

How to behave when you see a "lora"



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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 threatens to increase Canada tariffs over wildfire smoke pollution



U.S. President Donald Trump stands by the FIFA World Cup Trophy as he listens to FIFA President Gianni Infantino (off frame) speak during a FIFA reception at Trump Tower in New York on July 17, 2026.

New York, United States

U.S. President Donald Trump threatened on Friday a tariff increase on Canada to cover the cost of smoke pollution from wildfires that have choked large parts of

the United States.

Dense wildfire smoke billowing down from Canada and northern Minnesota has set off unhealthy air quality alerts across the U.S..

As of Saturday, there were 937 active fires in Canada, most of which were burning out of control, according to the Canadian Wildland Fire Information System.

"This is Willful Negligence, and becoming a yearly occurrence, costing the United States Billions of Dollars," Trump said on Truth Social, adding that the "cost of this pollution must of necessity be added to the TARIFFS Canada is currently paying."

Trump accused Canada of "not properly maintaining" their forests, failing to carry out "basic Forest Management and Debris Removal." He said he would call Prime Minister Mark Carney "to find out what they are going to do about" the smoke.

Canada's emergency management minister Eleanor Olszewski said Canada and the United States were in "constant contact," pointing toward their "long history of working together to fight wildfires."

She added that Canada has invested \$12 billion in forests sustainability and fire prevention since 2020. Detroit, in the U.S. Midwest, remained the most polluted city in the world on Friday, according to tracker IQAir. Washington and Chicago weren't far behind, and officials warned against spending unnecessary time outside.

The pollution triggered concern over the World Cup final on Sunday in an open stadium in New Jersey.

In New Jersey and New York, the metro area was experiencing air that could be unhealthy for sensitive groups, an improvement after smog on Thursday made the Manhattan skyline barely visible.

But the National Weather Service (NWS) warned the smoke may thicken overnight into Saturday morning.

Tournament organizers are "monitoring closely," White House World Cup task force executive director Andrew Giuliani told a briefing.

Peter Mullinax, a meteorologist for NWS, told AFP that winds over the Great Lakes could push more smoke into the Northeast, which could keep skies hazy.

He said forecasts for that region do expect some improvement.

"I don't believe that this should be as impactful as if you might be playing a game today," Mullinax said. The issue for Sunday's game, said Joel Dreessen, an air quality forecaster for the state of Maryland, is whether more smoke spills south after weekend storm systems.

"Some of the models are starting to indicate that we'll start to pull down some smoke," he told AFP.

- Traveling toxicity -

In cities across the Midwest and Northeast, people wore masks outdoors to filter out the dangerous air. In New York, libraries and train stations were handing them out for free.

Chris Carlsten, who studies the health impacts of fire smoke at the University of British Columbia, told AFP that the fine pollution particles from wildfires are particularly impactful on the lungs, whereas vehicle pollution skews slightly towards heart impacts.

He said plumes can be filled with wood and vegetation debris but also paint, plastic or metal.

And as smoke plumes travel, they undergo "photochemical aging," a series of reactions that Carlsten said "seem to make, from everything we understand in the chemistry, the aerosol more toxic."

The upper Midwest that is closer to the fires has faced especially bad air, with parts of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin all recording air quality readings deep into the "hazardous" range for days.

- Climate change link -

Advocates have stressed the connection between repeated episodes of wildfire smoke and climate change.

Mark Parrington, a scientist at the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service, told AFP that climate change was providing conditions for a longer fire season, with higher surface air temperatures and lower soil moisture.

So, he explained, "when there's an ignition we see these really large-scale, persistent burning where these fires can burn for weeks and weeks at a time through summer."

The blazes were worsening on Friday in Canada, especially in Ontario, according to authorities there.

Fires in Ontario have not caused any casualties, and several remote communities have been evacuated, as dozens of aircraft battle the blazes. □

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Israel PM's office slams N.Y. mayor over Netanyahu arrest remarks

Jerusalem, Undefined

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday denounced New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani after he said he considering whether to arrest the Israeli leader during an upcoming UN summit.

"Mr Mamdani should focus on fixing the damage his policies have caused New York," Netanyahu's office said, in a post on its official X account.

"Like Karim Khan, Mamdani appears interested in diverting public attention from his follies and attacking the leader of the Jewish state and the only democracy in the Middle East."

In an interview published on Saturday, Mamdani said he was consulting New York City's legal team about the extent of the mayor's authority to direct police to detain a foreign leader, referring to Netanyahu.

"I believe that Prime Minister Netanyahu belongs in



Mayor of New York City Zohran Mamdani speaks after an NYPD officer was shot in the vest in the area of Nostrand Avenue and St. John's Place in Brooklyn, New York, United States on July 5, 2026.

The Hague," Mamdani told The New York Times. "He's a war criminal who has been charged by the International Criminal Court."

"Whatever the law allows me to do in New York City,

that's what we will do," he said.

Netanyahu's office hit back on Sunday against Mamdani and also the International Criminal Court.

"The ICC is a kangaroo court that has no jurisdiction over Americans or Israelis. Its bogus arrest warrant against Prime Minister Netanyahu was issued by a disgraced former ICC Prosecutor,

Karim Khan," the office said. It added that the warrant was issued just days before allegations of sexual misconduct were made against Khan, calling it "a clear attempt by Khan to divert public attention and seek protection from scrutiny."

Mamdani has in the past vowed to send the NYPD to enforce arrest warrants against leaders wanted by the International Criminal Court, including Netanyahu or Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The U.N. General Assembly, a major gathering of world leaders, takes place in September at UN headquarters in New York.

The Hague-based ICC said in 2024 that it had reasonable grounds to believe Netanyahu was responsible for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity related to Israel's offensive in Gaza following the brutal October 7, 2023 cross-border attack by Hamas. □

Rubio hails Lebanon for peace efforts after meeting president



U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio makes opening statement during an event titled "Ministerial on the Resurgence of Political Terrorism" at the U.S. Department of State on July 16, 2026, in Washington, DC.

