



Aruba's ONLY English Vacation Newspaper

Aruba: the legend behind its name



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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: RICKY THOMAS GUITAR 6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.
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Should we fear an AI bubble bust? Should we fear an AI bubble bust?

Washington, United States
Recent swings in tech stocks are reviving fears of an AI bubble -- and some experts warn that if it pops, the fallout could be bigger than anything Wall Street has ever seen.

- Bubble or no bubble? -

"There are many indications that we are in a bubble," said Itay Goldstein, a finance professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

"It seems likely that there is overpricing," he added. The numbers back him up. The five biggest companies on Wall Street -- all tech giants -- are worth a combined \$18 trillion, almost the size of China's entire



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange during morning trading on June 26, 2026 in New York City.

economy.

Big tech has been pouring

money into AI and now investors are getting nervous: will any of it actually pay off?

Six months ago, these same companies were buying back their own shares -- a move that signals excess cash and drives up the stock price.

Now they're taking on debt to fund their AI buildout in a significant reversal.

"The amount of debt that's being taken on is still relatively modest," said Brent Fredberg, director of investments at Brandes Investment Partners.

But a rise in interest rates -- recently floated by the US Federal Reserve -- could make that borrowing a lot more painful.

Fresh off its blockbuster IPO, space and AI giant SpaceX announced this week it plans to issue \$25 billion in bonds, raising new doubts about its financial health.

The news sent its share price lower.

Analysts also warn of "circular financing" -- where big tech companies invest in AI startups, which then use that money to buy big tech's own products and services.

"This can lead to problems down the road," Fredberg said, calling out a potential house of cards.

- Early signs of a pop? -

Tech stocks took a beat-

ing this week, reigniting old fears about an AI meltdown.

But not everyone is sounding the alarm. Some say the recent selloff is just a breather after a long run-up and not the start of a real crash.

"The recent volatility reflects a valuation test, profit-taking and flow-driven positioning amid higher rates -- not a fundamental break," wrote Christian Stocker, a director at UniCredit, in a recent note.

Still, some warning signs are hard to ignore.

Oracle -- one of the biggest names in software and cloud computing -- just had its worst week since the dot-com bust of the early 2000s, with shares down 19 percent in five days.

For comparison: during the dot-com crash in August 2001, Oracle fell 20 percent, according to CNBC.

"The market is very skittish," Fredberg said.

- An unprecedented crisis -

If the AI bubble does burst, the consequences could be historic.

"We're talking about the biggest firms that are traded in the financial markets," Goldstein said. "If they are taking a hit, that will certainly be felt across the board."

The dot-com bust more than 25 years ago was bad -- but it mostly wiped out smaller companies. A crash today would directly hit some of the largest corporations on earth.

Still, there is less wild speculation right now than in the late 1990s tech frenzy, Fredberg said.

But a severe tech crash would still send shockwaves through the whole economy -- including for everyday Americans.

A huge portion of the US population holds stocks, either directly or through retirement accounts like 401(k)s. If Wall Street tanks, so would the financial security of millions of people. □

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WEEKLY LIVE SHOWS

8PM

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THU	ACROBATIC PERFORMANCE <i>By RCC Aruba</i>
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World Cup fans get taste of American life — at the mall

East Rutherford, United States

Waving flags and dancing to booming Latin music, the Ecuador football fans were living the World Cup fever. "Let's get this party started!" an announcer declared.

But instead of in the streets or a stadium, the crowd was rocking in one of America's biggest malls -- the unlikely setting for fan events outside New Jersey's MetLife arena.

With nowhere else to gather after trekking to the stadium from New York, fans in the American Dream mall find themselves partying among high-end shops and amusements including a water park, laser tag and roller coasters.

"It's surprising," said Samir Rodriguez, 29, who traveled from Quito, "but it's very American."

"In Latin America we don't do soccer like this. You go directly to the stadium or



Fans watch the 2026 World Cup football tournament Round of 32 match between South Africa and Canada at the FIFA Fan Festival at Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles on June 28, 2026

to the streets," he added, standing next to a display case of watches priced up to \$1,495.

Rodriguez embraced the culture as he sipped a complimentary can of Coca-Cola -- one of

around a dozen he had hoarded to share with his family also attending the game.

The drinks brand also organized a shooting tournament that drew a line of fans vying to score

into three holes cut into a cover over the goal. The prize: A red Coca-Cola themed scarf or baseball cap.

One of the winners was Eduardo Alban's wife, whose top corner effort

was cheered by people watching on ahead of the Ecuador-Germany fixture this week.

"It's pretty exciting to be with all the fans," said 50-year-old Alban, a business administrator who traveled from Quito and wore a yellow Ecuador jersey.

- Burgers and mini golf -

American Dream sprawls three million square feet (280,000 square meters) and dwarfs the MetLife, a 15-minute walk away.

With its proximity to the stadium, the mall is seeking to entice fans with World Cup activities such as watch parties and live music.

In one area, a group of Ecuador fans played a round of mini golf, knocking multicolored balls around a small course based on the Angry Birds video game. □

Trump bashes Washington's likely next mayor, touts golf course project

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump lashed out Sunday at Washington's presumptive next mayor, calling her a communist who would destroy the capital city, even as he touted grandiose building projects including the refurbishment of a golf course. Trump said in the Truth Social post that he would meet with Janeese Lewis George, who prevailed in the Democratic Party mayoral primary Tuesday, all but assuring that she will win November's election in the heavily Democratic city.

But Trump warned that he would not let Washington, which he claimed to have made a "Safe and Prestigious Community" again with the deployment of National Guard troops, "be destroyed by a Communist adherent."

Trump recently has ramped up his use of the word "communist" to describe political foes, including referring to three winners of Democratic primaries



Paint peels away from the bottom of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool, in Washington, DC, on June 23, 2026.

last week in New York City backed by leftist Mayor Zohran Mamdani as "godless communists."

Like Mamdani, Lewis George identifies as a democratic socialist, not a communist.

In a lengthy second post, Trump bragged about

steps he has taken to beautify Washington, including resurfacing the bottom of the Reflecting Pool with an "American flag blue" coating used in swimming pools. But since its installation, the coating has begun to peel off and algae has turned the water green -- a per-

sistent problem over the years.

Repeating past claims, Trump accused "Criminal, Radical Left Vandals" of cutting the bottom and ripping up sections of coating.

He has not provided evidence for his allegations,

but the National Park Service told AFP last week that five individuals had been arrested for vandalism.

Trump said the pool, in front of the Lincoln Memorial, would be drained and repaired after the July 4th holiday marking 250 years of American independence.

The president went on to say he planned to renovate a "dilapidated, worn out, and very dangerous" golf course in Washington called East Potomac Golf Links, located on an island in the Potomac River.

After touring the course Sunday, Trump said "it was determined that, on this fantastic site, with water and unparalleled views of D.C.'s Monuments, we will build one of the Greatest Golf Courses anywhere in the World."

