



**FUNIMATION**

**TOEI ANIMATION'S "ONE PIECE" MAKES FRANCHISE HISTORY WITH 1000<sup>th</sup> EPISODE SET TO PREMIERE NOVEMBER 20 ON FUNIMATION**

*Toei Animation and Funimation to Co-Host a Global Livestream Fan Celebration  
Coinciding with Broadcast of 1000th Episode of "One Piece" Anime Series*



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Culver City, California (October 20, 2021) – On October 20, 1999, Toei Animation launched Captain Monkey D. Luffy and his colorful crew of Straw Hat pirates on a voyage that, as of today, has spanned 22-years and created one of the most beloved global anime franchises in history. And in just one month, anime's favorite pirates will set sail together on the Thousand Sunny for the history-making 1000th episode of "One Piece," which will stream on **November 20, 2021** in the U.S. and Canada on Funimation;

in Germany and Russia on Wakanim; and on their respective broadcast schedules in Australia and New Zealand.

Produced by Toei Animation and based on the top-selling manga title of all time by creator Eiichiro Oda, the “One Piece” anime series spans more than 990 episodes to date since it first debuted on Japanese TV in October 1999. This iconic series features pirate Monkey D. Luffy and his Straw Hat crew on their epic quest to find “One Piece,” the legendary treasure of the former King of the Pirates, Gol D. Roger. One Piece’s global pop culture status is the crowning achievement for this anime franchise, which encompasses theatrical films, home videos, video games, and an ever-expanding catalog of licensed merchandise that includes accessories, toys, novelties, furniture, housewares, and apparel.

“The 1000th episode of ‘One Piece’ is truly a history-making moment not only for the franchise, but also for the millions of fans around the world that have supported the series over the last 22 years,” said Masayuki Endo, President and CEO of Toei Animation Inc. “We’re excited to mark this major milestone for ‘One Piece’ and look forward to celebrating it together with fans at our special global livestream event on November 20.”

“It isn’t every day you get to celebrate such a respected series hit such a grand milestone like this,” shared Asa Suehira, Chief Content Officer of Funimation Global Group. “‘One Piece’ has been a huge part of the Funimation family over time and we’re so proud to be a part of the ongoing journey Toei Animation continues to produce.”

To mark this momentous occasion of 1000 episodes, a celebratory virtual live streamed event will be broadcast across [Funimation’s](#) and [Toei Animation’s](#) YouTube channels simultaneously, as well as the official [One Piece Facebook page](#). This virtual event will be hosted by YouTuber RogersBase on **November 20, 2021 at 3:00 PST** and will feature free streaming of episodes 998 and 999, prize giveaways, fan videos, and more.

In addition to the live stream, earlier this month as part of the “One Piece” 1000th episode celebration, Toei Animation and Fathom Events announced a special two-night “One Piece Film: Strong World” theatrical event on November 7 (English Dub) and November 9 (English Sub) in select theaters across the United States. This will be the first-ever U.S. theatrical release of “One Piece Film: Strong World” – the 2009 movie written by creator Eiichiro Oda and 10th film in the One Piece franchise. For more information, visit [fathomevents.com/onepiece](#).

### **ONE PIECE FUN FACTS**

- Since 2014, Eiichiro Oda and “One Piece” have been encapsulated in The Guinness Book of World Records for “most copies published for the same comic book series by a single author.” To date, the manga has sold over 490 million copies across 58 countries and regions worldwide
- “One Piece” is the only manga to run an initial print of volumes of 3+ million copies continuously for more than 10 years since 2010
- Monkey D. Luffy was an official ambassador for the 2021 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games

### **“One Piece” Voice Cast**

**Monkey D. Luffy** – Mayumi Tanaka (Japanese), Colleen Clindenbeard (English)

**Roronoa Zoro** – Kazuya Nakai (Japanese), Christopher R. Sabat (English)

**Nami** – Akemi Okamura (Japanese), Luci Christian (English)

**Usopp** – Kappei Yamaguchi (Japanese), Sonny Strait (English)

**Vinsmoke Sanji** – Hiroaki Hirata (Japanese), Eric Vale (English)

**Tony Tony Chopper** – Ikue Ōtani (Japanese), Brina Palencia (English)

**Nico Robin** – Yuriko Yamaguchi (Japanese), Stephanie Young (English)

**Franky** – Kazuki Yao (Japanese), Patrick Seitz (English)

**Brook** – Chō (Japanese), Ian Sinclair (English)

**Jimbei** – Katsuhisa Hōki (Japanese), Daniel Baugh (English)

For more information, go to [funimation.com/blog](https://funimation.com/blog)

### **About Toei Animation Inc.**

Based in Los Angeles, Toei Animation Inc. manages the film and TV series distribution of Toei Animation’s top properties – some of the world’s biggest anime franchises including *Dragon Ball*, *Sailor Moon*, *One Piece*, *Digimon*, *Saint Seiya*, and many others – to North America, Latin America, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. In addition, within these territories, Toei Animation Inc. handles all categories of consumer product licensing based on Toei Animation’s film and television brands. For more information, please visit [toei-animation-usa.com](https://toei-animation-usa.com).

### **About Funimation**

If it’s anime, it’s Funimation.

As the market leader in anime, we proudly deliver incredible fan experiences across television, feature films, events, collectibles, and the Funimation App.

Headquartered in the US and connected by a global network, our anime-obsessed team serves the fandom in over 52 countries and 10 languages. With over 400 team members, we’ve built a global community where fans and their passion will always have a place to belong.

Funimation is an independently operated joint venture between US-based Sony Pictures Entertainment, and Japan’s Aniplex, a subsidiary of Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc., both subsidiaries of Tokyo-based Sony Group Corporation.

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