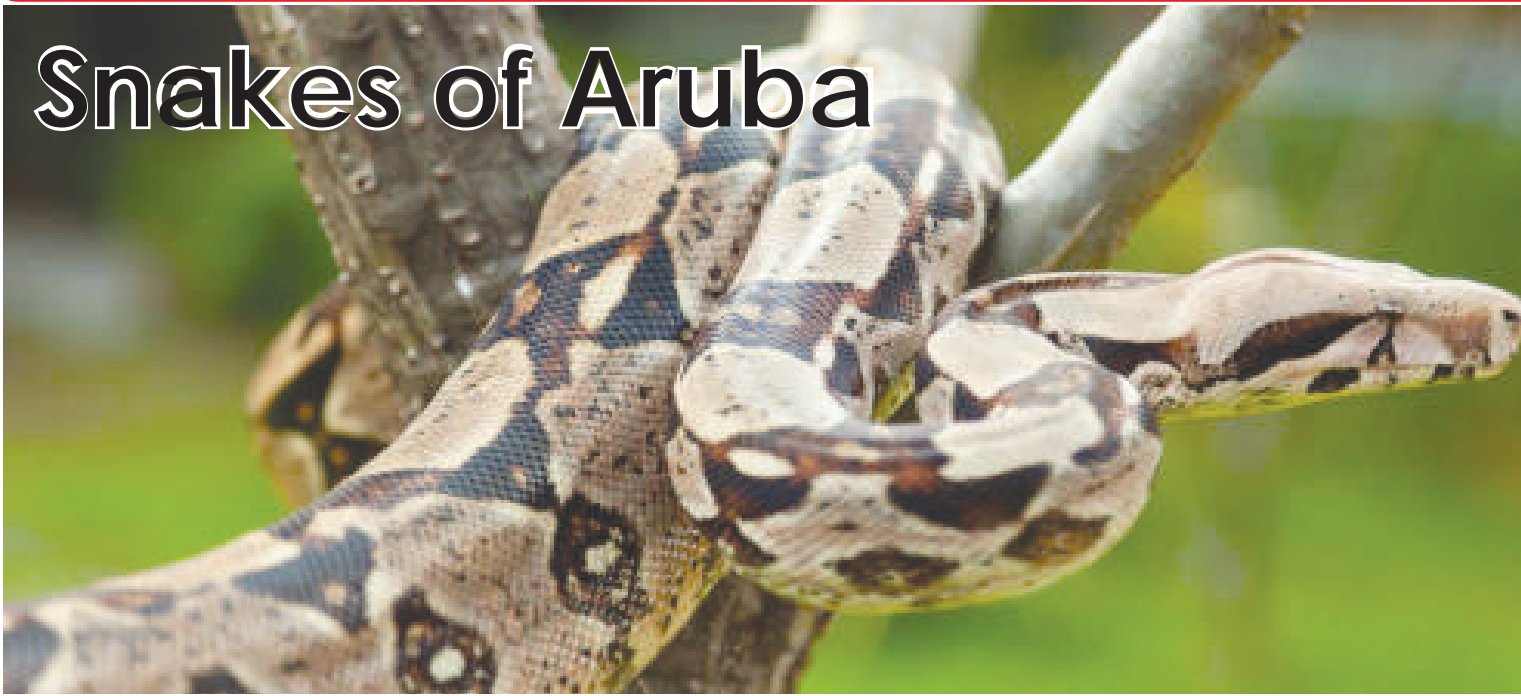




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## Snakes of Aruba



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### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY  
PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY



#### SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL  
SAXOPHONIST  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO  
VIOLINIST  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO  
VIOLINIST  
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

#### SATURDAY:

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# Trump celebrates the Navy's 250th anniversary in the midst of the shutdown

By JOSH BOAK and BEN FINLEY

Associated Press

**NORFOLK, Va. (AP)** — President Donald Trump did not let the government shutdown interfere with a stop in Norfolk, Virginia, on Sunday to salute the Navy as it celebrates its 250th anniversary.

"I believe, 'THE SHOW MUST GO ON!'" Trump posted Friday night on his social media site, Truth Social. And he wrote before leaving the White House for Naval Station Norfolk, "This will be a show of Naval aptitude and strength."

The government shutdown that began Wednesday has sparked a series of partisan blame games as military personnel are working



The USS George H.W. Bush aircraft carrier sails in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Norfolk, Va., Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025.

without pay, several thousand federal employees

are furloughed and key infrastructure and energy projects in Democratic-run areas such as New York and Chicago have been put on hold.

There is the possibility that an event designed to honor the Navy could be dragged into the bitter politics.

Trump accused Democrats in his post of enabling the shutdown and trying "to destroy this wonderful celebration of the U.S. Navy's Birthday."

Senate Democrats rejected efforts to preserve a continuation of government operations when the new budget year started on Wednesday. They cited the lapse in subsidies that could cause health insurance costs to climb rapidly for people who get coverage through the 2010 Affordable Care Act. Democratic lawmakers also have sought to reverse cuts to Medicaid that Trump signed into law.

On top of that, both sides cite a mutual sense of distrust.

Democrats oppose Trump's move to have his administration decline to spend congressionally approved funds, saying it undermines the budgeting process, among other concerns. Meanwhile, Trump has explored laying off federal workers at what he called "Democrat Agencies."

Among those joining Trump for the festivities were first lady Melania Trump, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Navy Secretary John Phelan, Veterans Affairs Secretary Doug Collins and U.S. Rep. Ronny Jackson, R-Texas, a former Navy rear admiral who was a White House doctor during Trump's first term.

After his arrival in Norfolk, Trump went to the USS George H.W. Bush and spoke to the sailors and handed out challenge coins.

The Trumps watched a military demonstration while standing on the deck the aircraft carrier. Navy destroyers launched missiles and fired shells into the Atlantic Ocean, Navy SEALs descended from helicopters and fighter jets catapulted off.

Awaiting Trump's speech was a large crowd on a pier, mostly sailors in their dress white uniforms and some families.

Trump on Tuesday addressed a gathering of military leaders abruptly summoned from across the globe to Virginia by Hegseth. The Republican president proposed using U.S. cities as training grounds for the armed forces and he spoke of needing military might to combat what he called the "invasion from within." Hegseth declared an end to "woke" culture and announced new directives for troops that include "gender-neutral" or "male-level" standards for physical fitness.

The administration is seeking to reshape Pentagon culture and use military resources for the president's priorities, including quelling domestic unrest and violent crime.

Trump has also engaged the military in an armed conflict with drug cartels, leading to four strikes on boats in the Caribbean that Washington says were involved in trafficking. □

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# New Supreme Court term confronts justices with Trump's aggressive assertion of presidential power

By MARK SHERMAN and LINDSAY WHITEHURST  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A monumental Supreme Court term begins Monday with major tests of presidential power on the agenda along with pivotal cases on voting and the rights of LG-BTQ people.

The court's conservative majority has so far been receptive, at least in preliminary rulings, to many of President Donald Trump's aggressive assertions of authority. Liberal Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson invoked the Calvin and Hobbes comic strip after one such decision allowing the cut of \$783 million in research funding.

"This is Calvinball jurisprudence with a twist," Jackson wrote. "Calvinball has only one rule: There are no fixed rules. We seem to have two: that one, and this administration always wins."

The conservative justices could be more skeptical when they conduct an in-depth examination of some Trump policies, including the president's imposition of tariffs and his desired restrictions on birthright citizenship.

If the same conservative-liberal split that has marked so many of Trump's emergency appeals endures, "we are in for one of the most polarizing terms yet," said Irv Gornstein, executive director of the Supreme Court Institute at Georgetown University's law school.

The justices will pass judgment in the next 10 months on some of Trump's most controversial efforts.

3 major cases on presidential power are on the docket

The justices are hearing a pivotal case for Trump's economic agenda in early November as they consider the legality of many of his sweeping tariffs. Two lower courts have found the Republican president does not have the power to unilaterally impose wide-ranging tariffs under an emergency powers law.



Members of the Supreme Court sit for a new group portrait at the Supreme Court building in Washington, Oct. 7, 2022.

Associated Press

States and small businesses argue Trump cannot usurp Congress's taxation powers by declaring national emergencies and using tariffs to address them.

The administration, though, says the law does give the president the power to regulate importation, and that includes tariffs. Four dissenting judges on a federal appeals court in Washington bought that argument, mapping out a possible legal path at the high court. In December, the justices will take up Trump's power to fire independent agency members at will, a case that probably will lead the court to overturn, or drastically narrow, a 90-year-old decision. It required a cause, like neglect of duty, before a president could remove the Senate-confirmed officials from their jobs.

The outcome appears to be in little doubt because the conservatives have allowed the firings to take effect while the case plays out, even after lower-court judges found the firings illegal. The three liberal justices have dissented each time.