When renovations are complete, East Potomac could host major tournaments including the US Open, the former real estate developer said. □

Malaysian customs foil \$13 million AI chip smuggling bid

Selangor, Malaysia

Malaysian authorities foiled an attempt to smuggle advanced artificial intelligence chips through the country's main airport, customs officials said on Friday, in a case worth nearly \$13 million.

A team raided Kuala Lumpur airport's free trade zone on June 5 and seized 72 servers that were reportedly bound for export to another Asian country, airport customs director Zulkifli Muhammad said.

Malaysia tightened export and transshipment controls on chips from the United States last year, requiring



This undated handout photo released by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department on June 26, 2026 shows a member of personnel inspecting a computer case equipped with AI chips confiscated at a warehouse in Sepang.

a strategic trade permit and advance notification if there is suspicion of misuse or diversion.

The Southeast Asian nation, as a growing data-centre hub, is seeking to prevent itself from being used as a

transit point for restricted chips headed elsewhere.

"The servers were declared as 'computer components' to avoid detection from the authorities," Zulkifli told a news conference.

The syndicate involved used Malaysia as a transit point to ensure there were no restrictions during the export process, The Star daily newspaper said.

Zulkifli declined to say where the servers came from, where the chips were made, or where they were headed, adding that investigations were continuing.

However, he said a local logistics company involved

in the shipment had been asked to assist in the investigation.

The United States has been tightening restrictions on exports of advanced semiconductors through Malaysia and Thailand in an effort to curb their diversion to China.

Malaysia has also launched several probes, including one into how servers containing US-made Nvidia chips destined for Singapore ended up in Malaysia.

Photo Credit: AFP PHOTO / ROYAL MALAYSIAN CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT. □

Thousands ride through Rome as Vespa celebrates 80 years

Rome, Italy

An icon of the Italian way of life, the Vespa was celebrating its 80th birthday on Saturday, as thousands of riders paraded through Rome on the legendary scooters.

A few donned biker jackets despite the scorching heat while others opted for t-shirts, the hum of their machines filling the capital with a colourful buzz.

Organisers said some 25,000 Vespas took part in the parade.

Some rode solo, others in pairs, whizzing through the city centre -- even along streets usually closed to private traffic.

"We brought our Vespa over from the United States. We travelled through Germany, then via Vienna ... and I then rode my Vespa from Austria to Rome, a journey that took two weeks," Texas resident David Baamonde told AFP-TV on Saturday.

"For me, the Vespa is a way of life, a sense of carefree living, enjoying the moment, discovering scenery -- it's a lifestyle," said Italian Andrea Musco. Featuring in cinema classics like "Roman Holiday" and "La Dolce Vita", the Vespa has a long association with the Eternal City.

"The history of the Vespa, which accompanies the birth and rise of Italy after the Second World War, is in a way an iconic symbol of



Vespa enthusiasts from around the world ride during the parade of the Vespa World Days marking the 80th anniversary of the iconic Italian brand of scooters in Rome on June 27, 2026.

our history, of our culture," said Roberto Gualtieri, the Italian capital's mayor.

- 'Vespa is special' -

The Vespa, which means "wasp" in Italian -- a reference to the sound of its engine -- was born on 23 April 1946, when the first patent for its manufacture was filed in Italy by Piaggio. It is still produced at the Pontedera site in Tuscany. It was "the symbol of an Italy emerging from the war and getting back on its feet," Gualtieri said, adding that he was "proud" that Piaggio had decided to organise the anniversary in the city.

"Telling the story of 80 years of the Vespa is, in part, telling the story of how Rome has managed to capture the world's imagination", particularly through cinema, he said.

The celebrations began on Thursday with the inauguration of a "Vespa Village" at the Foro Italico, a sports complex in the north of the capital, and culminated on Saturday through the streets of Rome.

Thousands of "Vespisti" from all over the globe turned up in the scooters, which are instantly recognisable because of their rounded lines, their brightly coloured

metal bodywork and their round headlight mounted on the handlebars.

Andrew Ward, 57, and his sister Julie Stover, 63, came from the United States and rented a Vespa in Rome to take part in the parade.

"We had scooters and motorcycles our whole lives. But I always wanted a Vespa and eventually we got Vespas. Now I have two!" Ward, a regular at "Vespisti" gatherings in his country, told AFP.

"It's a high-quality scooter. And it comes with a certain status. It's classy, you know. It's not like the cheap scooters that you see on the road all the time. Vespa is special," Stover added.

- Social significance -

Designed to be a popular and affordable means of transport, the Vespa -- which benefited from all sorts of innovations derived from aviation, Piaggio's core business -- also has social significance.

Its history is intertwined with "the history of a country emerging from the post-war period, that wants to move, that wants to get back up," Matteo Colaninno, executive chairman of the Piaggio group, said at the presentation of the celebrations.

"And this desire to move is not just physical mobility," it is also "a kind of drive toward economic mobility and above all social mobility," he said.

"Today, the Vespa has become a global phenomenon; we are on the verge of 20 million vehicles produced" since 1946, Colaninno said.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, photographed on Thursday sitting on a white Vespa in the reception rooms of Palazzo Chigi, the main government building, praised the famous scooter as representing not only "industrial excellence" but also "one of the most cherished Italian icons in the world, a symbol of Italian creativity and style". □

From rubble to music: Gaza's Oud repairman

Palestinian Territories

In a modest makeshift workshop tucked inside the crowded Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, the soft sound of an oud echoes through the ruins of war.

Surrounded by wooden pallets, fragments of crates that held humanitarian aid, and the pieces of damaged instruments, Palestinian craftsman Suhail Abu Shawish bends carefully over a battered oud, tuning its strings after days of painstaking repair.

The treasured instrument -- scarred by shelling and destruction during the war in Gaza -- is one of many that have found their way to his workshop.

"Young people have started sending their instruments to me for repair," Abu Shawish told AFP, as a customer walked into his workshop carrying damaged instruments wrapped in black plastic bags.

Several restored instruments, bright and shining, hang on the workshop walls -- symbols of resilience, music and craftsmanship in the shadow of war.

For the 60-year-old Abu



Displaced Palestinian craftsman Suhail Abu Shawish, who repairs musical instruments damaged by shelling or destruction during the war in the Gaza Strip using wooden pallets and leftover aid materials, tests the strings of an instrument he's repairing at his makeshift shop in the Nuseirat camp for Palestinian refugees in the central Gaza Strip on June 23, 2026.

Shawish, repairing ouds is far more than a profession. His repairs are a mission to preserve a cherished part of Palestinian cultural identity at a time when so much else has been lost.

A father of five, Abu Shawish learnt to play the oud in the 1980s. He later worked with several institutions, where he became an

expert in the conservation and restoration of musical instruments.

With no proper workshop, scarce materials and frequent power shortages, the craftsman relies almost entirely on hand tools.

During the war, he was displaced to the southern city of Rafah before eventually returning to his home in

Nuseirat camp.