Washington, United States

U.S. Secretary of State Mar-

co Rubio met with Lebanese President Joseph Aoun in Washington on Sunday, praising the country for its "move towards peace" after the latest round of Lebanon-Israel talks.

It was the first trip to the US capital by a Lebanese head of state since Michel Sleiman was received by Barack Obama in 2009.

Aoun and Rubio held talks at the State Department, and Lebanese officials said Aoun is due to meet with U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday.

Rubio said Aoun's government had made a "deter-

mined effort to reclaim Lebanon's sovereignty, disarm Hezbollah and dismantle its terrorist infrastructure, and move towards peace," according to a State Department release.

Israel and Lebanon -- which do not have formal diplomatic relations -- began U.S.-sponsored negotiations in April aimed at reaching a peace deal and permanently ending the Israel-Hezbollah war.

On June 26, they reached a framework agreement in Washington under which the Israeli military is to withdraw from southern Lebanon and

the Lebanese army is to deploy, starting with two "pilot zones."

But the agreement is contingent on the disarmament of the Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah, which has flatly rejected both the deal and the Israel-Lebanon negotiations that underpin it. At Sunday's talks, the Lebanese president stressed that Lebanon and the United States must "align... regarding the implementation of the tripartite framework, through achieving the first Israeli withdrawal from the first pilot zone." □

U.S. V.P. Vance announces birth of fourth child

Washington, United States

U.S. Vice President JD Vance announced Sunday that his wife has given birth to their fourth child, a son.

"Usha and the baby are happy and healthy and our kids are overjoyed to meet their little brother," Vance, 41, said in a post on X.

The US vice president -- now the father of three boys and one girl, all under the age of ten -- famously told an anti-abortion rally in January 2025: "I want more babies in the United States of America."

Many members of President Donald Trump's administration are proponents of large families, but it has yet to deliver on Vance's pledge at the same rally to make life more affordable for families with children. □



U.S. Vice President JD Vance and US second lady Usha Vance watch the opening ceremony of the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games at the San Siro stadium in Milan, northern Italy, on February 6, 2026.

Horror film 'Obsession' is exploding cinema profit records

Paris, France

Low-cost horror movie "Obsession" from first-time director Curry Barker is on track to become one of the most profitable films of all time, with the cinema sensation piling up global revenues of more than \$400 million. After premiering at the Toronto Film Festival last year and releasing at the beginning of May, it has become a word-of-mouth phenomenon over the last two months with fright-loving Gen Z audiences in particular.

Its success has catapulted 26-year-old Barker from a YouTube video creator into Hollywood's A-league with a first feature-length film that cost just \$750,000 to \$1 million to make.

"In terms of the ratio between the worldwide box office and the production budget, 'Obsession' is going to be the biggest success of all time, which is extraordinary," Bruce Nash, founder of industry-tracking website The Numbers, told AFP.

With ticket sales of around \$430 million worldwide, it has already overtaken the 1999 supernatural thriller "The Blair Witch Project", which made around \$250 million on a full budget of \$600,000, according to Nash.

In absolute terms, Holly-



wood mega-hits such as the "Avatar" films, "Frozen" or "Titanic" made more money but with blockbuster budgets several hundred times the one available to Barker.

- Burgers to big screen -

The Alabama-born director's success at the box office has surpassed that of the other remarkable horror hit of the year -- "Backrooms" by 20-year-old Kane Parsons, which has earned \$360 million with a budget of around \$10 million.

Both films are in the top 10 highest-grossing movies of 2026, underlining the appetite for horror among young

audiences and starting what is set to be a new trend -- young social media creators moving into cinema.

"They're very encouraging for the future of cinema," Oscar-winning director Christopher Nolan told AFP and other entertainment journalists last week in Paris. Barker moved from his home town of Mobile to Los Angeles after finishing high school, initially studying film and hoping to make it as an actor.

A few years ago, he was flipping burgers in L.A., working at Starbucks, and taking whatever jobs he could find in the film or

TV industry to make ends meet.

The blonde-haired sunglasses collector scored a minor role in the series "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" and took a position overseeing Covid safety protocols during the pandemic on another production.

All the while, he and creative partner Cooper Tomlinson were trialling content online, mixing comedy sketches on TikTok and Instagram with horror shorts such as "The Chair" on their YouTube channel "That's a Bad Idea".

"In that journey, you figure out timing, you figure out

tricks like how to get someone's attention in the first three seconds," Barker told The Big Picture podcast recently.

- Next projects -

The "Obsession" plot is a simple but original idea from Barker: a young man uses a lucky charm known as the "One Wish Willow" to wish that his long-time friend and crush falls madly in love with him.

The violent and unsettling consequences deliver enough scares to thrill even a hardened horror fan, while raising questions around toxic relationships, dating culture and consent.

It was turned into a cash bonanza for Focus Features, part of Hollywood studio Universal, which bought the distribution rights for \$15 million at the Toronto Film Festival last year.

Barker has several new projects already in the pipeline: a second feature, "Anything But Ghosts", in which he acts alongside Tomlinson, while he has also been tapped to direct a new version of the 1974 slasher classic "The Texas Chain Saw Massacre."

"I have a lot to weigh and that's where the stress really comes from. I don't know what to do next," he told The Hollywood Reporter. □

J.K. Rowling blasts Amnesty 'anti-rights' label on women's centre



Britain's Queen Camilla reacts as she greets British author JK Rowling during an audience at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh, in Scotland on June 30, 2026.

London, United Kingdom

Britain's charities regulator is looking into concerns about an Amnesty International report that branded a women's centre for sexual

violence victims founded by Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling as "anti-rights".

The best-selling writer, who has been at the forefront of the debate about gender

identity and has previously denounced trans activism, leading to accusations of transphobia, on Friday said she was angry at the label.

