
TNT's *Animal Kingdom* Comes Roaring Back for Season 2

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ANIMAL KINGDOM

TNT's *Animal Kingdom* Comes Roaring Back for Season 2

Ellen Barkin, Scott Speedman, Shawn Hatosy Star in Acclaimed Hit Drama, Returning Tuesday, May 30, at 9 p.m. (ET/PT)

The Codys are back, and the ties that bind them are about to be stretched to the limit when TNT's hit *Animal Kingdom* returns for its second season. **One of cable's Top 5 new dramas** this past summer, the series about a Southern California crime family stars Emmy® and Tony® winner **Ellen Barkin** as the matriarch of the Cody clan, **Scott Speedman** as her second in command and **Shawn Hatosy** as her volatile, mentally unstable eldest son. Also starring are **Ben Robson, Jake Weary, Finn Cole, Molly Gordon** and **Carolina Guerra**. The second season of *Animal Kingdom*, which has been expanded to 13 episodes, is slated to launch **Tuesday, May 30, at 9 p.m. (ET/PT) on TNT**.

In season one of *Animal Kingdom*, 17-year-old Joshua "J" Cody (Cole) moved in with his freewheeling relatives in their Southern California beach town after his mother overdoses on heroin. He finds himself in the care of his estranged grandmother, Janine "Smurf" Cody (Barkin), a woman who rules her sons with a firm but, at times, emotionally incestuous hand. Her second in command is Barry "Baz" Blackwell (Speedman), whose power and position in the family is threatened by the return of Pope (Hatosy), Smurf's eldest son just released from prison. Smurf's tough, impulsive middle son, Craig (Robson), has a drug problem beginning to cloud his judgment and endanger the rest of the family, and Deran (Weary), the troubled and suspicious "baby" of the family struggles with accepting his sexual identity. Hovering on the edge of this less-than-idyllic household are J's girlfriend, Nicky Belmont (Gordon) and Baz's daughter, Lena. It isn't long after J's arrival that he finds his place within the dangerous family, a sense of belonging that he earns at the conclusion of season one.

As the second season opens, the Cody clan is back to their old ways and in the midst of a fun, high-adrenaline heist. But when things don't go as planned, the family dynamics become more fractured than ever as some members advocate for independence from Smurf. Adding fuel to the fire is an external threat from Smurf's past that has come back to haunt her.

Animal Kingdom, the first of TNT's new breed of dramas to premiere, reached an average of **5.5 million viewers** per episode across multiple platforms during its first season, with audience increases nearly every week. On the competitive front, the drama finished the third quarter as **one of cable's Top 5 new dramas with Adults 18-49** and **one of the Top 15 cable dramas overall** (new and

returning series). *Animal Kingdom* also ranked as **one of cable's Top 3 new summer dramas in social media engagement**, while its premiere episode was **one of the Top 10 most socially engaging drama episodes on all of television for the night**. In addition, the series has brought in **the youngest audience of any current TNT drama**.

Animal Kingdom is produced by **John Wells Productions** in association with **Warner Horizon Television**. Emmy® winner **John Wells, Jonathan Lisco, Christopher Chulack** and **Etan Frankel** serve as executive producers on the series, with **Megan Martin**, who is also working with Wells on the TNT pilot *The Deep Mad Dark*, serving as co-executive producer. *Animal Kingdom* was developed for television by Lisco and inspired by the award-winning feature film written & directed by **David Michôd** and produced by **Liz Watts**, who also serve as executive producers on the series.

About TNT

TNT, a division of **Turner**, ranks among cable's Top 5 networks with young adults and is home to one of cable's most popular slate of original series, including [Animal Kingdom](#), [Good Behavior](#), [The Last Ship](#), [Major Crimes](#), [The Librarians](#) and the upcoming *Will*, *Claws*, *The Alienist*, *American Race* and more. TNT also presents popular shows like [Arrow](#), [Supernatural](#), [Bones](#) and [Castle](#); primetime specials, such as the *Screen Actors Guild Awards®* and the *iHeartRadio Music Awards*; and championship sports coverage, including the NBA and the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship.

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About Warner Horizon Television

Warner Horizon Television (WHTV) is one of the entertainment industry's leading producers of scripted series for the cable and subscription/on-demand marketplace, and primetime reality series for both network and cable. A division of the Warner Bros. Television Group, WHTV was founded in 2006. Its scripted programs are *Animal Kingdom* and *Claws* for TNT, *People of Earth* for TBS, *Pretty Little Liars* and *Famous in Love* for Freeform, *Longmire* and *Fuller House* for Netflix, *Queen Sugar* for OWN and the forthcoming *American Woman* for TV Land. WHTV's unscripted series are *The Voice*, *Little Big Shots* and *Little Big Shots: Forever Young* for NBC; *The Bachelor* franchise — which also includes *The Bachelorette*, *Bachelor in Paradise* and *After Paradise* — for ABC, as well as the *Bachelor* spinoff franchise *Happily Ever After?* for Freeform; the upcoming *Love Connection* for FOX; and *Love at First Kiss* for TLC, among others.

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