Working in his workshop, he cuts wood manually with a saw, smooths surfaces with a file, and painstakingly glues together shattered pieces that many would deem beyond repair.

"Despite the shortage of wood and its high prices, they turn to me," Abu Shawish said.

"Despite the hardship of war, we continue to work," said the white haired musician, dressed in a blue shirt and jeans.

For him, every restored instrument is a small victory against the devastation surrounding him.

"I love buying ouds, and I am also an oud player," Abu Shawish said.

- 'Made in Gaza' -

Customers arrive hoping he can restore the warm, distinctive sound that has echoed through Arab culture for centuries.

Yet the challenges facing the craftsman are immense.

Wood traditionally used in oud-making has become nearly impossible to obtain. Import restrictions and shortages have forced Abu Shawish to become resourceful.

He now scavenges wood from discarded food aid crates, transforming waste scraps into replacement parts.

Pieces salvaged from severely damaged ouds are carefully reused to repair others. □

Norway's viral 'Viking row' has whole country rowing

Oslo, Norway

From oil workers to health-care staff, even children in daycare, all of Norway is getting in on a viral trend to support their team in the World Cup: pretending to row aboard a longship, flags in hand.

The "Viking row" draws on old Norwegian rowing traditions tied to life around fjords, lakes and the sea, according to tourism promoter Visit Norway.

Since the start of this year's World Cup, social media has been flooded with videos of Norwegian fans dressed in red, white and blue.

They sit down on the ground in groups. Then stretch their arms out and mimic rowing a boat.

They rock back and forth in unison while chanting: "Row, row, row!"

Sidewalks, stadiums, as well as subway platforms and a



Norway's fans cheer their team during the 2026 World Cup Group I football match between Norway and France at the Boston Stadium in Foxborough on June 26, 2026.

host of unexpected places serve as imaginary long-boats.

On Tuesday, a group of

supporters gathered in Times Square in New York while facing a gigantic outdoor yoga class.

The stunt symbolises Norwegian Vikings approaching the shore, ready for battle. Some of their Swedish

neighbours are less than impressed.

"We just sigh when we see it. But maybe we're sighing more at the TV crews that zoom in on it every single time," Swedish defender Gustaf Lagerbielke said at a press conference, Swedish news agency TT reported.

The feeling is shared by Elliot Stroud, a midfielder in the Swedish national team. "It's a bit overplayed maybe, it feels like they put it on every chance they get. But things are going well for them so they're happy, I guess," Stroud said.

Lagerbielke and Stroud will have to put up with it for a bit longer as Norway -- who play their final group game later Friday against France -- are through to the last 32. □

Cycling industry bets on smart bikes to boost sales

Frankfurt, Germany

At the Eurobike trade fair, hopes are high that smart and AI-enabled bicycles can revive an industry that has been dealing with years of flagging sales.

Artificial intelligence, long used in cars and smartphones, is now entering the cycling world in areas ranging from electric motors to safety and services.

At the stand of Avinox, a manufacturer of motors for electric bicycles, the DNA of parent company and Chinese drone specialist DJI has been transposed to cycling.

The motor on display features sensors that continuously monitor the cyclist's movements and terrain conditions, allowing AI to automatically adjust the motor's assistance to the pedal drive.

This makes the ride "easier and safer without having to think about it," Avinox developer Ferdinand Wolf said.

The system even allows a rider to transmit their real-



Electric bikes are seen at the booth of Raymon at the EUROBIKE 2026 fair of the international bicycle industry in Frankfurt am Main, western Germany on June 24, 2026.

time heart rate so that the e-bike motor modifies the level of assistance as needed.

- Safety alerts -

Elsewhere at the show, there is technology that aims to keep cyclists alive and injury-free.

At Germany's Canyon, a racing bike equipped with cameras and radars prom-

ises to alert cyclists "to the presence of elements they do not necessarily perceive", company spokesman Ben Hilldson said.

"If a car is parking, the system can anticipate the opening of a door and warn the cyclist," he said.

The rider would then be alerted via either visual signals on the frame, vibrations in the handlebars or through technology inside

their helmet.

Canyon is presenting a helmet fitted with a large visor capable of displaying real-time alerts or receiving an audio signal, depending on the user's preference.

The products are for now in the prototype stage, Hilldson said.

Canyon is also working with carmaker Volkswagen on a communication system that would allow the bi-

cycle to interact with surrounding cars and other infrastructure, with the launch expected in about three years.

The main obstacle: almost all vehicles currently on the road are not yet equipped to exchange such data.

- Smart networks -

Artificial intelligence is also shaking up services in the cycling industry.

At insurer Linexo "around 90 percent of claims will be handled entirely automatically by the end of the year", head of the bicycle division Soeren Hirsch said.

Automation handles standard cases, while experts review complex claims and detect fraud, "the only way to keep insurance premiums stable", he added.

Start-up Wunderfix meanwhile offers repair services linking retailers, customers and shops via an application that allows cyclists to diagnose and, where possible, repair their bicycles themselves. □

Swiss glaciers facing drastic loss from heatwave: expert

Geneva, Switzerland

Swiss glaciers are set to lose an enormous amount of ice due to the heatwave battering Europe, the head of Glacier Monitoring in Switzerland (GLAMOS) told AFP. The snow and ice accumulated last winter by Switzerland's glaciers is expected to have all melted away by Monday, marking the alarming second-earliest arrival on record of the tipping point known as glacier loss day.

All further melting between now and October will see the size of glaciers in the Swiss Alps shrink.

In data going back to 2000, the only time that the tipping point arrived even earlier was in 2022, when it came on June 26.

The grim scenario is driven by the current heatwave, as well as the one in May -- both coming on the back of another winter with poor snowfall.

"We're just seeing enormous ablation, ice melt rates and snow melt rates



A man is silhouetted as he takes a photo with his mobile next to the sun on August 12, 2025 in Geneva.

all over the Alps," GLAMOS network chief Matthias Huss told AFP on Friday, as multiple Swiss weather stations registered new all-time records.

"We are three months too early compared to a healthy state."

This century, the tipping point, on average, has been reached in mid-August -- itself already bad news for the nation's glaciers, which are shrinking at a staggering rate.

- Glaciers in 'very bad state' -

Much of the water that flows into the Rhine and the Rhone, two of Europe's major rivers, comes from the Alpine glaciers.

Huss said he had just returned from the Rhone Glacier, and in the 10 days since his previous visit, "there was one metre of ice melted in the vertical direction -- one metre of melting within just the last

10 days".

"It's very impressive to see, and this is just the effect of the heatwave."

But, said Huss, "one heatwave alone is not a big problem for glaciers".

"The problem is rather that we have very high temperatures that last for a very long time.

"The more days that are added that are very high temperatures, not even mattering whether it's 35C or 40C, this is just very bad for the glaciers."

Huss said the "very bad state of the glaciers at the moment" was down to a "combination of bad circumstances", including less snowfall, and the arrival of dust from the Sahara Desert in March.