"I'm often tickled by press articles asserting that I'm furious about things that actually gave me a proper belly laugh," Rowling, 60, wrote on X.

"This time, though... Amnesty's attack on Beira's Place has left me burning with the kind of fury that mounts with every passing hour," she said. According to British media, the report, entitled "A Growing Threat: The Anti-Rights Movement in the UK", has since been taken down.

Beira's Place offers free support and advocacy services for women who have been victims of abuse.

Rowling, who set up the centre in 2022, has spoken in the past of being a survivor of domestic violence.

- 'Deeply offensive' -

A spokesperson for the Charity Commission on Thursday said concerns had been raised with the watchdog over the document.

"We are assessing the matters raised to determine what, if any, role there might be for us as charity law regulator," the spokesperson added. It said it had not launched a formal investigation at this stage.

Amnesty earlier this week said it regretted that the briefing had been "uploaded to our website without going through the established, internal review pro-

cesses that are in place to ensure consistency, accuracy and alignment with Amnesty International UK's positions".

"Its use of language does not reflect the position of Amnesty International UK which is why it was promptly removed," it said.

Beira's Place chief executive Lesley Johnston said it was "inexplicable" that it had been included on the list. She said it was "deeply offensive" to "staff who work day in, day out, to support survivors, and to the women who need and use our service". Rowling, who is outspoken about her gender critical views, has become a target for militant transgender rights supporters. □

Cubes and lubes: Europe's 'Speedcubers' twist for glory

Arnhem, Netherlands

Brows knitted with concentration, Juliette Sebastien clasps her trusty Rubik's Cube, her fingers moving at a head-spinning speed before flipping the solved puzzle onto her table in just 25.03 seconds.

Welcome to the world of competitive Rubik's Cube solving -- "speedcubing" for those in the know -- where players compete in disciplines ranging from the blindfold challenge to solving cubes with oven gloves on their hands.

French national champion Sebastien is pitting her skills against 1,200 competitors from 53 countries in the 11th European speedcubing championships in Arnhem, eastern Netherlands.

She trains for at least an hour a day, but has been putting in three or four hours daily in the run-up to the competition, her preparation marred by an unfortunate wasp sting to the hand.

"I do training blocks of 100, 200, sometimes 300 solves," the 25-year-old student told AFP. "There are always new techniques that you can learn."

Her time in the 4x4 event -- slightly bigger and harder to solve than a standard Rubik's cube -- is respectable, but the speeds in the fastest disciplines are mind-bending. Chinese speedcuber Ziyu Ye holds the 2x2 world record at



A participant competes in the Rubik's WCA (World Cube Association) European Championship 2026 in Arnhem on July 17, 2026.

a staggering 0.39 seconds. The clacking of cubes echoes through the five cavernous sports halls hosting the championships. Competitors in national speedcubing uniforms wander the corridors absent-mindedly solving puzzles without looking, often one-handed.

"There are more cubes here than people," quipped one competitor, 31-year-old programmer Jeroen Plug from the Netherlands. But this is serious business: the competition is closely regulated and run with military precision.

Before stepping out onto

stage, competitors hand over their precious cubes to the "scramblers", who secretly set them to exactly the same position for everyone, ensuring a level playing field. Two players sit side by side, each under the eagle eye of a referee and with a camera tracking their every move, as a digital clock records their time to the hundredth of a second.

The freshly scrambled cube arrives concealed in a box. When the box is overturned, competitors have 15 seconds to examine the state of the cube before placing their hands on a sensor to start the clock and begin their solve.

The speedcubing world was recently rocked by the "Sliding Scandal", a cheating technique where players would surreptitiously slide their hands from the sensor to the cube, gaining critical tenths of seconds.

World records were erased from the history books in the wake of the scandal, which was still being whispered about in hushed tones on the sidelines in Arnhem.

- 'Sandy' feeling -

The surprising secret to a prize-winning cube? Lube. Each player applies a precise amount of lubrication to their cube to ensure it

moves at exactly the speed they prefer, explained Loes Wentink, staffing the lubrication stand.

"It makes a big difference to the competition," said the 21-year-old electrical engineering student.

Some lubes actually increase the friction because "some cubes are very fast out of the box."

"Sometimes you can't control it... and if you can't control it, then your solve won't be as good," she told AFP.

Other lubes are used to get rid of the dreaded "sandy" feeling, when the cube feels "rough" when turning in the hands, said Wentink.

The cube/lube set-up is as personal as the tension on a tennis racket or the weight of a cricket bat or snooker cue. Recent technological advances have enhanced the sport: many players wear Go-Pro cameras on their heads so they can watch back their "solves" and improve technique.

"Smartcubes" with a Bluetooth sensor track every move in an app and suggest improvements -- these are illegal in competition.

Technology is no help however in the blindfold competition -- one of the most popular of the 17 disciplines. Players have one hour to memorize as many cubes as possible before solving them, blindfolded. The record is 63 cubes correctly solved. □

Israelis march to Gaza border demanding re-establishment of settlements

Israel

Thousands of Israelis, including settlers and right-wing activists, marched towards the border with Gaza on Sunday, calling on the government to re-establish Israeli settlements in the war-shattered Palestinian territory, an AFP journalist reported.

The demonstrators gathered near the border before walking in large numbers towards the fence overlooking northern Gaza, where Israeli security forces deployed to prevent participants from advancing further.

AFP footage showed marchers waving Israeli flags as soldiers and police blocked their access to the restricted area.

"We are walking today to tell the government of Israel and show all the world that this land belongs to us and that Gaza really belongs to us and that we want to go back there," said participant Daniel Sellem.

"We lived there before they got us out in 2005."

Sellem said the march was intended to push the gov-

ernment to authorise a return to Gaza, more than two decades after Israel evacuated all settlements from the territory under a 2005 disengagement plan.

