it the narrowest house in the world. It is so narrow that there is no room for stairs and you have to use a ladder to go from floor to floor.

Another interesting home is House NA in Japan which has glass walls. This home has lots of light but hardly any privacy – the neighbours can see into every room!



## b Read the text again. Decide if the statements below are true (T) or false (F)?

- The text says that some people live in lighthouses, caves, treehouses, and airplanes.
- Simon Dale's house wasn't expensive to build.
- The Hobbit house took a long time to build.
- Keret House is only 92 centimetres wide.
- Keret House has got more than one floor.
- House NA is made almost totally of glass.

## 4 a Work in pairs. Look at the photo and discuss the questions.



- What do you think is unusual about this house?
- Who do you think lives here?

## b Watch the video and check your ideas.

## WHILE YOU WATCH

## 5 Watch the video from 0:11–2:45. Choose the correct alternatives.

- Ronnie is looking for extraordinary places and interesting *houses/people* to report on.
- Ronnie is visiting the home of the *writer/actor* John Tarrow.
- Ronnie has been invited *for dinner/to stay the night* at John's house.
- John has spent *twenty/twenty-five* years changing the inside of his house.
- The *bathroom/bedroom* is Norwegian.
- John says the bedroom is usually *quiet/dark*.

- 6 a Complete the extract from the video with the numbers and dates in the box. There are three numbers you don't need to use.

30 1,600 1954 1940 600 1980s 13  
1948 1920s

We're in New Orleans in <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_!  
John has filled the house with over <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_objects, collected from around the world. People, like me, can stay here and explore the house. There are <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_rooms in total and each one is different.  
There's the Norwegian boathouse bathroom from the <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, a Japanese conservatory, a wood cabin from <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, a <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_study, and at the top of the Italian staircase, there's a guest room – an Edwardian bedroom that's supposed to be haunted!



- b Watch the video from 1:40–2:15 and check your answers.

- 7 a Watch the video from 2:15–3:57. Work in pairs and answer the questions.

- How do you think Ronnie is feeling when he's lying in bed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What does Ronnie do when he hears a knock at the door?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What is John holding?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why does Ronnie say he has to leave right away?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why do you think he really wants to leave?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What is Ronnie looking for at the end of the video?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- b Watch the video from 2:15–3:57 again and check your answers.

- 8 a Complete the extracts from the video with the words in the box.

afraid have must sorry

- I'm \_\_\_\_\_, I have to go! I \_\_\_\_\_leave right away.
- I'm really \_\_\_\_\_, but I've got a breaking news story and it can't wait. I \_\_\_\_\_to leave right away.



- b Watch the video from 3:17–3:32 and check your answers.

AFTER YOU WATCH

- 9 Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- Would you like to visit Talliston House? Why/Why not?
- Which room in the house do you think is the most interesting? Why?
- Would you like to have a house like this? What type of rooms would you create?

- 10 Work in pairs. Read the situations in the box. Take turns to make excuses and respond. Use the phrases in Exercise 9a and any other phrases you know for making excuses.

- you arrived late for class
- you forgot your partner's birthday
- you can't go to your partner's party
- you borrowed your partner's book and lost it
- you forgot your wallet and can't pay for your coffee

A: *I'm really sorry, I'm afraid I forgot my wallet.*  
B: *That's okay. I'll pay for your coffee.*