He said 2026 was "surprisingly similar" to 2022, which for glaciers was "by far the most extreme year ever recorded in the Alps, with melt rates shattering everything we had seen before".

- Melting away -

He said this year had seen 25 percent less snow replenishing the surface of the glaciers compared to the 2010-2020 figures.

Meanwhile May was warm, causing the snowpack to disappear earlier.

Once the reflective white snow coverage from winter is gone from the top of the glacier, the darker, more absorbent grey surface of the bare ice is exposed.

This absorbs radiation more quickly, meaning extreme melting produces an accelerating feedback effect, worsening the situation even further.

While the full scale of this year's damage will be measured in September, "it is clear already now that we will have very strong ice loss also this year".

Glaciers in the Swiss Alps began to retreat about 170 years ago.

The retreat was initially modest but in recent decades, melting has accelerated significantly as the climate warms. □

Aruba: the legend behind its name

(Oranjestad)—Most folkloric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curaçao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of population in the area: “Corobori,” Arua said. “Don’t come back without news. It’s in your hands how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you.”

“Don’t worry,” Corobori replied. “As soon as we have any information, we will let you know.” Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several small hills, but no sign of a

village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: “Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curaçao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that’s not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt.”

The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son’s findings. He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to their initial arrival settlement, now known as Santo Largo in Savaneta. The next morning they hiked along the Spaans Lagoen near the Mangel Halto Beach and reached the area of Bushiri. There, they boarded their kayaks and heading to what we know now as Malmok, where they found rocks of salt. After a couple days of exploring the island and gathering some salt rocks, they left for Venezuela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to Aruba, collecting salt. After a while they settled on the island, generations of families living along the coast. Corobori was the first indig-



enous inhabitant in our history to explore the entirety of the island.

Arua, after decades as the leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock, he said: “My children, many years have passed, and I’ve asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to

rest. The God of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is now passed to you. Guide our people, and be the leader you were always meant to become. If one day you leave my island, do not forget that it is also yours. This is my last wish: When I die, bury me in our maize plantation.”

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Paradera Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Paradera Church.

And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names*, like Guadiriki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island.

Source: Un storia di e Indjan Arua (A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf (Dufi) Kock.

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A guide for the perfect picture: Where to find the most Instagrammable places in Aruba

(Oranjestad)—Imagine, you're out and about on the island and you want to take the most picture-perfect photo to show your friends and family back home and online. It seems like the perfect spot can be hard to find, but Aruba is full of great spots for a quick snapshot! Here are the most Instagrammable places in Aruba.

Wooden Swing on Plaza Daniel Leo

While you're in Mainstreet Oranjestad, check out the wooden swing on Plaza Daniel Leo. This is another favorite among visitors wanting a cute snapshot for Instagram.

Since you've made it this far, one question: How many blue horses have you spotted already?

Mangel Halto

For a different take on beach photos, we defi-



nately recommend Mangel Halto! You can get in the water right by the roots of these beautiful trees (please be careful not to climb them, though!). You will see beautiful skies, birds and other wildlife, and among the greenery of the mangroves, your picture is sure to pop!

Yacht Dock in Oranjestad

Last but certainly not least, the Yacht Dock in Oranjestad is the perfect spot to take a beautiful picture, especially at sunset. The dock is located behind the Wilhelmina Park. This spot offers a gorgeous view of the ocean and sunset, accom-



panied by the soft waves crashing on the shoreline. You may even spot some iguanas!

"I LOVE ARUBA"

While you're in the area, check out the 'I LOVE ARUBA' sign is a great first stop for a quick shot with the family. This spot is among the few that has become a favorite among tourists, especially those that are visit-

ing Aruba through a cruise vacation.

Speaking of giant signs that read "Aruba" (because there can never be too many), there is another sign you can find along the Linear Park. It may be a long walk from the harbor to get there, but while you're at it, check out these other spots along the way!

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 island'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" trademark 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



25 minutes. 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!



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Explore Aruba!

(ORANJESTAD)—Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Arikok National Park

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day.



Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In total, the park consists of 34 square kilometers of protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

Natural Bridge

One of Aruba's favorite tourist attractions is the Natural Bridge. For thousands of years,

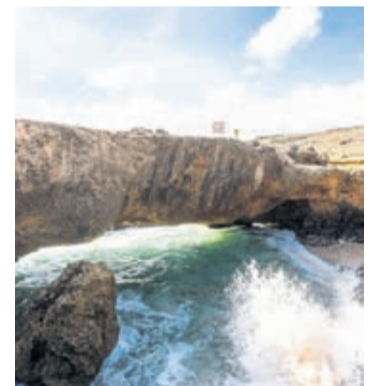
pounding waves and strong winds have slowly chiseled away the limestone cliffs along Aruba's north coast to create several natural bridges. The largest of these bridges used to be the famous Natural Bridge. The bridge was a formation of coral limestone cut out by years of pounding surf, and was one of the largest of these types of spans in the world. It stood some 23 feet (7 meters) above sea level and spans more than 100 feet (30 meters). Unfortunately the bridge collapsed on September 2, 2005. Despite this, it is still the most photographed natural bridge and it remains a popular tourist attraction in Aruba, with the adjacent and intact



Baby Bridge also meriting a visit. The Natural Bridge is the perfect stop while touring Aruba. There is no admission fee or set hours for visiting. Quench your thirst with refreshing beverages & refuel your tank with local snacks.

The Lourdes Grotto

Named in commemoration of the famous French religious landmark, was created under the guidance of a priest named "Erkamp" and parishioners in the year 1958. The grotto, a shrine built into the rocks is located in Seroe Preto, just off the main road to San Nicolas. A statue of the Virgin Mary, weighing 700 kilos, was hoisted into place



in the grotto. Every year, on February 11 (feast of Lady of Lourdes), a procession leaves from the St. Theresita church in San Nicolas to the grotto, where a mass is performed. The grotto is located road-side and can be visited daily. Just make sure you park safely in the event you wish to stop for pictures at this location.

Rock stacking and its harmful effects

(Oranjestad)—The organization Aruba Birdlife Conservation has in the past raised concerns about the phenomenon of "rock stacking" in the area of Baby Beach and warned about the dangers it poses, especially for children.

As known, "rock stacking" is not illegal in Aruba, but its impact on nature is harmful as the stones form part of the natural habitat of small animal species living in Aruba's wilderness. Experts warn that "rock stacking" could even lead cer-

tain species to extinction. In Aruba, much of the "rock stacking" also occurs near Arikok National Park. Although this activity is not illegal in Aruba, it may be time for park authorities to impose stricter regulations on this activity. Tourists often believe that the meaning behind this activity is making a wish, but they do not realize its negative impact.

Aruba Birdlife Conservation's post not only raises alarms about the activity but also now that this phe-



nomenon has reached Baby Beach, some of the stacked stone towers are up to 1.7 meters high, which can be very dangerous, especially for children.