"We are trying to put pressure on them, and I have a big hope that it will work and that we will go back and live there as soon as possible," Sellem said.

Another participant, Yechiel Greenblum, said the event marked what he viewed as "just the beginning" of a campaign to restore Israeli



Israeli right-wing activists gather on the border with the Gaza Strip as they attempt to cross over into the embattled territory on July 19, 2026.

communities in the coastal territory.

"We are having a big march back to the Gaza Strip, back to where Jews lived for hundreds, thousands of years," he said, adding that the

2005 withdrawal had been temporary. "We are going back."

Greenblum argued that there was "no reason" Jews could not return to settle northern Gaza. □

Founding father: statues of Myanmar's Aung San disappear

Yangon, Myanmar

Statues of independence hero Aung San are quietly disappearing across Myanmar in a contest over his legacy as father of both the nation and of detained democracy figurehead Aung San Suu Kyi.

General Aung San fought with and against both the British and the Japanese colonisers as he sought independence, but was assassinated on July 19, 1947, just months before his dream was realised.

Considered the father of modern-day Myanmar, his statues have dotted the country for decades.

Many were added while Suu Kyi's party was in power -- and many are now being taken down by the government of Min Aung Hlaing, the coup leader who ousted her in 2021.

In Yangon's Thu Mingalar Park, an AFP reporter this week noted the absence of one towering likeness installed almost a decade ago, grass newly planted in its place.

The government has acknowledged taking down some statues it said had "incorrect proportions and shapes".

But analysts say the removals may be an attempt to erase from public spaces a powerful symbol linked to Suu Kyi, the popular Nobel laureate who remains detained.

Aung San is "engraved in people's memory" as Myanmar's independence hero, and many see his legacy be-



A statue of Myanmar's independence General Aung San is seen at Bogyoke Aung San Park in Yangon on July 16, 2026.

ing continued by his daughter, according to Myanmar specialist Moe Thuzar.

- Historical legacy -

While in power from 2016-2020, during Myanmar's decade-long experiment with democracy, Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) put up statues and also returned Aung San's face to local currency notes.

They could be seen as "efforts to revive his historical legacy", Moe Thuzar said. Since the coup, which triggered a devastating civil war, the military has focused on making Suu Kyi and the NLD "politically irrelevant", she added.

But erasing the memory of Suu Kyi's father is unlikely.

The murder of Aung San and several of his colleagues by local rivals is marked each year as Martyrs' Day, a public holiday when thousands pay their respects at the Yangon mausoleum that holds the victims' remains.

"They can remove the statues, but they can never erase Bogyoke's image," one Yangon resident said, using the Burmese word for general to describe Aung San. "They already hold power, and they have the weapons and the military. I don't know what they are still so afraid of," the 34-year-old said, speaking anonymously due to security concerns.

- 'Incorrect proportions' -

After local media reported the removal of several stat-

ues, government spokeswoman Khaing Khaing Soe said earlier this month that only those with "incorrect proportions and shapes are being systematically reviewed and addressed".

Since 2016, she said in a statement, a review of Aung San statues in more than 100 townships had found some had features "inconsistent with the dignity of such an important historical figure". "Systematic maintenance efforts are being carried out" to prevent "any disrespect toward the commemorative statues", and to ensure "future generations can continue to study Myanmar's historical heritage in a correct and appropriate manner", she added.

One statue installed during the NLD administration was removed earlier this month from Mya Kan Thar Park in Yangon, a local resident said.

Another resident in the township said the statue had been "totally fine, with good proportions".

In late June, authorities also removed a statue from a park in Mudon, in southern Mon state, said a resident speaking anonymously.

Authorities later covered the foundation of the 2019 statue with a plastic sheet, the resident said, adding: "No one has dared to complain."

- Not everyone's hero -

Despite his national hero status, Aung San is feted mostly by ethnic majority Bamar elites, rather than the ethnic minority groups who have fought against central rule for decades, researcher Morgan Michaels said.

Under the Suu Kyi-led government, there were several arguments with ethnic minority groups over the NLD's attempts to erect statues or name infrastructure after Aung San, said Michaels, a Myanmar specialist with the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

The Kachin and the Karenni, for example, "have their own heroes".

"They don't appreciate the imposition... of his likeness and the symbolism that is attached to him, because it's also a symbol of the Bamar dominance of the state," he said. □



Handout photo released by NCN Guyana of Guyana's Prime Minister Mark Phillips (L) and Guyana's Minister of Public Works, Juan Edhill (R), speaking during a press conference in Georgetown on July 19, 2026, after a ferry capsized.

Georgetown, Guyana

An aging ferry carrying

more than 100 people capsized off the coast of Guy-

Ferry capsizes off Guyana, 66 people missing

ana, with 67 saved and rescue teams searching for the rest, officials said Sunday.

The ferry MV Barima left the small English-speaking country at the northeast corner of South America Saturday afternoon with 133 people aboard for a trip from the capital, Georgetown, to the town of Port Kaituma.

Port Kaituma is inland in the oil-rich Essequibo region, and the ferry travels along the coast in the Atlantic

before heading upriver to reach its jungle destination. Initial signs are that the ship flipped over after being hit by a big wave, Public Works Minister Juan Edghill said on Facebook.

"Search and Rescue Advancing. 67 persons, inclusive of 15 children rescued so far," he said.

The accident is a major trauma for this nation of about one million people. The authorities are listing the other 66 people as missing, rather than dead.

Wayne Kitson, an 18-year-old who was among those rescued, said the tragedy struck while the passengers were asleep Saturday night.

Kitson told the Kiskadee Watch, a Guyana news outlet, that he fears his wife and their daughter died in the capsizing.