Another case that has arrived at the court but has yet to be considered involves Trump's executive order denying birthright citizenship to children born in the United States to parents who are in the country illegally or temporarily.

The administration has ap-

pealed lower-court rulings blocking the order as unconstitutional, or likely so, flouting more than 125 years of general understanding and an 1898 Supreme Court ruling. The case could be argued in the late winter or early spring.

The court could hand Republicans significant victories on voting rights and campaign finance

The future of electoral districts with majorities of Black, Hispanic or Native American voters hangs in the balance in a case about congressional redistricting in Louisiana that will be argued in mid-October. The Republican-led state has abandoned its defense of a political map that elected two Black members of Congress. Instead, Louisiana wants the court to reject any consideration of race in redistricting in a case that could bring major changes to the Voting Rights Act.

Chief Justice John Roberts and the other five conservative justices have been skeptical of the consideration of race in public life, including a decision in 2023 that ended affirmative action in college admissions. Louisiana's position would allow it and other Republican-controlled states in the South to draw new political maps that eliminate virtually all majority Black House districts, which have been Democratic strongholds,

voting rights experts say.

The justices failed to decide the case in June after hearing arguments during its last term. The court does not need to go as far as Louisiana wants to reject the congressional map.

But a second round of arguments is a rare occurrence at the Supreme Court, and sometimes presages a major change by the justices. The Citizens United decision in 2010 that led to dramatic increases in independent spending in U.S. elections came after it was argued a second time.

Republicans, including the Trump administration, also are behind a drive to wipe away limits on how much political parties can spend in coordination with candidates for Congress and president.

The justices are reviewing an appellate ruling that upheld a provision of federal election law that is more than 50 years old. Democrats had asked the court to leave the law in place, and the Supreme Court upheld it in 2001.

But Roberts, who just marked his 20th anniversary as chief justice, has led a court that has struck down one campaign finance regulation after another.

No date for arguments has been set.

Transgender women and girls face a test over their participation on school sports teams

More than two dozen states

have enacted laws barring transgender women and girls from participating in certain sports competitions. The justices are hearing cases from Idaho and West Virginia, where transgender athletes won lower court rulings.

The Supreme Court in June upheld a ban on gender-affirming care for transgender youth, but pointedly did not decide any broader issues about transgender rights.

They quickly agreed to take up the state appeals, which raised questions under the Constitution's guarantee of equal treatment and the federal law known as Title IX that dramatically expanded the participation of girls and women in sports in public schools and colleges.

The court has yet to set an argument date.

Justice Samuel Alito is most likely possible retirement in 2026

Alito turns 76 in April, young by Supreme Court standards. But he might not want to stay around and gamble on the possibility of Democrats flipping the Senate in next year's elections and seeing a Democrat capture the White House two years later.

Retiring next summer would allow Trump to name a similarly conservative but much younger replacement who would almost certainly win confirmation from the Republican-led Senate.

For close watchers of the court, Alito has done only one thing out of the ordinary: signed a contract to write a book that is expected out next year. Even as his junior colleagues have moved quickly to sign book deals. Alito, by contrast, waited nearly 20 years. He did not respond to a request for comment for this story.

Alito is not the oldest justice. Clarence Thomas is 77, but he has shown no signs of leaving, certainly not before he is set to become the longest-serving justice in U.S. history in 2028. □



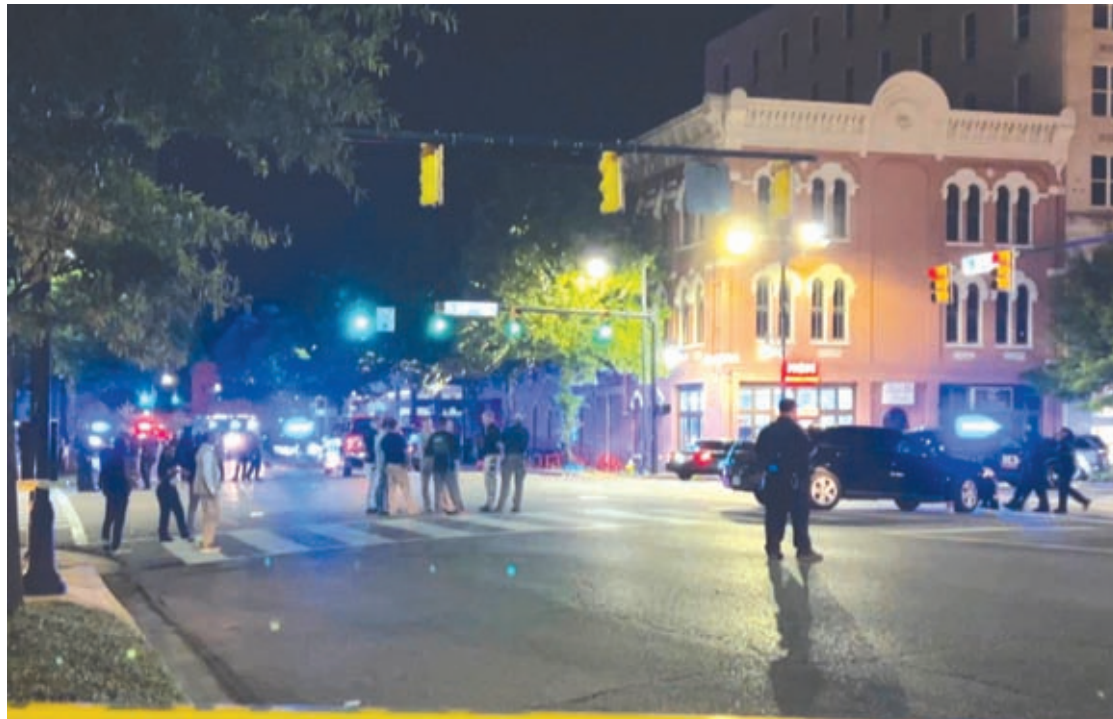
# Gunmen kill two, injure 12 in a shootout in a crowd in Alabama capital city's downtown

**MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)** — Rival gunmen shot at each other in a crowded downtown nightlife district in Alabama's capital city Saturday night, killing two people and injuring 12 others in a chaotic street scene that left authorities trying to find out who started it, police said.

The dead included a 43-year-old woman, identified by police as Shalanda Williams, and a 17-year-old identified as Jeremiah Morris. Five of the wounded were hospitalized with life-threatening injuries, including a juvenile, Montgomery police said.

No one had been arrested as of Sunday afternoon as police appealed to the public for information and sorted through a complicated crime scene that involved multiple people firing weapons in a crowd just after the Tuskegee University-Morehouse College rivalry football game ended blocks away.

"We're gonna do whatever



This image taken from video provided by WSFA shows the scene after a shooting earlier Saturday in downtown Montgomery, Ala., Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025.

er we can not only to arrest those responsible, we're going to do whatever to arrest those connected in any way, who knew what may have happened, who knew what could take place," Montgomery Mayor Steven Reed told a Sunday news conference.

"We're not going just to stop with those folks that were pulling the trigger last night."

The shooters "had no regard for human life," he said.

Police were reviewing surveillance video, interviewing witnesses and poten-

**Associated Press**  
tial suspects and trying to piece together a motive for why the shooting started. Police were called around 11:30 p.m. to what Montgomery Police Chief James Graboys described as a "mass shooting" that broke out near the Hank Williams Museum, the Rosa Parks

Museum and the Alabama Statehouse, within earshot of officers on routine patrol in downtown Montgomery. The shooting began when someone targeted one of the 14 victims, prompting multiple people to pull their own weapons and start firing back, Graboys said.

"This was two parties involved that were basically shooting at each other in the middle of a crowd," Graboys said.

The shooters, he said, "did not care about the people around them when they did it."

Seven of the 14 victims were under 20, and the youngest was 16, Graboys said. At least two of the victims were armed, Graboys said.

Multiple weapons and shell cases were recovered from the scene, Graboys said.

Few other details were available. □

# California governor says Trump is sending 300 California National Guard members to Oregon

**SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)** — President Donald Trump is sending 300 California National Guard members to Oregon after a judge temporarily blocked his administration from deploying that state's guard to Portland, California's governor said Sunday.

Gov. Gavin Newsom pledged Sunday to fight the move in court.

There was no immediate official announcement from Washington that the California National Guard was being called up and sent to Oregon, just as was the case when Illinois' governor made a similar announcement Saturday about troops in his state being activated.

Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek said that 101 California National Guard members arrived in her state Saturday night by plane and more were on the way. Kotek said there has been no for-



Federal agents line a driveway as people protest outside a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Portland, Oregon, Friday, Oct. 3, 2025.

**Associated Press**

mal communication with the federal government about the deployment.