Origin of Papiamento- Aruba's native language

ORANJESTAD — Papiamento, Creole language of ABC (Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao) is from the Cape Verdean Creole family (Cape Verdean language) and was taken to the Caribbean in the 9th century by the Cape Verdeans of that time (linings and slaves), experts in cane culture and sugar production, and who were hired by Jewish entrepreneurs who went to invest in this business in the Caribbean. Cape Verdeans taught this pre-industrial revolution technology (planting cane and producing sugar, which they had learned from Madeirans) to slaves from other African regions, and did so in their language, Cape Verde Creole (Cape Verdean language), hence the language implanted in Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao.

Unlike many interesting stories, wanting to link Papiamento directly to Portuguese, Galician or Castilian (see Papiamento, on Wikipedia – Portuguese version and Spanish version, where the Portuguese and Spanish, each claim the direct origin of Papiamento), in fact, this is not



true. Papiamento is not direct from Portuguese, Galician or Castilian, it is from the Cape Verde Creole family (Cape Verdean language). You can see this best when it's saying obscene words and offending someone, precisely as they say today in both ABC and Cape Verde islands. The obscene words kept the original, had no lexical influence either from Castilian or Dutch. Also the Papi Cristang of Malac-

ca, the Patuá of Macau, and several creoles from the east (from Daman, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia) and Africa (Casamança, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Nigeria, these last two releases to the English), all originated in the Creole of Cabo Verde (Cape Verdean language), which was the French language spoken in Portuguese feitories on the coast of Africa (from Senegal to Sierra

Leone), and which was taken east by the thousands of cable – Verdeans (linings and slaves, already Christianized and speaking Creole) who served as sailors and “slaves of arms” in Portuguese caravels, demanding the east. I don't know why the official history of Portugal usually omits this fact, which is in the chronicles of the quinrentist chroniclers, but which we never saw in the history of Portugal that we

study from primary education to higher education. However, it has always been tried to deceive us, in colonial time, that we were descendants of Viriato (Iberian hero in the fight against the Romans) and the pastors of the Hermini Mountains, but not much speaking of our black-African ancestry.

We Cape Verdeans understand each other very well with these Antillans and Easterns, whose language is from the same Creole family of Cape Verde (Cape Verdean language), speaking their Creole and we ours. Therefore, Papiamento, Papi Cristang, Patuá Macaense and the creoles, said of Portuguese origin, Daman, India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, some locations in the Philippines and some places in Indonesia, are creoles of the language family Cape Verde Creole (Cape Verdean language) and indirectly the Galaico-Duriense or Galaico-Portuguese, a language that the people spoke in Portugal in the 6th and 7th century.

Source: Dushi Aruba

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our “Dorado”

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the “Dorado”, a common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Dorado.

Dorado has many different names it can be referred to. Dral, Dorao, Drals, Drado, are some of them in Papiamento. In English, it is also called Mahi Mahi, Dolphinfish, or Dorado. It's a good example to reflect on why there can be many names. The same fish becomes known by different common names, why? Common names come only when a group of people, to understand each other, assign a name

to a fish. Mahi Mahi, for example, comes from Hawaii and means “very strong”. Dorado is based on Spanish and refers to the golden yellow color that the fish shines with under the sun. Why it's called Dolphinfish in English is not well defined and while there are several stories around this, none have been confirmed.

Dorado is found in all tropical to subtropical oceans around the world. Dorado is very popular both for recreational fishing and for consumption. It is known among fishermen as an exciting catch and a fish that puts up a good fight. Its meat is very good for consumption and it is also commercially fished for that reason.

They grow very fast, up to



2.7 inches (almost 7 cm) per week. They can live up to a maximum of 5 years although very few reach that age. Most become adults within 1 year but many become reproductive after just 5 or 6 months and reproduce very quickly too. They live in open water on the surface most of the time. Many fish seek them

around sushi lines or floating objects on the sea. Often you will find a group landing together and if you keep a male on the line, often the others will stay close or can keep the group interested by giving shrimp or squid.

Description:
Dorado has a distinctive

body. It has a large tail and its long, flat body ends in a large blunt head. Its color of yellow and green or blue makes it immediately recognizable, even with small variations in these colors.

Dorado has clear differences between adult females and males. The male is larger and can easily reach 50 to 80 pounds and has a much flatter head compared to the female. Therefore, male Dorados are also called “bull Dorado”.

Dorado can be found in our waters around the island all year round, but there are periods when it is easier to find than others.

Source: The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (Santa Rosa).

Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

According to *Etnia Nativa*, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer.

In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, *The History of Alto Vista* by R.H. Nooyen, it is not

known when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteenth century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer see



much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years

later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed.

It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived.

About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past.

Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations

(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your "off-road" trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

Ayo

The Ayo Rock Formation

is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to the Black Stone Beach, and close to the Natural Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced terrain that consists of several giant boulders, resting neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding "mondi"*.

This is also one of the few



sites to contain prehistoric markings of our indigenous ancestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breath-taking view of the Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier parts of the island. However, this is just another charm of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace.

Casibari

Probably the busier rock formation site, the Casibari is situated more in the center of the island, much closer—and more accessible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of the Casibari Rock Formation is the accompanying view when



you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the south.

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to help you climb the

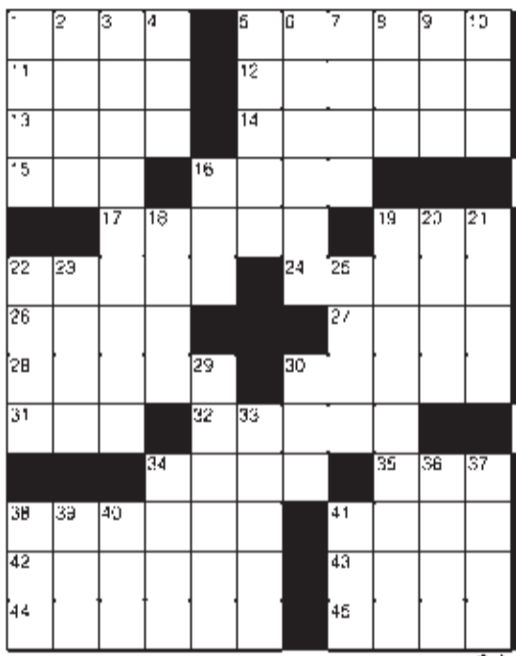
rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way!

*Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mondi!

