



## World of Warcraft®: Burning Crusade Classic™ Beckons Players Back Through the Dark Portal

February 19, 2021

*Journey back to the shattered world of Draenor as it once was in Blizzard Entertainment's first expansion for World of Warcraft® Classic —coming later this year*

*Burning Crusade Classic™ will be included in players' existing World of Warcraft subscription at no additional cost*

IRVINE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 19, 2021-- Beyond the Dark Portal in the shattered realm of Outland, the armies of the demonic Burning Legion prepare for an invasion that threatens the entire world of Azeroth. Later this year, *World of Warcraft®* players will return to the fel-scarred ruin of Hellfire Peninsula to stop the incursion at its source; rediscover what lurks below the fungal forests of Zangarmarsh; and face down Illidan the Betrayer once again in *Burning Crusade Classic™*, Blizzard Entertainment's authentic recreation of the acclaimed first *World of Warcraft* expansion.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20210219005507/en/>



Return to Outland to face Illidan the Betrayer in Blizzard Entertainment's World of Warcraft: Burning Crusade Classic, coming later this year. (Graphic: Business Wire)

"The *World of Warcraft* community made it clear that they wanted *WoW Classic*, and now they're eager to continue their journey into *The Burning Crusade*," said J. Allen Brack, president of Blizzard Entertainment. "Since the launch of *WoW Classic* and as we rolled out content updates, we've learned a lot about what players want from an experience like this in 2021. We're building on that to ensure players' new adventures in Outland are as epic as ever, whether they're taking a return trip through the Dark Portal or joining us for the very first time."

*Burning Crusade Classic* builds on the epic foundation of *World of Warcraft Classic*, providing players with an opportunity to experience the next legendary chapter in the *Warcraft®* saga. Through the launch and over the course of content updates to

follow, the recreation will bring back the features of the 2007 original, including:

- **The Shattered Realm of Outland:** Traverse the treacherous crags and spires of Blade's Edge Mountains, where even dragons fear to roam; hunt alongside the uncorrupted Mag'har orcs among the floating islands of Nagrand; battle demonic agents of the Legion in the shadow of the Black Temple; and much more.
- **Two New Playable Races:** Fight for the Horde as the **blood elves**, seeking a new source of the arcane power that once sustained them, or join the Alliance as the **draenei**, exiles from Outland in search of a new home.
- **Gather at the Arena Gates:** Assemble your most trusted allies and prove your PvP prowess in 2v2, 3v3, or 5v5 combat in Arenas such as the Ring of Trials and the Circle of Blood.
- **Take Wing on Flying Mounts:** Take flight in the chaotic skies of Netherstorm and soar over fel-touched Shadowmoon Valley with the introduction of flying mounts in Outland.
- **Master Challenging Raids and Dungeons:** Conquer 5-player dungeons set in the crystalline fortress of Tempest Keep and the Caverns of Time, where heroes bear witness to Azeroth's past. Raid the haunted halls of 10-player Karazhan, and gear up over time for a climactic confrontation against Kil'jaeden in 25-player Sunwell Plateau.
- **New Options for Heroes:** Carve gems of power to socket into players' gear with the **Jewelcrafting profession**; choose between the **Aldor** or **Scryer** factions in Shattrath and earn their unique rewards; create a **paladin** on the Horde or a **shaman** on the Alliance; and more.

Before entering the Dark Portal, players will be presented with a choice for each of their existing *WoW Classic* characters: to progress to the *Burning Crusade* era along with the rest of the Horde and Alliance heroes on their realm, or to continue adventuring in the original *WoW Classic* content on all-new "**Classic Era**" servers coming with the rollout of *Burning Crusade Classic*. Players who want to experience the best of both worlds will have the option to "clone" each *WoW Classic* character as an optional paid service, allowing each hero to venture forth into *Burning Crusade Classic* while their copies continue their original adventure on a Classic Era realm. Further details on each realm type and the available options for characters will be provided at a later date.

For players who don't have characters ready for the journey beyond the Dark Portal and are interested in adventuring in Outland with their friends,

Blizzard will also offer an optional level-58 character boost service closer to the expansion's launch. To help preserve the integrity of players' accomplishments in *WoW Classic*, this boost will not be usable on Classic Era realms or on the new blood elf or draenei races; in addition, players will be limited to boosting only one character per *World of Warcraft* account. Further details, including details around pricing and availability, will be announced at a later date.

As with *WoW Classic*, access to *Burning Crusade Classic* will be included in players' existing *World of Warcraft* subscriptions at no additional cost. In the near future, Blizzard Entertainment will be kicking off a beta test for *Burning Crusade Classic*, calling upon players to give feedback on the experience and help ensure the expansion strikes the best possible balance between authenticity and enjoyment. More information on the beta test, including how to sign up, will be announced at a later date.

For more information on *Burning Crusade Classic*, visit [www.wowclassic.com](http://www.wowclassic.com).

Assets are available at [blizzard.gamespress.com/World-of-Warcraft](http://blizzard.gamespress.com/World-of-Warcraft).

#### **About Blizzard Entertainment, Inc.**

Best known for blockbuster hits including *World of Warcraft*<sup>®</sup>, *Hearthstone*<sup>®</sup>, *Overwatch*<sup>®</sup>, the *Warcraft*<sup>®</sup>, *StarCraft*<sup>®</sup>, and *Diablo*<sup>®</sup> franchises, and the multi-franchise *Heroes of the Storm*<sup>®</sup>, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc. ([www.blizzard.com](http://www.blizzard.com)), a division of Activision Blizzard (NASDAQ: ATVI), is a premier developer and publisher of entertainment software renowned for creating some of the industry's most critically acclaimed games. Blizzard Entertainment's track record includes twenty-three #1 games\* and multiple Game of the Year awards. The company's online gaming service, [Battle.net](http://Battle.net)<sup>®</sup>, is one of the largest in the world, with millions of active players.

\*Sales and/or downloads, based on internal company records and reports from key distributors.

**Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-looking Statements:** Information in this press release that involves Blizzard Entertainment's expectations, plans, intentions or strategies regarding the future, including statements about the availability, gameplay, features, and functionality of *World of Warcraft*<sup>®</sup>: *Burning Crusade Classic*<sup>™</sup>, are forward-looking statements that are not facts and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Factors that could cause Blizzard Entertainment's actual future results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements set forth in this release include unanticipated product delays and other factors identified in the risk factors sections of Activision Blizzard's most recent annual report on Form 10-K and any subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. The forward-looking statements in this release are based upon information available to Blizzard Entertainment and Activision Blizzard as of the date of this release, and neither Blizzard Entertainment nor Activision Blizzard assumes any obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements believed to be true when made may ultimately prove to be incorrect. These statements are not guarantees of the future performance of Blizzard Entertainment or Activision Blizzard and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond its control and may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations.

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