"This action appears to (be) intentional to circumvent yesterday's ruling by a federal judge," Kotek said in a statement Sunday. "There is no need for military intervention in Oregon. There is no insurrection in Portland. No threat to national secu-

rity. Oregon is our home, not a military target."

A Portland Police spokesperson declined to comment on whether California National Guard members were already in the city. A spokesperson for Kotek said Sunday he could not verify the current location of the Guard members who arrived in Oregon on Satur-

day, directing questions to the Defense Department. The California National Guard also referred questions to the Defense Department. A department spokesperson declined to comment. There was no immediate comment from the White House.

Newsom, a Democrat, said in a statement that California personnel were on their way Sunday and called the deployment "a breathtaking abuse of the law and power." He said these troops were "federalized" and put under the president's control months ago over his objections, in response to unrest in Los Angeles.

"The commander-in-chief is using the U.S. military as a political weapon against American citizens," Newsom said. "We will take this fight to court, but the public cannot stay silent in the face of such reckless and

authoritarian conduct by the president of the United States."

A Trump-appointed federal judge in Oregon on Saturday temporarily blocked the Trump administration's plan to deploy the Oregon National Guard in Portland to protect federal property amid protests after Trump called the city "war-ravaged." Oregon officials and Portland residents alike said that description was ludicrous.

U.S. District Judge Karin Immergut, who was appointed by Trump during his first term, issued the order pending further arguments in the lawsuit. She said the relatively small protests the city has seen did not justify the use of federalized forces and allowing the deployment could harm Oregon's state sovereignty. □



# Balloons carrying smuggled cigarettes over Lithuania closed Vilnius Airport for hours

By LIUDAS DAPKUS  
Associated Press

**VILNIUS, Lithuania (AP)** — Up to 25 small hot-air balloons, some of them confirmed to be carrying smuggled cigarettes, entered Lithuanian airspace late Saturday and forced the shutdown of Vilnius Airport, delaying flights for hours, authorities said.

The balloons interfered with 30 flights, impacting some 6,000 passengers, according to Lithuania's National Crisis Management Center. Flights resumed at 4:50 a.m. (0150 GMT) Sunday.

While the balloons turned out to be ferrying cigarettes, Europe is on high alert after intrusions into NATO's airspace reached an unprecedented scale last month. Some European officials described the incidents as Moscow testing



In this undated photo released by the State Border Guard Service, an officer inspects a balloon used to carry cigarettes into Lithuania, because Belarussian smugglers often use them to ferry the contraband into the European Union.

Associated Press

NATO's response, which raised questions about how prepared the alliance is against Russia.

Lithuania and the rest of the Baltics are especially concerned. On July 10, a

drone identified as a Russian-made Gerbera flew into Lithuania from Belarus and crashed in Vilnius County.

Another crashed at a military training ground on July

28 and was found a week later. The military later said it was carrying an explosive device. After those incidents, the parliament voted to allow the armed forces to shoot down any unmanned drone violating its airspace.

18,000 packs of smuggled cigarettes were recovered. Two of the balloons flew above Vilnius Airport, according to spokesperson Darius Buta. More than two dozen reached the wider Vilnius County. The balloons were recorded flying between roughly 8:45 p.m. Saturday and 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

Border police recovered 11 balloons and some 18,000 packs of smuggled cigarettes in various locations, Buta told The Associated Press.

Vilnius, Lithuania's capital, is located some 40 kilometers (25 miles) west of the border with Russian ally Belarus. Belarusian smugglers are increasingly using the balloons, which are much cheaper than drones, for smuggling cigarettes into the European Union, Buta said.

Similar incidents, but with fewer balloons, were reported in August. Last year, 966 hot-air balloons entering from Belarus were intercepted by Lithuanian authorities. There have been 544 recorded this year.

"Both smuggling balloons and drones are criminal activities, but not as provocations or acts of sabotage," Buta said. □

# Japan's ruling party elects Sanae Takaichi as new leader, likely to become first female PM

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japan's governing party on Saturday elected former Economic Security Minister Sanae Takaichi, a hard-line ultra-conservative and China hawk, as its new leader, making her likely to become the country's first female prime minister.

In a country that ranks poorly internationally for gender equality, the 64-year-old Takaichi makes history as the first female leader of Japan's long-governing conservative Liberal Democratic Party. Takaichi is one of the most conservative members of the male-dominated party.

An admirer of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Takaichi is a protégé of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's ultra-conservative vision and a regular at the Yasukuni Shrine, seen as a symbol of Japan's wartime militarism, which could complicate Tokyo's relations with its Asian neighbors.

Takaichi beat Agriculture Minister Shinjiro Koizumi, the son of popular former Prime



Newly-elected leader of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Sanae Takaichi celebrates after winning the LDP leadership election in Tokyo, Japan, Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025. Associated Press

Minister Junichiro Koizumi, in a runoff in a vote by the LDP on Saturday.

Takaichi replaces Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba as the party hopes to regain public support and stay in power after major election losses.

She is likely to be Japan's next prime minister because the party remains by

far the largest in the lower house, which determines the national leader, and because opposition groups are highly splintered.

"Now that the LDP has its first female president, its scenery will change a little," Takaichi said as she tried out the president's chair.

Takaichi vows to strengthen

Japan-U.S. alliance. Takaichi later said she will immediately work on stemming rising prices, while also focusing on diplomatic and security challenges.

A parliamentary vote is expected in mid-October. The LDP, which has been criticized by opposition leaders for creating a prolonged political vacuum,

said Takaichi needs to hurry because the winner will soon face a diplomatic test: a possible summit with U.S. President Donald Trump, who could demand that Japan increase its defense spending.

A meeting is reportedly being planned for late October. Trump will travel to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in South Korea starting Oct. 31.

Takaichi said ensuring the Japan-U.S. alliance is her top diplomatic priority.

"It is essential to ... confirm the reinforcement of the Japan-U.S. alliance," she said. Takaichi stressed the importance of their cooperation through three-way frameworks that also include regional partners such as South Korea, Australia and the Philippines, pledging Japan's greater role in achieving a free and open Indo-Pacific.

She said she respects all tariffs and investment agreements struck between Tokyo and Washington under the Ishiba government. □



# Hundreds of thousands march across Europe in support of Palestinians

By **ANDREW WILKS**  
Associated Press

**ISTANBUL (AP)** — Hundreds of thousands of people across several European cities marched Sunday in support of Palestinians and an aid flotilla 's attempt to reach Gaza.

Istanbul held the largest of multiple demonstrations being staged in Turkey. Footage showed crowds walking from the iconic Hagia Sophia to the banks of the Golden Horn, where they were greeted by dozens of boats decked in Turkish and Palestinian flags. The marchers called for Muslim solidarity with Palestinians following mid-day prayers in front of the former Byzantine cathedral, now converted to a mosque.

The protests were among others planned Sunday in European cities to mark the second anniversary of Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel that triggered the war in Gaza. Israel's attacks have killed more than 67,000 Palestinians, according to the Gaza Health Ministry that is part of the Hamas-run government. In the Turkish capital Ankara, protesters held up flags and placards condemning the "genocide" in Gaza. "This oppression, which



Protesters mimic holding the bodies of children demanding their government do more to halt Israel's campaign in Gaza, during a demonstration in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025.

began in 1948, has been continuing for two years, turning into genocide," Recep Karabal of the Palestine Support Platform told crowds in the northern city of Kirikkale.

Support for Palestinians is widespread in Muslim-majority Turkey and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is a leading critic of Israel's military operations in Gaza.

"The bloodshed must stop" In the Netherlands, an estimated 250,000 people, most dressed in red, gathered in Amsterdam to press

the government to take tougher action against Israel.

Sunday's protest and march through the Dutch capital comes less than four weeks before national elections. Two "Red Line" demonstrations in The Hague earlier this year also drew tens of thousands of people.

After packing the central Museum Square, the protesters walked through the city center, holding Palestinian flags and peace emblems. One placard read,

"Ashamed of the government."

The Dutch government has long been a staunch supporter of Israel but has in recent months been more critical as international support for Israel has ebbed. On Friday, Foreign Minister David van Weel said it was unlikely he would grant an export license to send parts for F-35 fighter jets to Israel. "The bloodshed must stop. And that we unfortunately have to stand here because we have such an incredibly weak government

that doesn't dare to draw a red line. That's why we are here. In the hope that it helps," protester Marieke van Zijl said.

Marjon Rozema, a spokesperson for Amnesty International, one of the protest organizers, called for the use of "all economic and diplomatic means to increase pressure on Israel."

Mourning the victims of the synagogue attack

In Britain, meanwhile, hundreds of people rallied to mark Hamas' 2023 attack and mourn the victims of an attack on a synagogue in Manchester.

A crowd gathered outside Manchester Cathedral, holding Israeli and U.K. flags and signs calling for the release of hostages held by Hamas.