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Volume school
 - 5 Sacred book
 - 11 Notorious czar
 - 12 State without proof
 - 13 Uncool fellow
 - 14 Ob-structed
 - 15 Pendulum path
 - 16 Blocks up
 - 17 Short poem
 - 19 Kitten cry
 - 22 Do a butler's job
 - 24 Town center
 - 26 Goatee setting
 - 27 Makes mistakes
 - 28 Tirades
 - 30 News summary
 - 31 Chick holder
 - 32 Suppress
 - 34 Obligation
 - 35 Deli meat
 - 38 Financially solvent
 - 41 Washed out
 - 42 South Dakota capital
 - 43 Open space
- DOWN**
- 1 Singer Turner
 - 2 Finished
 - 3 Sousa nickname, with "the"
 - 4 Wrap up
 - 5 Man at the wheel
 - 6 Stop talking
 - 7 Some charity
 - 8 "Stand" band
 - 9 Long time
 - 10 Sleep spot
 - 16 Clamor
 - 18 "— No Sunshine" beam
 - 19 Mad Hatter's friend
 - 20 Poet Pound
 - 21 Hornet's kin
 - 22 Plot unit
 - 23 Uneven hairdo
 - 25 Sediment
 - 29 Town center
 - 30 Bright
 - 33 Say
 - 34 Frosh quarters
 - 36 Baseball's Rodriguez
 - 37 Sub-stance
 - 38 Tablet download
 - 39 Fragrant tree
 - 40 Oahu garland
 - 41 Light touch



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.

3-1 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

V N M S D I F G S H X W P N C J

Q N L ' D S X N P C N T S J E X J X N P

G S H X W J S F P D N Q S J G Q H P .

— O E J N X X E

Cryptoquote: DESPITE EVERYTHING, NO ONE CAN DICTATE WHO YOU ARE TO OTHER PEOPLE. — PRINCE

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.



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.

Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



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.

JUNE CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE

02 TUE	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: B
	CARNIVAL MAGIC Arrival: 9:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: C
09 TUE	CARNIVAL HORIZON Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: B
	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C
	CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS Arrival: 13:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: I
16 TUE	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: B
	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C
	SEVEN SEAS MARINER Arrival: 10:00 Departure: 21:00 Berth: I
17 WED	CARNIVAL VISTA Arrival: 7:00 Departure: 16:00 Berth: C
	ALLURE OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: I
23 THU	CARNIVAL HORIZON Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: B
	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C
30 TUE	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: B
	CARNIVAL MAGIC Arrival: 9:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: C

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

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

Difficulty: ★

6/29

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★

6/28

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World's largest particle smasher halts for upgrade to boost hunt for dark matter

Meyrin, Switzerland

The world's most powerful particle accelerator will Monday shutter operations for four years of renovations to dramatically boost its collision-capacity and the potential for unlocking one of the greatest mysteries of the Universe: dark matter.

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) -- a 27-kilometre proton-smashing circular tunnel at the heart of Europe's physics lab CERN near Geneva -- has most famously been used to prove the existence of the Higgs boson, dubbed "the God particle".

In the tunnel, running about 100 metres below the French-Swiss border area, superconducting magnets and accelerating structures propel particles to extreme energies and then smash them together at phenomenal speeds.

But from Monday, activity will stop, as the extraordinary device undergoes upgrades aimed to further increase the precision and intensity of particle collisions.

Once completed, the enhanced particle smasher, donning the enhanced name of High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC), is scheduled to begin operations in June 2030, and to run for about a decade.

- 'Many discoveries' await -

"This is a very important moment. From Monday, we will be entering a new phase," HL-LHC project chief Markus Zerlauth told reporters.

"We still have lots of physics questions without answers. There are still many discoveries to be made."

The goal is to increase the "luminosity" -- that is, the total number of collisions produced over a given period -- by a factor of 10 compared to the LHC.

The total cost of the upgrade is expected to tick in at 1.2 billion Swiss francs (\$1.5 billion).

That will be covered by CERN membership fees,



Some of the 1232 dipole magnets that bend the path of accelerated protons are pictured in the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in a tunnel of the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), during maintenance works on February 6, 2020 in Echevex, France, near Geneva.

along with in-kind contributions, making up 10-15 percent of the total, including from the United States, Japan, Canada and China. The upgrade will require fully replacing the components in 1.2 kilometres of the 27-kilometre tunnel. New superconducting magnets, capable of further concentrating the particle beams, will be installed to increase the number of collisions.

Once operational, between 140 and 200 collisions will occur each time two packets of particles meet inside detectors in the tunnel, up from 60 currently.

Overall, "the increased number of collisions will allow us to collect up to 100 times more data", Zerlauth said.

The number of collisions will be so high -- several billion

per second -- that it will be impossible to store all the data produced.

Which collisions should be recorded will need to be selected in real time -- a task that will be entrusted to artificial intelligence systems capable of identifying the most promising events. But "AI does not replace physicists", insisted Nedaa-Alexandra Asbah, a research physicist at CERN's ATLAS experiment, which helped discover the Higgs Boson using the LHC.

"It is a powerful tool that helps us make better use of the data."

- Big Bang -

The HL-LHC aims to deepen fundamental knowledge, which is CERN's primary mission.

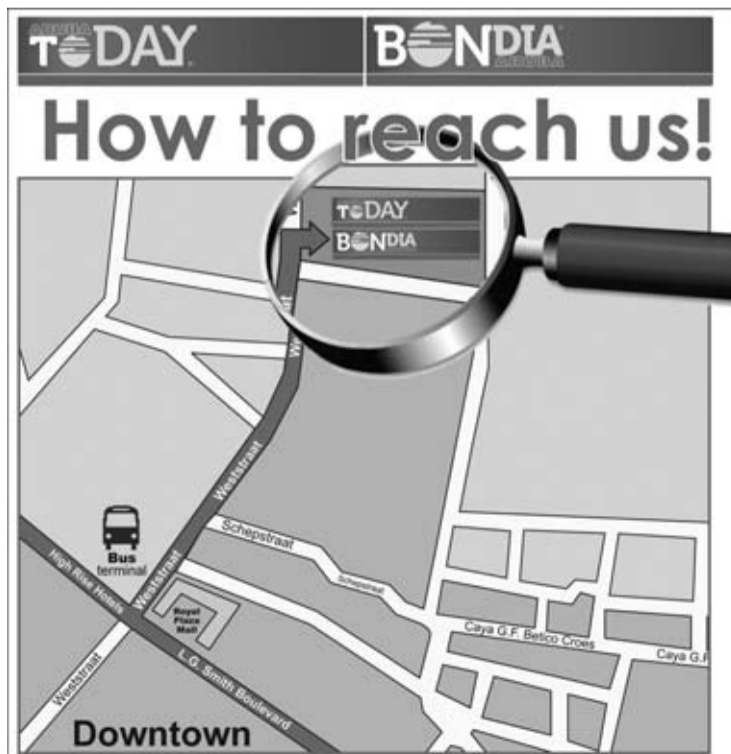
"We want to look for new particles," said Filip Moort-

gat, the operations coordinator for CMS -- and the LHC detector designed to explore a wide range of physics fields, including the search for other dimensions and the quest for dark matter particles.

Scientists believe that ordinary matter -- such as stars, gases, dust, planets and everything on them -- accounts for just five percent of the universe.

The rest is believed to consist of dark matter (27 percent) and dark energy (68 percent) -- two invisible components that scientists have yet to detect or directly observe.

