

“Friends” stars reunite for one-off show

The cast of the immensely popular American sitcom *Friends*, have come together for a documentary that’s sure to please nostalgic fans



Although set in New York, *Friends* was filmed in front of live audience on Stage 24* at **Warner Bros Studios**, California – renamed **The Friends Stage** in 2004



Original show titles included ***Insomnia Cafe***, ***Six of One***, and ***Friends Like Us***



Aniston is wealthiest cast member, worth around **\$300m**



FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS

Friends is still syndicated around world, earning **Warner Bros \$1bn** per year. Six stars have deals to receive **2%** of revenue – **\$20m** each annually

STAR POWER (actor earnings per episode)

1994-95	Season 1	\$22,500 (actors unknown)	Stars begin collective bargaining to ensure all six receive same salary
1995-96	Season 2	\$22,500-\$40,000†	
1996-97	Season 3	\$75,000	
1997-98	Season 4	\$85,000	
1998-99	Season 5	\$100,000	
1999-00	Season 6	\$125,000	
2000-01	Season 7	\$750,000	
2001-02	Season 8	\$750,000	
2002-03	Season 9	\$1 million	
2003-04	Season 10	\$1 million	

May 6, 2004: Series finale airs on **NBC** – watched by **52.5m** Americans



Series creators **Marta Kauffman** and **David Crane** (left)

Theme song: ***I'll Be There for You*** by **The Rembrandts** – used after **R.E.M.** refuse producers use of ***Shiny Happy People***



Friends: The Reunion is out on **HBO Max (U.S.)** and other streaming outlets

*Season 2 onwards. †Aniston and Schwimmer earned more than others as fans became obsessed with Rachel-Ross storyline. Sources: Variety, Parade, South China Morning Post, IMDb
Pictures: HBO Max, Creative Commons, Getty Images