

Las Largas Vacaciones del '36

("The Long Holidays of '36")

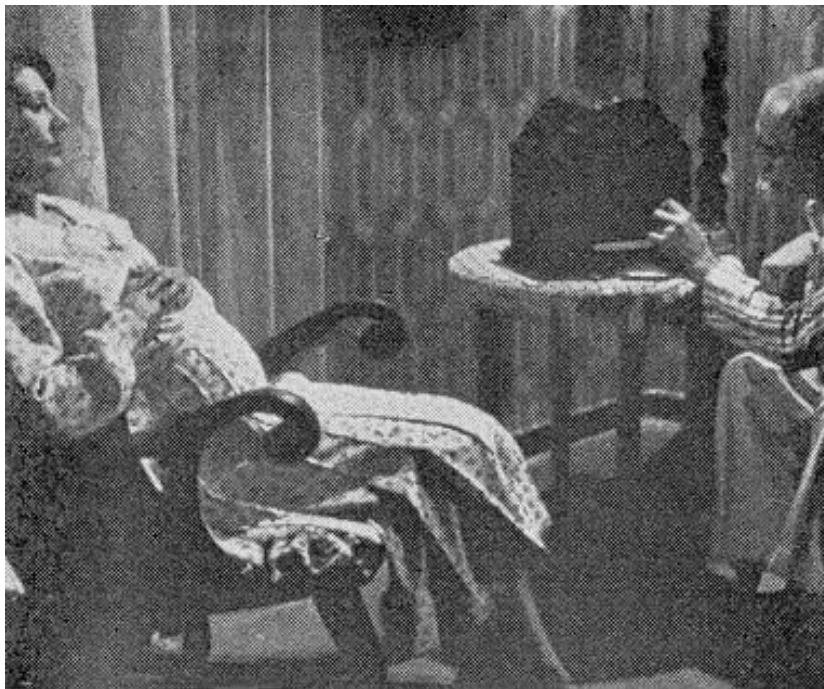
Spain : 1976 : dir. Jaime Camino :

: 107 min

prod: José Frade : scr: Manuel Gutierrez Aragon & Jaime Camino : dir.ph.: Fernando Arribas

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Amalia Gadé; Ismael Merlo; Angela Molina; Vicenté Parra; Francisco Rabal; José Sacristan;
Jorjue Zorbano; Conchita Velasco; Charo Soriano

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	≠	M	☺	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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An expectant air

Source: Film Review 1978-79

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

“Sobre, psychologically dramatic film about two families from the Spanish middle class who, during their holiday at a resort in the region of Barcelona, pick up the first rumours of what is to become the Spanish Civil War. The film observes their reactions, confusion, and internal strife and is not so much a film about the Spanish Civil War as about Spain during the Civil War. **1/2 ”

The Good Film and Video Guide review:

“The start of the Spanish Civil War as experienced by some children in a small resort town near Barcelona. A memory piece, romantic rather than harrowing, though it often threatens to go in that direction; some of the vignettes are stronger than others. Francisco Rabal plays a schoolteacher. ** ”

The Time Out Film Guide review:

“Breaking with the defensive, allegorical style imposed by Franco’s regime, Jaime Camino burst into the brightening days of the post-Franco era with this oblique but compelling study of the Spanish Civil War. Set in a

middle class resort outside Barcelona during 1936-39, his film charts the social, sexual and personal transformations which those momentous yet tragic revolutionary events brought in their wake. Through the alert and radicalised children and the impotent, squabbling adults, trapped on permanent "vacation" by the Fascist uprising of 1936, we are made to understand in microcosm the wider political canvas. Using up till now "forbidden data", trivial events are drawn large in humorous and tragic detail as the Civil War pervades everything."

Film Review 1978-79 review:

"Spanish film which obliquely tells the story of the Spanish Civil War, as seen through the experiences of a family, their friends and neighbours, at a holiday resort a few miles from Barcelona. Episodic, a little rambling, but reasonably balanced and pretty consistently enthralling. Screenplay: Manuel Gutierrez Aragon & Jaime Camino."

"Another Spanish film of some distinction was Jaime Camino's **"THE LONG HOLIDAYS OF 1936"**, which dealt in an oblique way with the Spanish Civil War by seeing it through the eyes of a group of adults and children isolated by it at their holiday home in the country."

20th London Film Festival (1976)
programme review:

"This film should stir up a storm of controversy within Spain, because it pushes the Spanish Civil War theme a bit farther than other pix have been able to do. The **"LONG VACATIONS OF 1936"** referred to are those of a family caught vacationing near Barcelona during the summer of 1936 as the Civil War breaks out. Camino brilliantly captures the initial confusion and uncertainty and violence during the first days of tumultuous uprisings which were to lead to the three-year war. The whole war is seen from the vantage point of the Catalan family, which decides to wait out the conflict from a relatively safe summer resort, rather than go back to the turmoil... Fernando Arribas' photography is, in turn, crisp and moody, as it captures the pusillanimous family head, two high-class Nationalist sympathisers hiding from the Republicans, the son's romance with an Andalusian maid, the doctor who prefers to dawdle with biological experiments at home rather than help the wounded in Barcelona, the

"red" schoolmaster who begs his pupils for food to keep from starving! "

– Peter Besas, **Variety**

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Bloomsbury Foreign Film Guide", "The Critics' Film Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday

Times Guide to Movies on Television", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Previously shown at the 1976 Berlin Film Festival. A similar theme (though a lightweight film compromised by too many famous faces), was handled in "**THAT SUMMER OF WHITE ROSES**", starring Tom Conti, which concerned the repercussions of the Second World War, and occupation by the Germans, on a small Yugoslavian bathing resort and its guests. See also "**CAMADA NEGRA**" ("Black Brood"), directed the following year by Aragon, who wrote the screenplay here, a portrait of a family in which the sons have been raised by a domineering mother according to her dead husband's fascist ideals. It raised a certain controversy by its depiction of a right-wing quasi-terrorist group without any explicit condemnation of their politics.

See subject index under [WAR](#) for related material.