The 2012 discovery of the Higgs boson provided an important piece of the puzzle: it broadened science's understanding of how particles acquire mass and earned physicists Peter Higgs and Francois Englert the 2013 Nobel Prize for Physics. □



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad Hospital 7:00 pm/10:00pm Tel. 527 4000	San Nicolas IMSAN 24 HOURS Tel. 524 8833
--	---

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad: Paradera
Tel. 582 1780

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	588 0539

EMERGENCY

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

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous Tel. 583 8989
Against Domestic Violence(FCVR) Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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China's bull wrestlers fight to keep tradition alive

Jiaxing, China

In a half-covered amphitheatre in eastern China, 20-year-old Wang Shuangshuang locked his shoulder against the neck of a bull, grappling with its horns to force it to its knees. Chinese bull-wrestling, or "guanniu", dates back over 600 years but remains a little-known sport domestically, let alone internationally.

Students like Wang sporadically sign up for competitions, but a lack of funding and exposure means few adopt it as a full-time career, leaving it facing an existential struggle.

"Our heritage right now is neither dead nor alive," 72-year-old master Han Haihua told AFP in Jiaxing, a city just south of Shanghai.

"To bring in talent, you need money... I'm not bragging -- give me 30 or 50 kids, train them here for three years, and I'll make the whole world know about guanniu."

Guanniu was brought to Jiaxing by Hui Muslim migrants, and evolved from a



This photo taken on June 17, 2026 shows a bull wrestler falling to the ground during a training session before the 15th China Bullfighting championship at an arena in Jiaxing, China's Zhejiang province.

herding skill into a folk competition.

Unlike Spanish bullfighting, Chinese wrestlers use no weapons and do not kill the animal at the end of the bout.

Instead, they seize the bull's horns and try to bring it to the ground, and win extra points if they can jump

onto its back or crawl underneath its belly.

According to Han, in the early 2000s guanniu got a boost from Xi Jinping, then the provincial party secretary, who pushed for traditions like bull wrestling to be officially listed as "intangible cultural heritage".

These days, an annual

competition run by Han's martial arts school is held at the "China Bullfighting Hall" amphitheatre, its nameplate inscribed by martial arts novelist Jin Yong.

Nine university students entered the preliminaries this year, wrestling bulls weighing hundreds of kilograms and sporting hard, stubby

horns.

"You have to go with its flow, shift your shoulders constantly to follow its resistance, lock its neck, and then throw it down," Wang said.

"Strength and technique, neither can be missing."

- 'Hot-blooded' -

Fellow competitor Xu Zhiqian, also 20, said he enjoyed testing his strength against nature.

"I think this sport is very youthful, very hot-blooded," he said.

Both Wang and Xu brought their bulls to the ground in the competition final, watched by a few hundred people.

But Xu said he planned to work in his field of study, and while Wang said he was "considering" pursuing guanniu, he was far from certain.

Thirty-year-old Li Bo is a rare example of someone who made a career of it.

He joined Han's martial arts school as a teenager, drawn by his love of kung fu films. □

'High-strung' camels race in Australian outback

Marree, Australia

Camels with "a bit of fire in them" raced in a remote Australian outback town this weekend at an annual event celebrating the desert beasts first imported in the mid-19th century.

Hundreds of spectators descended on Marree, which has a population of 65 and lies nearly 600 kilometres (370 miles) north of the South Australian capital Adelaide, for a 13-race spectacle on Saturday known as the Marree Camel Cup.

More than 10,000 camels were imported into Australia from 1840, many of them released into the wild with the development of railways and then the arrival of motor vehicles in the 1920s.

Now, estimates of the wild camel population range from 300,000 to a million animals.

Trainer Kyrraley Woodhouse, who started



A camel racer competes during the Marree Australasian Camel Cup run in the South Australian outback town of Marree on June 27, 2026.

camel racing professionally in 2013, said most of her camels had been taken from the wild to run in the Marree event, which drew more than a dozen competitors.

Picking the right animal is

key.

"You would want a little bit of temper, a little bit of fire in them -- a sort of splashy look in the eye," Woodhouse told AFP.

"They want to be wary of you a little bit but not, like,

aggressive," she added.

"We want something sort of like a racehorse, a little bit high strung, a little bit forward -- something that's got a heart, that's going to run."

This year's Marree Camel

Cup winner was Young Gun, ridden by Patrick Dennis.

Muslim cameleers, many from Afghanistan and other parts of Central and South Asia, were brought to Australia in the 1860s to harness the animals for transport in the arid interior, and some of their descendants remain in Marree.

Camels in the outback compete with stock for food, destroy fences, foul waterholes and damage Indigenous cultural sites, authorities say.

Without management, camel populations could double every eight years, South Australia's primary industries department says. Camel numbers are kept in check by mustering, shooting and trapping at water points.

Australia also exports a small number of live camels: 68 so far in 2026 heading to Malaysia and Indonesia. □

Serena blasts drug test rules ahead of Wimbledon return

London, United Kingdom

Serena Williams has slammed the drug test rules that force tennis stars to declare their location to doping officials, claiming the "unprofessional" system stopped her coming out of retirement sooner.

Williams will play her first singles match since 2022 when the American legend faces Australia's Maya Joint in the Wimbledon first round on Tuesday.

The 44-year-old has made a sensational comeback after four years in retirement, far playing doubles at Queen's Club and Berlin before deciding to step up her return at Wimbledon, where she will also compete with sister Venus in the doubles.

Williams' stunning decision to pick up a racquet again has brought unwanted stress off the court however.

The 23-time Grand Slam champion had to enter the anti-doping testing pool several months before being allowed to officially return to the women's tour.

Tennis' 'whereabouts rules' require players to give a location and time slot when they can be tested for each day of the year.

Refusing one, or failing to update whereabouts three times within 12 months, can lead to a player being sanctioned.

Players can also be randomly tested at any time. Williams is unimpressed by the testing system, which has changed since she last played.

"It's gruelling. They changed the rules now. I didn't know some of the rules. So apparently if you miss a test outside of your window, it still counts as missed. I'm like, I guess I can't go pick up my kids," she told reporters at Wimbledon on Sunday.

"It's unprofessional. I hate it. It's necessary, but I think a lot of the stuff, if I want to go places outside of my window, I should be able to go without having it count as a missed test.

"There has to be a different way to make it reasonable because that's just unreasonable. That was a big



US player Serena Williams practices on court 12 at The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, on June 27, 2026, ahead of the 2026 Wimbledon Championships.

reason why I didn't want to come back either, because it's just so hard."

- 'My expectations are different' -

Williams' blast comes just days after the International Tennis Integrity Agency

handed a four-year ban to former Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova.

The Czech refused an anti-doping test in December, saying she was scared to let a doping official into her house.

Williams is a mother of two young daughters and the drug test demands are an awkward addition to her daily schedule.

The seven-time Wimbledon winner knows testing is necessary to keep the sport clean, but adapting to the routine is a work in progress. "My life is busy. I run a venture capital company, I travel the world. I have children. I could be in so many different cities so many different times," she said.

"But just getting that discipline of reporting. Obviously I don't mind because I always have been very clear about what I do.