Kitson suffered minor injuries to his arm, leg and neck, and said he spent six hours in the water until he was rescued. □

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PSA from the Aruba Conservation Foundation: How to behave when you see a "lora"

(Oranjestad)— The conservation of the Yellow-Shouldered Amazon, also known as the 'Lora,' relies on how we act as humans. We've seen many hikers who've encountered the 'Lora' in our protected nature areas and we can certainly imagine the pride and joy it brings to any Aruban. However, not everyone may know how to behave when encountering these clever and social birds. This guide is here to explain the behaviors that will most effectively help us in our efforts to conserve the 'Lora.' Please, don't just read

but also follow these guidelines so we can ensure the survival of these birds for future generations.

No interfering, please

Please refrain from interfering with the "Lora". The Lora is a highly intelligent and social animal, perhaps slightly too friendly because they have gotten used to the rangers as they prepared for their reintroduction. However, it is our collective responsibility to help them adapt to the wild once again. Please play your part by not interfering (calling, provoking etc.) with

the Lora. Simply enjoy their beauty from a safe distance.

Be respectful and keep cats and dogs away

Pets and strays such as cats and dogs are prone to attacking other animals, especially birds, as part of their natural instincts. Please make sure your pets are kept inside of your yard or are kept on a leash when going out for a walk.

Do not feed them food or water

You may think that giving the any food or water is doing



a good deed, but it actually does not contribute to them developing survival skills in the wild. By interfering with the survival instincts of wild animals, we are doing the opposite of helping. Therefore, please do not attempt to give the Loras food or water.

Capturing a Lora is against

the law!

The biggest threat to the Lora before their extinction in 1947 was caused by human activities including poaching and killing of the Lora. Let's work collectively to prevent this from happening again. So when you see the Lora, enjoy their beauty from a distance and admire them as they flourish in the wild. ☐



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CAYA Introduces a Bold New Menu Celebrating Latin Caribbean Flavors



(Oranjestad)—CAYA, one of Aruba's most beloved dining destinations, continues to celebrate the vibrant essence of Latin Caribbean cuisine with an exciting new menu that beautifully balances tradition and innovation.

Nestled in a beautifully restored traditional Aruban Cunucu house, surrounded by lush tropical greenery, CAYA offers guests a dining experience that feels both authentic and contemporary. The restaurant's philosophy is simple yet profound: to create a space where the warmth of island hospitality meets the creativity of modern gastronomy.

The new menu reflects this vision with a series

of inspired dishes that showcase the diversity of Caribbean and Latin American flavors. From Cuba to Colombia, and from Aruba to Mexico, each plate tells a story rooted in heritage and reimagined through CAYA's modern lens.

Among the standout new appetizers are the **Tuna al Tamarindo**, featuring thinly sliced tuna sashimi served with tamarind *leche de tigre*, creamy avocado, marinated onions, radishes, cilantro, and crispy tortillas dusted with *tajín*; and the **Beef Stew Croquettes**, a playful nod to Caribbean comfort food, served with truffle and black garlic mayonnaise. Guests can also savor the **Beef and Pork Brochetas**, made with locally smoked bacon, *Madam Jeannette* peppers, local honey, and tenderloin, grilled to perfection and served with *chimichurri espuma*.

The main courses bring equal excitement. Highlights include the **Chilean Sea Bass**, pan fried and served with a smooth carrot and *ají amarillo* sauce, creamy garlic mashed



potatoes, grilled paksoi and broccoli, hearts of palm, toasted cashews, and a fragrant lime leaf vinaigrette. Another showstopper is the **Duck and Rice**, a Caribbean interpretation of a Peruvian classic, featuring pan fried duck breast with aromatic green rice infused with local herbs, kombucha, and *ají amarillo*, finished with a pan fried egg and *sarsa criolla*.

Dessert lovers are in for a treat as well. The **Caribbean Black Forest** reimagines the classic with a tropical twist, featuring a rich brownie served with red fruit, coconut mousse, chocolate, and banana rum ice cream. The **Merengon Tropical** delights with sage panna

cotta, mango and pineapple compote, mango sorbet, and citrus meringue.

Guests can also enjoy CAYA's new *Sabor Experience*, a limited time three course menu priced at \$79, allowing diners to explore an appetizer, main course, and dessert of their choice.

To complete the experience, CAYA hosts live music every Sunday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., setting the perfect backdrop for an evening of island charm and culinary artistry.

CAYA continues to invite locals and visitors alike to experience the heart of Aruba, where Latin Caribbean heritage comes alive in every dish, every note of music, and every heartfelt welcome. □



The Bali Restaurant: a touristic hot spot and lost gem on the island

(Oranjestad)—Once located by the yacht dock in front of the Parliament building, the Bali Restaurant was once both a touristic and local hot spot, and nowadays it's considered a forgotten gem on the island.

Known as "the floating restaurant", Bali first opened in 1955 by Willem "Bill" Strijland, who had experience in Javanese cuisine. At the time, the restaurant was pretty exclusive—with space to host only 25 guests. Yet, 4 years later, it was named the best restaurant in the Caribbean by the Caribbean Tourist Association.

The restaurant was probably most iconic for its Javanese-inspired exterior with its pointy, slanted roofs. However, the first version of Bali did



not look like that at all but was still considered as one of the most popular restaurants on the island at the time. The restaurant saw three different owners during its existence, during which it underwent various renovations and rebranding.

In 1964, the restaurant was taken over by Karel "Carl" Schmand. Over the years, the restaurant needed constant renovation and repair,

mainly due to its vulnerability to leaks and the unstable pillars underneath the foundation. However, the biggest change made to the restaurant happened in the year 1970—still under the ownership of Schmand, when it got its iconic pointy roofs. The restaurant was also expanded to host a total of 85 guests. This was "The New Bali", who had its official (re)opening in 1972.

After 1972, when Ronny Schmand took over, the restaurant saw yet another expansion; this time complete with a long bar and dance floor, where guests enjoyed live music from legendary Aruban musician and composer, Toti Arends.