A banner paid tribute to two men who died in the synagogue attack on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year. It said their "bravery will never be forgotten." The attacker was shot dead by police on Thursday outside the Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation Synagogue, after he rammed a car into pedestrians and attacked them with a knife.

Paris also saw an outpouring of support for the hostages held by Hamas. □

## Protesters rally in Quito as Ecuador declares state of emergency in 10 provinces

**QUITO (AP)** — Protesters both for and against Ecuador 's President Daniel Noboa rallied in the capital Quito on Sunday after a state of emergency took effect in 10 provinces.

Anti-government demonstrations began two weeks ago, organized by the country's largest Indigenous group, in response to the removal of a fuel subsidy that raised diesel prices from \$1.80 to \$2.80 per gallon.

"Diesel goes up, everything goes up," and "Out with Noboa" were among the slogans shouted by dozens of protesters at a popular park in the capital, where pro-government support-



People traverse roadblocks placed by demonstrators protesting the elimination of the diesel subsidy by President Daniel Noboa's, government in Cayambe, Ecuador, Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025.

Associated Press

ers also gathered in higher numbers. No incidents were reported.

Late Saturday, the govern-

ment declared a state of emergency starting Sunday at midnight in 10 provinces, citing "serious internal un-

rest." The provinces are areas with large Indigenous populations where protests have been concentrated. The order restricts freedom of assembly but does not prohibit peaceful demonstrations.

A violent clash between police and Indigenous protesters a week ago left one civilian dead and several injured. Nearly 100 people were detained, and some military personnel were briefly held before being released.

On Sunday, protesters demanded the release of detainees, including 13 people accused by prosecutors of terrorism. Pro-government activities included

an art fair in El Arbolito Park attended by ministers and other officials, all under the protection of police and military forces.

Minister of Government Zaida Rovira told reporters that Ecuador "has grown tired of violence." Edgar Lama, president of the Social Security Board, said, "There is nothing to discuss with a minority that seeks to impose its will through violence."

Noboa has said he will not reverse the fuel subsidy cut. "Those who choose violence will face the law. Those who act like criminals will be treated as criminals," the president said Sunday on X. □



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## Discover the New Menu at CAYA House: A Bold Take on Caribbean Flavors

(Oranjestad)—CAYA House Restaurant in Aruba invites you to experience a captivating new chapter in Latin-Caribbean dining with the launch of its latest menu items. Set in a beautifully restored traditional Cunu-cu house and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, CAYA offers an atmosphere where island heritage and modern culinary artistry come together in perfect harmony.

Rooted in the rich culinary traditions of the Caribbean—including influences from Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Mexico, Costa Rica, Colombia, Panama, Nicaragua, and Venezuela—CAYA is a celebration of flavor, warmth, and culture.

The new menu is a vibrant tribute to that heritage. Each dish is carefully curated to reflect the spirit of the islands, with a contemporary twist that elevates every bite.

Start with the Celery Root Milanese, a beautifully breaded and fried celery root served with a fragrant Caribbean curry sauce, mango and papaya relish, butter bean and potato curry, and sautéed spinach. It's hearty, elegant, and deeply satisfying.

Seafood enthusiasts will savor the Corvina, pan-fried and glazed in pineapple hoisin, accompanied by cucumber and pineapple salsa, banana beurre blanc, and plantain fried rice—a delicate balance of tropical sweetness and savory depth.

The Creole Fish captures the soul of the Caribbean with snapper pan-fried and layered with Creole sauce, avocado salad, tostones, pickled onions, and rice and peas. It's a dish rooted in tradition and rich in flavor.

For something adventurous, the Beef Tataki Chino Latino offers a striking fusion of cultures, combining



marinated tenderloin with potato and beet salad, piccalilli mayo, fried onion, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, avocado, and a zesty Maggi seasoning vinaigrette.

And for those who crave bold spice and complexity, the Jerked Tuna delivers with a jerk crust, passionfruit leche de tigre, kefir lime oil, annatto oil, aji picante, orange crème, cilantro, red

onion, and crispy baby calamari—an unforgettable dish that pushes the boundaries of traditional island fare.

At CAYA, every meal is an experience—a celebration of life, flavor, and connection. Whether you're planning an intimate dinner or a lively gathering, CAYA promises an evening full of memorable moments.

Reserve your table now



and taste the new flavors of CAYA. Call +297-699 39 82 to book.

## Birds of Aruba: Soaring through the blue skies

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's nature is very diverse and is home to several beautiful and majestic wildlife. Among these is the bright Trupial, whose angelic voice is always heard with the rising sun; the cuddly parakeet, always in company of another, and the majestic Warawara, a mighty bird that can be seen soaring in the clear blue skies.

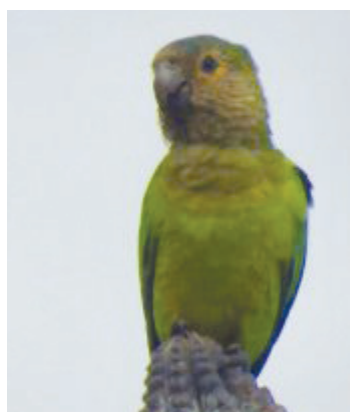
### Trupial

Icterus icterus, or known locally as the Venezuelan or Orange Troupial, is a striking songbird whose bright orange feathers can be spotted from a far distance. Known to be the first bird

to sing at the first sign of sunrise, this beloved songbird likes to wake up with a tune. But don't let their angelic songs fool you; the Trupial can be a bit aggressive towards any threat, protective over their nesting spots—nesting spots they most likely stole from other birds. Trupials can be seen regularly, often in trees or on top of a cactus.

### Prikichi (parakeet)

The Brown-throated Prikichi (Aratinga pertinax) became the national bird of Aruba back in 2015, at the request of Aruba Birdlife Conservation. The bright green, adorable parakeet usually flies in flock of 30

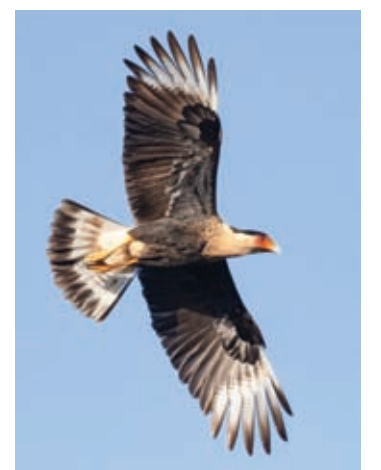


or more, but its population has been declining since the 2010s. Prikichis are a shier breed than the trupial, often flying away at the sign of any threat. They use termite nests for breeding spots and feed mostly on seeds from the Kwihi tree, Divi Divi tree and fruits.

### Warawara

The Warawara or Caracara is one of the biggest birds found in the Aruban mondi. At a height of 41 to 60 cm, their wingspan can measure up to 125 cm. Known as the "garbage man", this bird of prey mostly feeds on dead animals. Its coat is dark brown, with a cream-colored neck, orange face, thick beak and long legs. The Warawara prefers to build its nest in the middle of tall cacti and produces a rattling, screaming sound, throwing its head back onto its back while calling.

While these birds are a beautiful sight to behold, it is very important to keep



your distance and respect their habitats. This is how we protect our wildlife. By admiring the beauty of Aruba in a safe and respectful manner, we can do our part in protecting our sacred nature.



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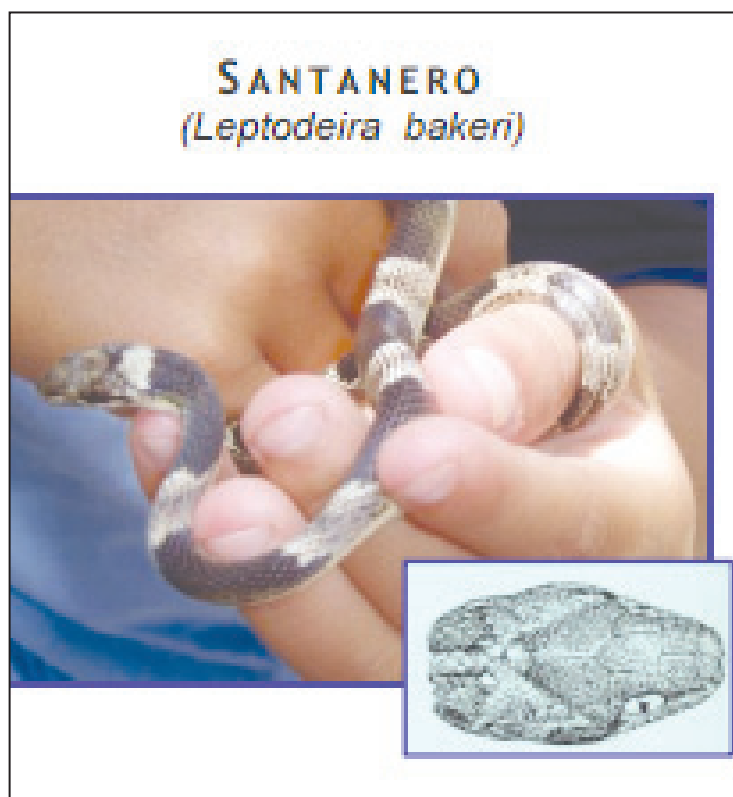
## Snakes of Aruba

Arikok National Park is home to various unique plant and animal species such as Aruba's rare endemic rattlesnake *Crotalus unicolor*. This rattlesnake is locally known as the 'Cascabel'. But Aruba has two more snake species living on the island: the Santanero and the Boa.