"I guess now for 24 hours where I'm going to be is just different - at least for me. I don't know if that works for everyone else."

Williams' remarkable ca-

reer looked to be over after she said she was "evolving away" from tennis in 2022 after a third round defeat against Ajla Tomljanovic at the US Open.

Even now, Serena is not quite sure she made the right decision to return to compete in singles after so long away.

"I had until Monday to decide. I think it was like Sunday. I just wasn't sure up until then. Honestly, I'm still not even sure, but we'll see," she said.

Motivated to return by a desire to play in front of her children, Williams added: "My expectations are definitely different for the first time in my career. I feel like I'm really going to enjoy being out there." I expect to be nervous. □



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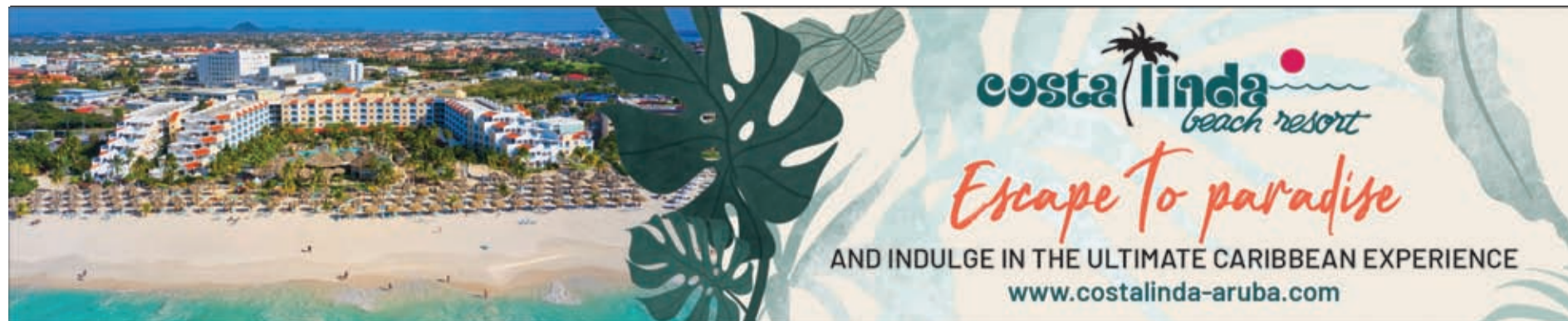
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Russell holds off Verstappen to win Austrian Grand Prix

Spielberg, Austria

George Russell returned to winning ways after a series of disappointments on Sunday when he claimed a measured victory for Mercedes ahead of Red Bull's four-time champion Max Verstappen in a thrilling Austrian Grand Prix. The 28-year-old Briton, the pre-season favourite for the drivers' title and winner of the opening race, secured his second win of the year and the seventh of his career in a close race, declared to be a 'heat hazard' event, at the Red Bull Ring circuit. Russell came home 1.611 seconds ahead of a charging Verstappen who in turn resisted championship leader Kimi Antonelli, in the second Mercedes, to finish 0.375 seconds in front of



Winner Mercedes' British driver George Russell celebrates with his trophy on the podium after the Formula One Austrian Grand Prix at the Red Bull Ring race track in Spielberg, Austria on June 28, 2026.

him as they crossed the line. McLaren's Oscar Piastri was fourth, 20 seconds adrift, ahead of seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton of Ferrari, Isack Hadjar in the second Red Bull and world

champion Lando Norris in the second McLaren. Charles Leclerc was eighth in the second Ferrari ahead of the two Red Bulls of Liam Lawson and rookie Arvid Lindblad.

"It's beautiful to be back on the top step," said Russell. "It's been a while so I'm definitely going to enjoy this one tonight. Max and Red Bull were incredibly quick this weekend, so kudos to them. I had to push every single lap -- and I'm looking forward to a drink now." Russell's win trimmed Antonelli's advantage ahead of him in the title race by 10 points to 40, the Italian teenager having reeled off five straight wins to establish a clear lead earlier in the season. Verstappen, who started fifth, made light of the temperatures of 37C (air) and 62C (track). He said: "It was a very good race for us. The first laps were fun and then I managed the tyres." Antonelli said: "I was a bit too excited in the first laps

and I didn't drive well, but after changing tyres, I re-set and the pace was strong. It's a shame I joined the party a bit too late."

- Shifting strategies -

On an afternoon of searing heat in the Styrian Alps, Russell made a clean start from his 11th career pole to lead while, behind him, Hamilton passed Leclerc for second and Antonelli, in pure exuberance, ran off twice on the opening lap. He passed Leclerc on lap two, but had to give the place back, offering Verstappen a chance to sweep through for third. By this stage, both Cadillacs had retired with overheating and Verstappen closed on Hamilton before diving past him on lap 11. □

South Korea coach quits after early World Cup exit

Guadalajara, Mexico

South Korea coach Hong Myung-bo resigned on Sunday, a day after his side's group-stage exit from the World Cup and following condemnation from the country's president. The 57-year-old former captain, in his second stint as coach, oversaw an early World Cup departure for the second time to go with the failure in 2014. South Korea were expected to get out of a Group A that included co-hosts Mexico plus South Africa and the Czech Republic. But they lost 1-0 to South Africa and Mexico, and finished on three points, their only success a 2-1 win over the Czechs. It left them hoping to squeeze into the knockout rounds as one of the eight best third-placed finishers. That hope was extinguished on Saturday by results else-



South Korea's head coach Hong Myung-bo reacts during the 2026 World Cup Group A football match between South Africa and South Korea at the Monterrey Stadium in Guadalupe, Mexico, on June 24, 2026.

where, with Hong taking responsibility on Sunday. "Over the past two years I asked myself the same question whenever I had to make important decisions, select players or prepare for training session and matches: Is this the right

choice for Korean football?" Hong told reporters in Mexico, according to Yonhap News Agency. "I cannot say every decision has been the right one, but I can tell you that I have made every decision with Korean football in mind."

Hong's resignation came hours after South Korean President Lee Jae Myung lashed out at the team's performance, pointing the finger at "incompetent people" and apologising to the nation. "When loyalty and factionalism are valued over competence, and incompetent people are appointed to leadership positions, the outcome is all but inevitable," Lee said in a post on X. "I offer my deepest apologies to the public for the profound disappointment caused by this unacceptable outcome. "We will move swiftly to reform sports administration to ensure that nothing like this happens again," he added, without elaborating. The much-maligned Hong was deeply unpopular with fans and South Korean me-

dia even before the tournament flop. He dropped veteran skipper Son Heung-min for the South Africa game, in which they only needed a draw to progress, but the gamble backfired. Son, who turns 34 next month, has played his last World Cup and hinted previously at retiring from international football. Hong, who was booed during home matches following his appointment in July 2024, said after stepping down that he will always be a fan. "Even though I am leaving the national team, I am not abandoning Korean football altogether," Hong said. "I will cheer for the national team from the bottom of my heart and hope that the team will be trusted and loved by the people once again." □