After 1989, the restaurant was again handed over to other owners, and

since then suffered from unstable pillars underneath the foundation, resulting in various leaks and overflowing of water into the restaurant. And as most great things come to an end, so did the survival and maintenance of the Bali Restaurant. However, folks today reminisce its legacy, and it's now considered a lost monument. Be a part of the conversation: if you or any family member of yours have a memory of the Bali restaurant, whether it be a picture or just a story, share it with us! We would love to see this legendary hot spot through the lens of our visitors! □

Source and pictures credit to: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.

2,000,000

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Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!



(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.

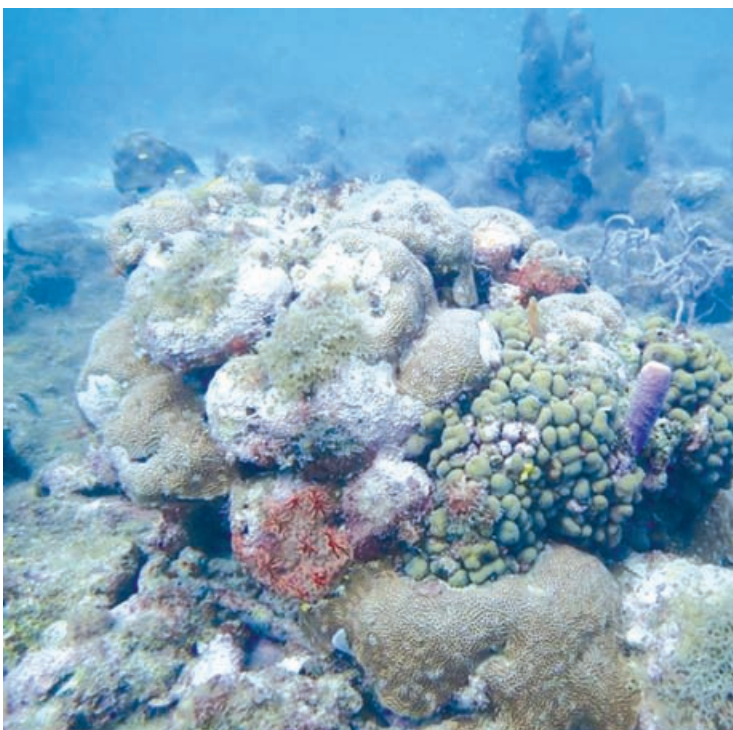
On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather, like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations started to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past

hundred or even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the windward side of Aruba.

These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times on the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.

This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserve our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! ☐



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Po-Ké Ono Brings Bold Asian Fusion to Aruba's Dining Scene

Innovative eatery blends island culture with modern Asian cuisine



In a culinary landscape known for its diversity and creativity, Po-Ké Ono stands out as a vibrant and contemporary addition to Aruba's restaurant scene. With locations at Azure in Palm Beach and the Renaissance Marketplace in Oranjestad, the concept introduces a refreshing take on Asian fusion dining—casual in style, yet refined in execution.

Established in 2020, Po-Ké Ono was envisioned as a space where flavor, culture, and creativity intersect. The menu features an array of signature dishes including poke bowls, steamed bao, and sushi, crafted with precision and a focus on freshness. Drawing on Asian influences, the restaurant delivers bold flavors in an approachable format, appealing to a broad audience of locals and visitors alike.

The ambiance is designed to be welcoming and relaxed, with a philosophy centered

around accessibility and enjoyment. Whether dining indoors or grabbing a quick bowl on the go, guests can expect a consistently high standard in both service and cuisine. With extensive menu options, including selections for vegan diners, Po-Ké Ono caters to a wide range of tastes and dietary preferences.

While the concept leans into fast-casual dining, the quality of ingredients and thoughtful

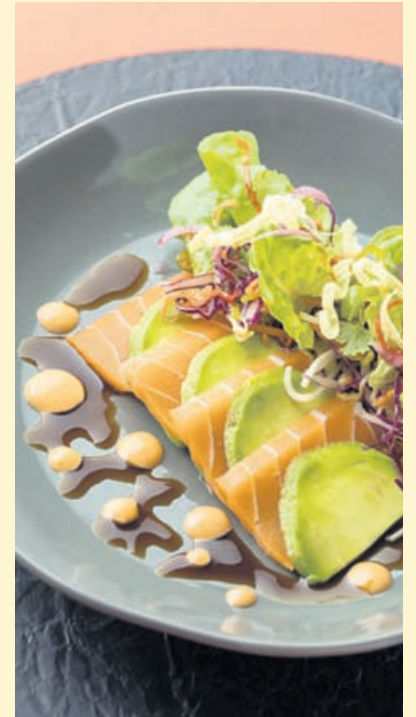


preparation reflect fine-dining roots. Many of the restaurant's core ingredients are sourced locally, emphasizing sustainability and support for Aruba's agricultural community. The result is a dining experience that honors both the island's spirit and the culinary traditions it draws inspiration from.

Open daily from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Po-Ké Ono continues to gain recognition as one of the island's premier destinations for sushi, poke, and

bao. Its growing popularity is a testament to Aruba's evolving food culture—one that embraces global influence while staying rooted in community and craft.

For those seeking a modern taste of Asia in the heart of the Caribbean, Po-Ké Ono offers a flavorful and memorable experience worth exploring. □



Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished



The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the island's past offering unique geological,

cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches during breeding season? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below

on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important

foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting

habitats (Wetlands).

The afore mentioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □



Aruba: The island of Aloes



ORANJESTAD – Aloe Vera, a succulent plant species, is renowned for its incredible properties for the skin. It is widely distributed and usually grows in tropical, semi-tropical and arid climates on the planet. But this plant also had a very prominent role in the history of Aruba, and its significance to the island's economy endures to this day.