### Cascabel (*Crotalus unicolor*)

The small Cascabel or Aruba Island Rattlesnake averages 70 cm in length. The body color is often uniform gray or light brown. There may be a faint pattern of diamond shaped markings on the back. This pattern is most noticeable on younger snakes. The most distinctive feature of this snake is the rattle at the end of its tail which makes a buzzing sound when the snake is alarmed. Cascabels are shy and not aggressive, but their venom can be dangerous to humans. It is best to leave this snake alone. Do not attempt to catch or kill it.

Cascabels hunt by waiting under bushes and fruiting trees to catch passing lizards, mice, rats, small rabbits, and an occasional bird. This is often considered to be one of the rarest rattlesnakes in the world. The range of the Cascabel is restricted to the rugged and mountainous areas of the island mostly within Arikok National Park. The Arikok National Park was designated in the early 1980s to include most of the rattlesnake's population, providing a safe refuge in which the snake can be protected and monitored. The government has also implemented outreach and education initiatives to change local perception of the snake and highlight its ecological and eco-



nomic importance – it is now being promoted as a national symbol.

Arikok's partnership with the Toledo zoo has safeguarded the rattlesnake ex-situ and led to a number of research projects collecting critical data on the Cascabel's abundance, life history and habitat requirement to help guide future conservation efforts.

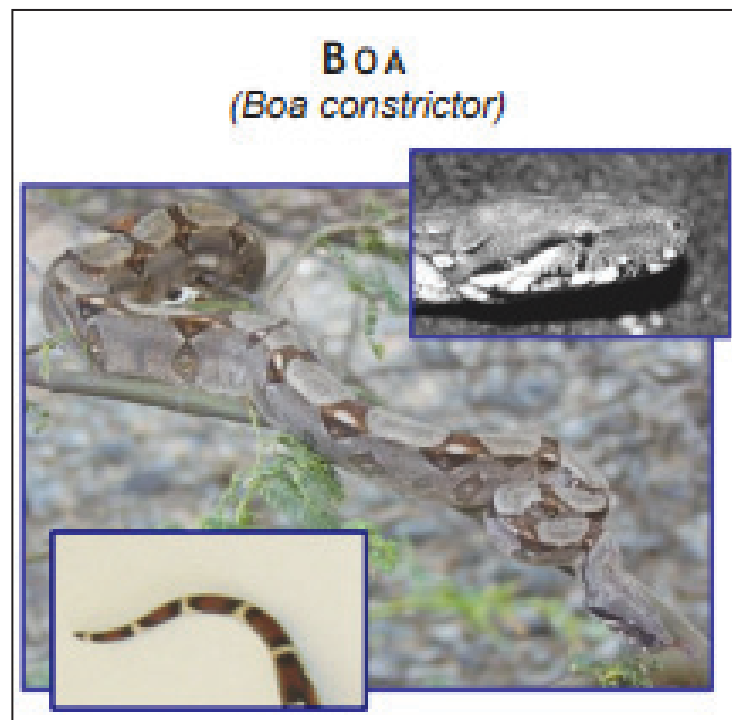
### Santanero

The slender Santanero or Aruban Cat-eyed Snake is typically less than 50 cm long. This snake is recognizable by the large scales on the top of its head and by its pattern of dark brown bands alternating with light brown bands. The belly is plain white or cream colored without any markings. This snake is shy and not aggressive. However, it has enlarged teeth at the back of its mouth and mild venom which is not dangerous to humans. However, the venom can paralyze small lizards and frogs. Santaneros are most active at night when they search for food.

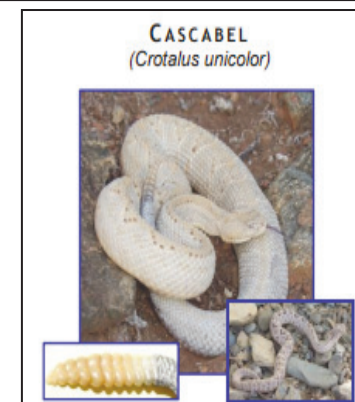
During the day, they hide under rocks or leaves. They frequently climb trees and cactus. Santaneros eat toads, frogs, insects, and lizards. You may find Santaneros near dams during periods of rainy weather or crossing roads at night. This snake is found island wide. A Santanero in your garden will keep away the unwanted insects. If you encounter a Santanero around your garden, please do not harm this species.

### Boa (*Boa constrictor*)

Boas are Aruba's largest snakes. The longest Boa found on the island was slightly less than 3 m. New-born Boas average 35 cm. Boas are not venomous. The most distinctive feature of a Boa is its pattern of dark brown and tan blotches which become red toward the tail. The belly is white or cream colored with numerous black spots. Boas are excellent climbers and may be found in trees and cactus. Boas also hide in the leaves under bushes waiting to catch prey that pass. Boas catch



their prey with their teeth and then constrict it in their coils. The Boa's diet consists of birds, lizards, rats, mice, and rabbits. Large Boas have been known to eat small goats and chickens. When threatened, Boas will hiss loudly. Boas are a non-native species. The first Boas were reported on the island in 1999. Since that time they have been found across the entire island in all



types of habitats. Source: National Park Aruba.





infini  
by Urvin Croes

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www.infiniaruba.com    +297 699 3982  
J.E. Irausquin Blvd    @ reservations@infiniaruba.com



## Infini Named One of the 10 Best Restaurants in Aruba by Caribbean Journal

In a feature by Caribbean Journal, Infini has earned a coveted spot on the publication's list of the "10 Best Restaurants in Aruba for 2025." Known for spotlighting the finest in Caribbean travel and dining, Caribbean Journal praised Infini as a standout for its immersive, high-end culinary experience.

"Dining at Infini is an intimate encounter with culinary precision — just a few seats, one open kitchen, and a front-row view of Chef Urvin Croes in action," the article states. "For those seeking something rare and immersive in Aruba's dining scene, Infini delivers something unforgettable."

Located inside the exclusive Blue Residences, Infini is not your typical fine-dining venue. With their open-concept kitchen, the restaurant invites guests to become part of the culinary journey. Each course—meticulously prepared by Chef Urvin Croes and his team—



blends modern techniques with the bold, authentic spirit of the Caribbean.

Chef Urvin, celebrated for his innovative approach to island cuisine and crowned Iron Chef Aruba, has built Infini into a space where dining becomes storytelling. Every detail—from plating and pacing to per-

sonal engagement with the chef—is designed to elevate food into an experience.

With this recognition from Caribbean Journal, Infini continues to raise the bar for Aruba's culinary scene, offering something truly unique for food enthusiasts looking to go beyond traditional dining.



## Adriaan Laclé: One of Aruba's richest men in the twentieth century

(Oranjestad)—The name Adriaan Laclé may ring a bell to locals as one of the bigger roads on the island, but about a century ago, Adriaan Laclé was a rich businessman, well-known for his generosity, wealth, and taste.

Adriaan was born in 1866 and was the eldest of six children. Not much is known about his childhood upbringing or any of his earlier business ordeals, but during his heyday he often helped people get loans, was a well-established trader, and owned several plots of land. In fact,



he commissioned the construction of the famous La Quinta Carmen manor—now a restaurant. Though he himself never lived in the beautiful manor, his

own house also reflected his success and good taste. Today his house still stands in good condition and can be found in the back streets of main street Oranjestad.

Regarding his personal life, it has been said that he was married twice during his lifetime. He had his first daughter during his first marriage but lost his wife soon after her birth. During his second marriage, he fathered 16 children. However, it has been said that only 11 of those 17 made it past 18 years of age. Perhaps two of his most well-known daughters are

Maria Monica Laclé and Maria Veneranda Laclé, who went on to marry successful brothers Eloy Arends and Maximilian Arends, respectively. Their houses are still standing; Eloy and Maria Monica's mansion functions as a townhall, used to host civil marriages,

while Maximilian and Maria Veneranda's house stands on the opposite side of the road to them—though currently under renovation after years left in ruin.

Source: De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba) by Evert Bongers.