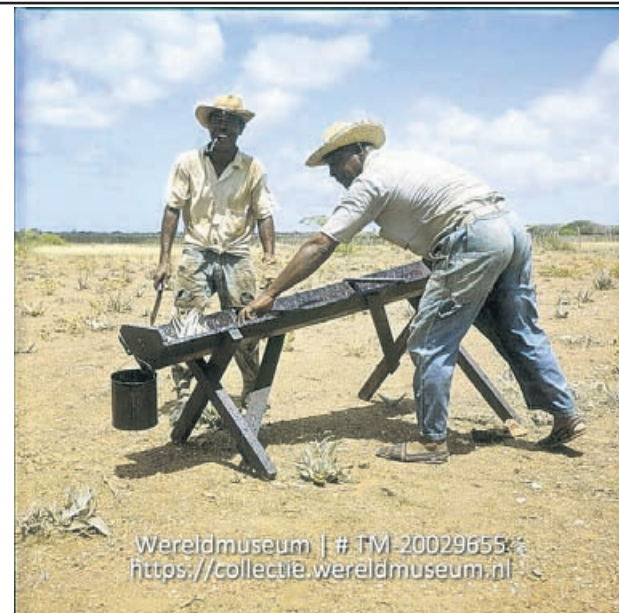
The leaves of Aloe Vera contain a good amount of gel which when used topically, is great for the skin. Traditionally, Arubans use this gel to treat minor burns and other skin ailments, or just to keep skin supple and looking bright and nourished. Aside from the gel, aloe contains a bitter, yellow substance (called aloin) which is a gentle but powerful laxative, and it is also the origin of the industry of aloe in Aruba.

Aloe vera was introduced in Aruba around 1840, when most of the island's inhabitants were farmers of little means. Dutch Governor Van Raders introduced the plant after it had been introduced in other islands of the Caribbean to cultivate and harvest the aloe to produce the laxative.

Around 1920, about two-thirds of Aruba was aloe fields, earning our island the nickname "The Island of Aloes."

Under Commander Jan Helenus Ferguson (1866-1871), aloe experienced a boom, which is why there is a road named after him, which goes through the aloe fields. In the 19th century, Aruba was the main supplier of aloin for laxative, which was imported abroad to the United States and Europe. The aloin from Aruba and Curaçao was known to be one of the best in the world and was more expensive, which meant that at the time, it had significant economic impact, particularly for the local farmers.

However, by the time the oil industry arrived on Aruba, it changed the labor market on Aruba, shifting away from agriculture. It would be after World War II that aloe would make a comeback. And eventually, as science learned about the amazing properties of aloe gel, the industry shifted from producing laxative to producing skin care. An interesting fact is that in



1951, the production of Aruban aloe amounted to around 30 percent of the total global production!

The impact and relevance of aloe is visible all around Aruba. While most homes will have a few plants for personal use and decoration, houses are also decorated with aloe motifs, and at some point, aloe even featured on post stamps. Around 1920, about two-thirds of Aruba was aloe fields, earning our island the nickname "The Island of Aloes." And in 1955, the aloe became a part of Aruba's coat of arms, symbolizing prosperity for the island. □

Images from the archive of the National Library of Aruba.

Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.

Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba; the stones that cover the beach and the shape of it has been crafted for thousands of years through volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.

Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy

to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

Despite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view



of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach

and take a picture with your friends or family! □



(Oranjestad)—Aruba Today recently received a message from a reader

about the rough terrains and dirt roads on the northern side of the island, wor-

PSA for off-roaders: Be careful when driving on rough terrains!

ried about how they may damage you car.

We at Aruba Today pride ourselves in enhancing your Aruba experience through informative articles about our history, culture and places you can visit. With this, we also want to make sure you take care of yourself and your loved ones.

You may encounter some dirt roads that have deep holes or cracks that can be damaging if you are traveling by (regular) car. These holes often occur after heavy rain or during the raining season, primarily because Aruba is a hilly island with a lot of downward streams, so rain water travels downward creating cracks and holes along the way.

For your own safety, please be advised to not drive on potentially dangerous terrains or dirt roads with deep holes if you are traveling by regular car. We advise you to rent a 4x4 vehicle instead or better yet, plan your off-roading trip with a tour guide who can provide proper vehicles and assistance. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

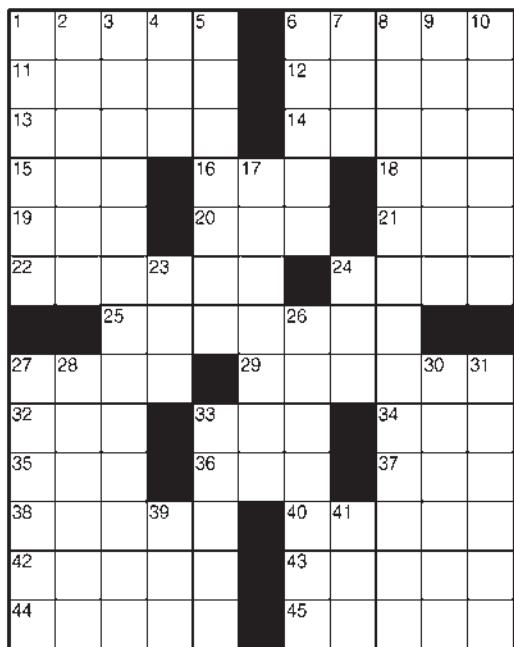
ACROSS

- 1 Kitchen gadget
6 Harold of "Ghost-busters"
11 Be penitent
12 Before, in Brest
13 Crucifixes
14 Best Picture of 1955
15 Squid's squirt
16 Truck part
18 Gadot of "Wonder Woman"
19 Biol. or geol.
20 First número
21 Tea cooler
22 Didn't ignore
24 Crumb carriers
25 Casa-blanca setting
27 Domingo song
29 Short jacket
32 Second número
33 Ornate vase
34 Yale student
35 Place to park
36 Plunked down

- 37 Guitarist Wood
38 Pol's concern
40 "Luther" star Elba
42 Hog rider
43 Caribou's cousin
44 Appears
45 Fairy tale monsters

DOWN

- 1 Parson's domain
2 Right away
3 Beginner's blunder
4 Purpose
5 Firefighter, at times
6 Stallone role
7 Director DuVernay
8 Poll calculation
9 Unbroken
10 Fashions
17 Neighbor of Spain
23 Film noir classic
24 Trick taker, often
26 Peseta division
27 Ignores the script
28 Dorm sharer
30 Precocious Plaza resident
31 Frees of suds
33 Manual readers
39 Opal or onyx
41 Pound occupant



3-24

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.