## Grill, Chill, and Mix This Way!

### An Exclusive BBQ Experience on Renaissance Private Island

ORANJESTAD — Renaissance Wind Creek Aruba Resort is proud to announce Grill, Chill, and Mix This Way!, an exclusive BBQ event taking place on Saturday, October 11, 2025, to kick off the Autentico Aruba Culinary Festival.

The Autentico Aruba Culinary Festival isn't just a food event — it's a vibrant celebration of Aruba's soul. From October 11–19, 2025, the island's rich heritage, global influences, and fearless flavors come together in a feast that is as meaningful as it is mouthwatering. The festival will feature top chefs, diverse dining experiences, and unique cultural showcases across the island.

As the official opening event, Grill, Chill, and Mix This Way! sets the tone with a one-of-a-kind BBQ feast crafted by celebrity chefs Kevin Bludso and Delilah Winder on the breathtaking Renaissance Private Island. Guests will enjoy barefoot elegance, ocean breezes, and an evening designed to capture the very essence of culinary celebration in Aruba.

#### Meet the Celebrity Chefs

Kevin Bludso – A world-famous pitmaster and TV personality, Kevin Bludso is the founder of Bludso's BBQ in Los Angeles, an internationally acclaimed brand. Known for bold flavors and authentic Texas-style bar-



becue, he has been featured on Bar Rescue and Netflix's American Barbecue Showdown. His dedication to tradition and soulful cooking has earned him global recognition.

Delilah Winder – An award-winning chef, cookbook author, and educator, Delilah Winder is celebrated for her soulful, heartfelt approach to cuisine. She has appeared on Food Network and Top Chef Masters, and her cookbook highlights her ability to blend classic comfort food with refined culinary artistry. Her passion for storytelling through food makes her the perfect ambassador for this festival.

#### Event Highlights

Round-trip boat transportation to and from Renaissance Private Island;

Unlimited BBQ dishes prepared live by the celebrity chefs, paired with island-inspired accompaniments; A signature welcome cocktail upon arrival; Live entertainment by Joyride and DJ Silvano under the stars, enhancing the evening with rhythm and island vibes; An unforgettable setting that combines Aruba's natural beauty with world-class cuisine.

#### BBQ Feast

Step into a flavor-packed BBQ experience where smoky tradition meets international flair. Tandoor Station; Bold Indian-inspired spices fire up the grill with street-style creations: Chicken Tikka Taco – raita, fresh vegetables, papadum crisp; Tandoor Butter Chicken



Wings – makani foam, fresh cream, fried onions, lentil crisp; Kevin's Smoker Classics.

True BBQ comfort, showcasing pitmaster Kevin Bludso's signature style: Smoked BBQ Pork Ribs (3 bones) – tropical slaw, homemade bourbon sauce; Brisket Slider – slow-smoked brisket on a brioche bun with caramelized onion, pickle, and sea salt chips.

#### Delilah's Creations

Soulful, elevated comfort food from chef Delilah Winder: World-Famous 7-Cheese Mac n' Cheese – creamy, decadent, and unforgettable; Smoked Oxtail – served with sweet potato foam and chimichurri;

This isn't just BBQ — it's a culinary journey across cultures, served hot, smoky, and straight from the fire.

#### Event Details

Date: Saturday, October 11, 2025  
Time: 7 PM – 11 PM  
Location: Renaissance Private Island  
Admission: 18+  
Ticket Price: \$75 (including 17% service charge)

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime chance to Grill, Chill, and Mix This Way while celebrating the kick-off of a festival that shines a spotlight on Aruba's flavors, heritage, and culinary creativity.

Tickets available now at [renarubaevents.com](http://renarubaevents.com)  
More info on the Autentico Aruba Culinary Festival: [autenticofestival.com](http://autenticofestival.com)

## Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's City Center Street Car – or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" – is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular

battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the downtown area with a picture perfect scenery of the is-

land's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trade-

mark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port

at 5:00 pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center – it is free for all!





## Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous settlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried

to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Some time after trying to hitchhike, the man saw a car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to



his horror, he noticed that there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might

drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.

Arriving at a nearby bar, he

ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Some time later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!"

French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric story-telling.

Source: [visitaruba.com](http://visitaruba.com)

## The Aruban way of life; Creating community with Cas di Torto

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban people understand that a happy life is spent in great ambience with your loved ones. Passed down from one generation to the other, building community has been a key aspect in forging our traditions and customs. The Cas di Torto (mud house) played a big role in cultivating community, bridging families together and forming close bonds with your neighbors—something we highly value today.

### Cas di Torto: History and construction

The origin of the Cas di Torto is said to date back to the early 19th century in the Paraguaná Peninsula in Venezuela. Refugees who sought sanctuary on Aruba introduced this building method to the island.

The uprights of the walls were made with sturdy and straight wayaca or kwihi wood, or from thin mangrove struts. Then, the wattle walls were weaved in using branches and twigs from the warero and sisal plant, daubed with a mixture of grass and mud. Finally, the walls got a coat of white plaster to seal ev-



everything in. For roofing, corn stalks, palm fronds and straws were used, allowing air to flow freely through the house. This method of roofing was known throughout the ABC islands (Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire), but the use of cornstalks in Aruba eventually got replaced with use

of mud and white plaster for the roofs. The white plaster all around made the houses look like cake, hence the name "Torto" (Spanish for "cake").

### Building community

Building Torto houses was often a community effort. Young couples who were



about to get married had to have their house built before they could tie the knot and start their own family. This is where the help of the community comes into play.

Neighbors, extended family and friends would all help in the construction of a Torto House. And everyone had a role: The men oversaw the building of the house, and the women were tasked with collecting wood and straws, cooking and taking care of the little ones.

The couple's family were primarily responsible for feeding everyone who helped build the house. Before construction, someone usually had the task to prepare the meal; going fishing or slaughter farm animals like goats, chicken or sheep. Even the older kids

had their tasks; the older children of the family usually helped with collecting water and mixing the mud.

The average duration of constructing a Cas di Torto was 4 months.

At the end of a long day of work, everyone would gather around and enjoy a feast of hearty food. This type of help from friends and family became a tradition and was called "paga lomba": You help me today; I'll help you tomorrow. Nowadays, traditional Cas di Torto are rare, especially those that are still inhabited. Houses that do exist probably date back more than a century.

Picture credits: Aruba National Library (BNA) and the Monumentbureau archive on [Coleccion.aw](http://Coleccion.aw)





**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

45 On the house  
1 San Juan Hill setting

5 Some tires

11 Burden

12 "Serpico" star

13 Make printing plates

14 Reverberated

15 Grumpy friend

16 Boat's trail

17 Love, in Lombardy

19 Manx, for one

22 Sheets and such

24 Mary's TV pal

26 Lofly poems

27 Sharif of "Dr. Zhivago"

28 Plain to see

30 List separator

31 That lass

32 Heartburn

34 Old Italian currency

35 Collar

38 Spanish fleet

41 Writer Buchanan

42 Ways to go

43 Eye part

44 Detroit team

**DOWN**

1 Like some dorms

2 "Do — others ..."

3 Tampa Bay player

4 Sturdy wood

5 Asparagus unit

6 Green Bay player

7 Massage target

8 Carnival city

9 Compass dir.

10 Lawn makeup

16 Was victorious

18 Butte's kin

19 Washing-ton player

20 Genesis name

21 Scarlett's home

22 Ness, for one

23 Not busy

25 Owl call

29 Las Vegas player

30 Spying org.

33 Lawn makeup

34 Overdue

36 Writer Rice

37 Acid's opposite

38 Museum focus

39 King of France

40 Cocoa serving

41 Pole worker

B A B E C A S E S  
A R E A S E L I T E  
S E A R C H L I G H T  
T N T A I L M A T  
E A T I N G B A N E  
S Y N T H U S E R  
T Y L E R  
G A L E I M P E L  
O R A L G A S M E N  
D E B P H I I C I  
S T R E E T L I G H T  
O H A R A S O R E R  
N A T A L N E R O

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21  
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-11 CRYPTOQUOTE

A G R C R K D H Z V H M D Z K W G A

K N F E Z M V R ' C R P C H O R

R E F Q W G A F D R R K A . K N F E Z M

V R ' C R P C H O R R E F Q W G A F P R

K A . — H L H E B H W F C L H E

Cryptoquote: THE FIRST CONDITION OF UNDERSTANDING A FOREIGN COUNTRY IS TO SMELL IT. — RUDYARD KIPLING

**Cruise ship Schedule: Oct. 01 - 12 2025**

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
WED	01	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SUN	05	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	07	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL VISTA	07.00 13.00	16.00 23.00	B C	1 1
WED	08	GRAND PRINCESS RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	08.00 08.00 06.00	18.00 23.00 ****	B C E	1 1 1
THU	09	SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	18.00	C	1
SUN	12	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-

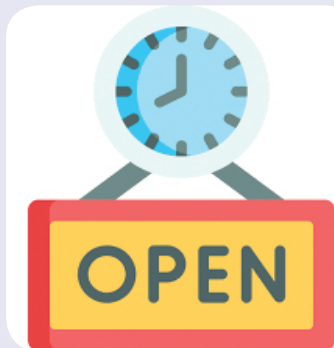
**Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba**

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



**Safety**

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



**Supermarket hours**

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



**Electrical power**

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

**SUDOKU**

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

**King Classic Sudoku**

2 7 9 8  
9 1 6 8 3  
4 5 6 1 2  
5 2 8  
6 7 2  
4 3 9  
8 7 1 2 4 6  
1 2 9 6 8 7  
3 4 1

Difficulty: ★

10/6

**Answer to previous puzzle**

1 8 5 2 4 6 3 9 7  
6 9 3 7 1 8 5 4 2  
7 2 4 5 3 9 1 8 6  
2 5 8 1 7 3 4 6 9  
3 1 6 9 2 4 8 7 5  
9 4 7 6 8 5 2 3 1  
5 3 9 4 6 1 7 2 8  
4 7 1 8 9 2 6 5 3  
8 6 2 3 5 7 9 1 4

Difficulty: ★★★★★

10/5



# How to grow a giant pumpkin, with help from science

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN  
and SHELBY LUM

AP Science Writer  
WAPPINGERS FALLS, N.Y.  
(AP) — The pumpkin in Tony Scott's backyard weighs almost as much as a small car.

He's been tending to it for months, feeding it fertilizer and covering it with a blanket at night to keep it at a stable temperature. A roll of measuring tape wrapped around the pumpkin gives him a rough estimate of its size.

"I've never seen anything grow this fast," said Scott, a semiconductor engineer from upstate New York.

Every year, growers like Scott push their pumpkins to the limit. They compete in annual weigh-offs with colossal fruits that are well over 2,000 pounds (900 kilograms). Scott's pumpkin took third place this year, coming in at 1,931 pounds (876 kilograms). Pumpkins aren't the only crops that can get giant. Other members of the gourd family like squashes, cucumbers and watermelons are capable of a similar feat. But the orange behemoths are especially massive and have earned a place of honor at fall festivals and Halloween fairs.

How to grow a giant pumpkin

A giant pumpkin starts off as the perfect seed. Growers choose seeds that have yielded large pumpkins in the past or test new ones. Scott and many other growers rely on the tried-and-true Atlantic Giant pumpkin seeds.

After that, it comes down to the right combination of water, nutrients and care. Giant pumpkins can guzzle hundreds of gallons of water in a day and make their own food from sunlight just like regular-sized plants do. Their internal plumbing system is more robust, allowing them to drink up sugary water and nutrients faster. As the leafy patch begins to expand, growers remove smaller pumpkins so all the water and nutrients funnel into a single fruit.

"That helps make it extra



Tony Scott stands with the pumpkin he grew in his Wappingers Falls, N.Y., backyard on Sept. 17, 2025.

Associated Press

big in a way that you might not see in the wild," said Aleca Borsuk, a plant scientist at the New York Botanical Garden.

Because of gravity, giant pumpkins grow wide but not tall. They often resemble lopsided, lumpy pancakes. Scott's pumpkin is also lighter in color because he covers it with a tarp during the day, protecting it from sunlight which can ripen and harden the skin. He waters it using an overhead sprinkler system. Can giant pumpkins grow forever?

"The answer is no," Borsuk said. No matter how big a pumpkin gets, it'll eventually mature and its natural aging cycle will kick in.

Scott has nurtured giant pumpkins for eight years. It still blows his mind watching them inflate, putting on around 40 pounds to 50 pounds (18 kilograms to 23 kilograms) a day. He sets up reflective panels and even a fake wolf cutout to ward off hungry deer and other intruders looking for an orange-colored snack. Woodchucks have nibbled on the pumpkin's vines in previous years.

After the all-important weighing competition, Scott shows off the giant pumpkin at various themed events and drives it around on a trailer. Eventually, he donates it to be displayed or carved.

On the way to events, he

often gets stopped by people who ask what he's got in the back.

"The first question they ask is, 'Is it real?'" Scott said. "Where would you buy a fake pumpkin this big?"



## Editor

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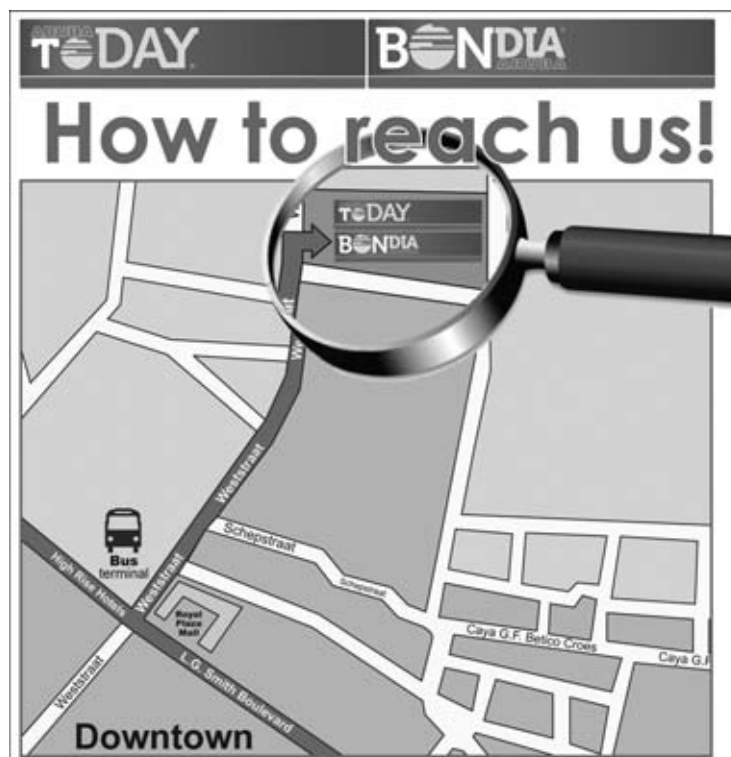
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#### Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

#### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
Tel. 524 8833

### PHARMACY ON DUTY

#### Oranjestad:

Eagle: Tel. 587 9011

#### San Nicolas:

Centro Medico: Tel. 584 5794

### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850  
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002  
Urgent Care 586 0448  
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic  
+297 588 0539

### EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS



# Jordan Addison's late touchdown gives Vikings 21-17 win over Browns in London

By **KEN MAGUIRE**

AP Sports Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — Jordan Addison came up big when his teammates needed him the most.

The Minnesota Vikings wide receiver was benched for the first quarter of Sunday's game against the Cleveland Browns for missing a team walk-through this past week.

But he scored the game-winning touchdown in Minnesota's 21-17 victory over Cleveland at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on Sunday.

"He spoke with the team to let them know that whenever I gave him the opportunity to go in the game, they could count on him," coach Kevin O'Connell said.

Addison caught a 12-yard touchdown pass from Carson Wentz with 25 seconds left to give the Vikings (3-2) a much-needed win on their historic international road trip, which started with a 24-21 loss to the Steelers in Dublin.

"Having been in Europe for two weeks, pretty much, and losing last week in Ireland, a W was a must," receiver Justin Jefferson said. "We couldn't go home on that plane 0-2."

Wentz was 9 for 9 on the 10-play winning drive that started on the Minnesota



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Carson Wentz (11) is tackled during the second half of the NFL game between Minnesota Vikings and Cleveland Browns at the Tottenham Hotspur stadium in London, Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025.

Associated Press

20-yard line.

The Vikings improved to 5-0 all time in London.

Cleveland's loss also spoiled Dillon Gabriel's first NFL start, as the Browns rookie put his team (1-4) in position to win by throwing two touchdown passes. Fellow rookie Quinshon Judkins rushed for 110 yards on 23 carries.

Wentz shook off a shoulder injury that briefly sent him to the locker room and led two scoring drives in the second half after the Vikings trailed 10-7 at half-

time. The veteran finished 25 of 34 for 236 yards and the touchdown pass.

Addison had five receptions for 41 yards to complement Jefferson's big game: 123 yards on seven receptions.

Addison returned last week after serving a three-game suspension for violating the league's personal conduct policy for a drunken driving case last year.

Jordan Mason's 3-yard touchdown run gave the Vikings a 14-10 lead, capping eight-play, 71-yard

drive in the third quarter.

Gabriel responded with a 13-play, 69-yard drive and a 9-yard touchdown pass to tight end David Njoku on third-and-goal, for a 17-14 Browns lead. Njoku hurdled linebacker Ivan Pace Jr. on an earlier reception. He finished with six receptions for 67 yards.

Trying to tie the game at 17, Vikings kicker Will Reichard had his first miss of the season when he sent a 51-yard attempt wide right early in the fourth quarter.

Gabriel, who was selected

as the starter this week over veteran Joe Flacco, completed 19 of 33 passes for 190 yards and two touchdowns.

"We need to do a better job closing out. That's an offensive thing, defense, special teams, coaches, players, you name it," Browns coach Kevin Stefanski said. Trick play

The Vikings used some trickery to pull even at 7-7.

Running back Cam Akers took a direct snap, tucked the ball to run right before passing to a wide-open Josh Oliver — typically a blocking tight end — for a 32-yard touchdown reception. It was the first career NFL pass attempt for Akers, who was a high school quarterback.

Mason's fumble led to seven points for the Browns. Cleveland's Alex Wright punched the ball out and the Browns recovered it on the Minnesota 47.

Judkins then rumbled right for 32 yards and then 9 more on another carry. On second-and-goal from the 1, Gabriel faked a handoff to Judkins and threw left to fellow rookie Harold Fannin Jr.

O'Connell said Addison missing a walk-through is "in not alignment with our standards." □

# Young's record 21-point quarter propels Aces to 91-78 win over Mercury and 2-0 WNBA Finals lead

By **MARK ANDERSON**

AP Sports Writer

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Jackie Young set a WNBA Finals record with 21 points in the third quarter, finishing with 32 to carry the Las Vegas Aces to a 91-78 victory over the Phoenix Mercury on Sunday for a 2-0 lead.

Game 3 is Wednesday in Phoenix, where the Aces hope to put a stranglehold on the series as they chase their third title in four years. The Mercury have the tall task of needing to win four of five games to capture their fourth championship, which would tie the WNBA record.



Las Vegas Aces guard Jackie Young (0) celebrates after making a 3-point shot during the second half in Game 2 of the WNBA basketball finals against the Phoenix Mercury, Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Young, who tied a career fell just short of the league playoff high in total points, record of 22 points for any

postseason quarter. Three players have accomplished that, most recently in 2021 when Young's teammate, Jewell Loyd, hit that number for Seattle against the Mercury.

A'ja Wilson scored 20 of her 28 points in the first half and had 14 rebounds. Chelsea Gray finished with 10 points and 10 assists.

Kahleah Copper led the Mercury with 23 points, Satou Sabally scored 22 and Alyssa Thomas had 10 while coping with foul trouble much of the game. Like in Game 1 when they began with a 10-2 lead, the Mercury came out strong,

scoring the first seven points. Phoenix wound up with 27 points in the first quarter, but then the Aces held the Mercury to a combined 24 points over the following two periods.

By that point, the Aces had taken charge, leading 76-51 going into the fourth and eventually going up by as much as 22 points.

Any team facing Aces coach Becky Hammon in a Game 2 in Las Vegas is asking for trouble. She ran her record to 9-0 with this victory, the average margin being more than 17 points. □



# Brewers' Chourio tests hamstring during workout, his status for Game 2 of NLDS vs Cubs is uncertain

By STEVE MEGARGEE

AP Sports Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee Brewers outfielder Jackson Chourio's status for Game 2 of the NL Division Series against the Chicago Cubs remained uncertain Sunday, a day after he underwent an MRI on his right hamstring.

"I know that we're going to test some things today," Brewers manager Pat Murphy said. "He's going to be out there today. I don't know that he'll do much, but the MRI came back and it's inconclusive. And it's not a serious hamstring strain, but it's not necessarily something that won't limit him."

Game 2 of the best-of-five series is Monday night. The Cubs plan to start left-hander Shota Imanaga (9-8, 3.73 ERA in regular season), while the Brewers will use lefty Aaron Ashby (5-2, 2.16) as an opener.

Chourio went 3 for 3 with three RBIs in the first two innings of the Brewers' 9-3 Game 1 victory Saturday before leaving in the second inning with tightness in his right hamstring. He became the first player ever to have three hits in the first two innings of a playoff game.

The 21-year-old hurt his hamstring while running to first on an infield single. Chourio had missed a month of the regular season because of a strain to the same hamstring.

"We're going to kind of see how he feels," Murphy said. "He's going to go through some testing, and if he feels anything, we're going to shut it down."

Chourio had expressed confidence after Saturday's game that the issue wasn't serious. But he made similar comments after straining his hamstring on July 29 and then didn't play again until Aug. 30.

"I feel good right now," Chourio said through an interpreter after Saturday's game. "Compared to the last time that this happened, I feel like I'm in a very good position." The Brewers certainly are in a



Milwaukee Brewers' Jackson Chourio hits an RBI single during the second inning of Game 1 of baseball's National League Division Series against the Chicago Cubs Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

good position after winning the opener. Ashby threw 16 pitches in that game while working 1 1/3 innings of scoreless relief. He will be back on the

mound Monday at the start of the game. Ashby said the different role doesn't really change his approach.

"Like all of the outings leading up throughout the years, I guess. It's kind of just been get outs," said Ashby, who started in only one of his 43 regular-season appearances. "Whether that's in the first inning or the fourth, fifth, seventh, whenever it is. I think they've made it clear that your job is just to get outs, and then when they ask you to stop getting outs, that's when you stop. Going into tomorrow, it'll be kind of the same situation. Just prep the same." Murphy said Sunday he didn't know who would follow Ashby. □



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## Create precious memories in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort; Water's Edge Restaurant offers the complete vacation experience!

(Palm Beach) – Consider your family dinner plans taken care of at Water's Edge. Located in the heart of the Costa Linda Beach Resort and on the shores of the world-famous Eagle Beach in Aruba, Water's Edge offers an elegant yet cozy dining experience that the entire family can enjoy. Whether you're craving Steak, Seafood, International Dishes or a bit of the Caribbean flare, Water's Edge caters to all your culinary needs, all the while offering you a cozy and flexible service with a spectacular view of Aruba's top-rated sandy beaches.

Water's Edge's new menu has a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts all on one menu specially made just for you. From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. Flexible and professional service allows you to enjoy your meal in the cool and elegant indoor dining area, on the sandy, breezy beaches of Eagle Beach or by the open bar outside. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, Water's Edge has it



all for you, any time of the day.

Start your day off with a hearty breakfast. Water's Edge offers a variety of delicious breakfast items, including their house specialties of Avocado Toast, Chicken & Waffles made with homemade Belgium waffles and topped with a gorgeous hot honey sauce. If you want something on the sweeter side, try their Crème Brûlée French Toast, served with an in-house mascarpone whip cream and topped with fresh fruit and powdered sugar. Or maybe the Traditional American Breakfast is more to your liking, complete with any kind of serving of eggs, bacon, sausage and toast, served with a side of hash browns.

For lunch, keep it easy with their handheld items like their Bacon and Cheddar Burger, Mediterranean Quesadillas or Street Tacos. Want a taste of the Caribbean? Try the Grouper Reuben; A local twist to the traditional Reuben, complete with rye bread, in-house 1000 island dressing, sauerkraut and grilled grouper, served with a side of Cajun Fries.

Dinner plans are set with Water's Edge mouthwatering dinner menu. Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the delectable Coconut Shrimp. You can also opt for their Water's Edge House Wedge Salad or freshly made Shrimp Louie Salad, made with poached shrimp, tossed in Louie dressing, fresh avocados and vine ripe tomatoes. For something a bit heartier, try their classic French Onion Soup, Lobster Bisque or Crab and Corn Chowder.

Follow your appetizers with your choice of Seafood, Chicken or Pasta dishes. Enjoy their succulent Shrimp and Clam Sauce with Angel Hair Pasta, a nice plate of Chicken Francese or explore the Water's Edge Fish Market—your pick of Mahi Mahi, Snapper, Grouper or Salmon, served with homemade mashed potatoes, sauce of choice and fresh herbs and vegetables.

Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of Steak, including a Petite Filet, French Rack of Lambs or their famous 14oz pan-seared Pork finished with a fantastic

apple glaze. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi-glace, mushroom sauce, chimichurri or bacon blue cheese butter. Enjoy it with a side of fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, and four different types of fries. Combine your meal with your personal choice of international and exclusive wines.

Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled Kids Menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests.

End the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness. Choose from a variety of dessert options, including a piece of coconut flan, NY cheesecake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

### Live entertainment

For seven nights a week, there is live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, every night is a relaxing experience under the stars, where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Water's Edge prides itself on bringing elegance and comfort to your dining experience, offering personalized service fit for everybody's needs.

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106 or + 297 586 9494 (direct), or reserve your table online at [reservations@watersedgearuba.com](mailto:reservations@watersedgearuba.com). For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website [watersedgearuba.com](http://watersedgearuba.com)