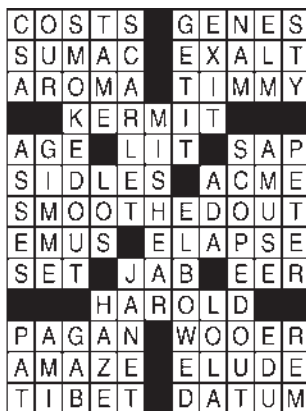
3-24

CRYPTOQUOTE

SGY SKYYV XCHH SYHH SGYCK

VYQKYSV SP SGPVY SGNS

SWTY CT. — VSYDYT LNBYY
Cryptoquote: DON'T WAIT FOR SOMEONE TO BRING YOU FLOWERS. PLANT YOUR OWN GARDEN AND DECORATE YOUR OWN SOUL. — LUTHER BURBANK



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 occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

JULY		CRUISE SHIP SCHEDULE	
07	TUE	CARNIVAL HORIZON Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: B	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C
08	WED	FREEWINDS Arrival: 6:00 Departure: Berth: E	
12	SUN	FREEWINDS Arrival: Departure: 24:00 Berth: E	
14	TUE	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 Berth: B	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS Arrival: 11:30 Departure: 23:00 Berth: C
15	WED	ALLURE OF THE SEAS Arrival: 7:00 Departure: 16:00 Berth: I	FREEWINDS Arrival: 6:00 Departure: Berth: E
19	SUN	FREEWINDS Arrival: Departure: 24:00 Berth: E	
21	TUE	CARNIVAL HORIZON Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 22:00 Berth: B	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS Arrival: 8:00 Departure: 23:00 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

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

Difficulty: ★

7/20

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★

7/19

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Pocket-size AI: Powerful phones star at China show



The Moonshot AI Kimi app is seen on a mobile phone screen in Beijing on July 17, 2026.

Shanghai, China

Tech firms are racing to roll out advanced smartphones that use artificial intelligence to do everything from ordering food to composing messages upon a simple voice command.

Wide adoption of phones running on so-called AI agents would be a revolution, but would also take control away from major apps, which aren't always happy about it.

At least three firms were showcasing so-called agentic phones at the World Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai this weekend -- heralding what may be to come.

Smartphone maker Nubia unveiled its NaviX Ultra, a phone powered by Doubao, China's massively popular AI chatbot tool run by TikTok creator ByteDance.

"A new era of AI agent smartphones begins," Nubia said, sharing images of the handsets online.

A limited run of a prototype dubbed the "Doubao Phone" sold out fast in December.

Initially, the prototype could follow simple voice commands to execute tasks across apps, including ordering food and comparing shopping prices.

However, days after it was released, tech giants including Alibaba, Tencent and JD.com restricted the built-in assistant's access to their platforms.

The move effectively disabled the phone's AI agent, so ByteDance turned off the powerful tool in certain circumstances,

including when payments were involved.

- 'Lose control' -

Gaining broad access to apps owned by other companies is a sticking point for AI agent devices, said Kiranjeet Kaur, associate research director at US market intelligence firm IDC.

Platforms want to keep direct contact with their users, otherwise "they lose control to another party", she added.

"Agenting is everyone's dream, but we haven't reached there yet," as the performance of AI agent tools is still often patchy, Kaur said.

According to Chinese tech media, the NaviX Ultra does not attempt to force its way into apps, but rather seeks to collaborate with them.

The first-generation Doubao phone had been hobbled when major apps blocked unauthorised access.

AFP has contacted Nubia for comment.

Another manufacturer, Honor, showcased an AI system for its "Robot Phone", whose interactive camera flips up on a small robotic arm.

The company says its "companion-centric" device can interpret human gestures and hop to musical rhythms, as well as take selfies and steady videos.

An agent using several AI models, some co-developed with Alibaba, will be embedded in the robot phone when it goes on sale later this year, Honor told AFP.

- 'No clear winner' -

Shanghai-based AI startup StepFun also unveiled an "AI agent-native smartphone", the STEPX Neo, ahead of the World Artificial Intelligence Conference.

StepFun's chairman Yin Qi said "deep partnerships" had been established with several major Chinese platforms, including Alipay and ride-hailing giant Didi, according to a sponsored article in state news agency Xinhua.

"Leveraging these services, the smartphone can provide one-stop support for travel bookings, everyday purchases, local services, office productivity and video editing," it said.

Outside China, big tech companies such as Google are busy infusing smartphones with increasingly

advanced AI features such as the ability to book appointments.

U.S. startup Brain Technologies launched an agentic "Natural AI Phone" which went on sale in Japan in April in partnership with mobile giant SoftBank Corp.

At a demonstration given to AFP in April, Brain Technologies' phone -- which connects with a handful of apps including social network LINE -- messaged a contact to apologise for being late on just an audio command, although it also often failed to carry out requests.

"There is no clear winner in this race yet, which is why it is currently quite a hot topic," said Marc Einstein of Counterpoint Research. But in five or 10 years time, we won't be using apps on our phones "like we do today", he predicted.

"This will fundamentally change the digital economy and disrupt business models." □



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DOCTOR ON DUTY

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

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad: Oduber
Tel. 582 1780

San Nicolas: Aloe
Tel. 584 4606

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

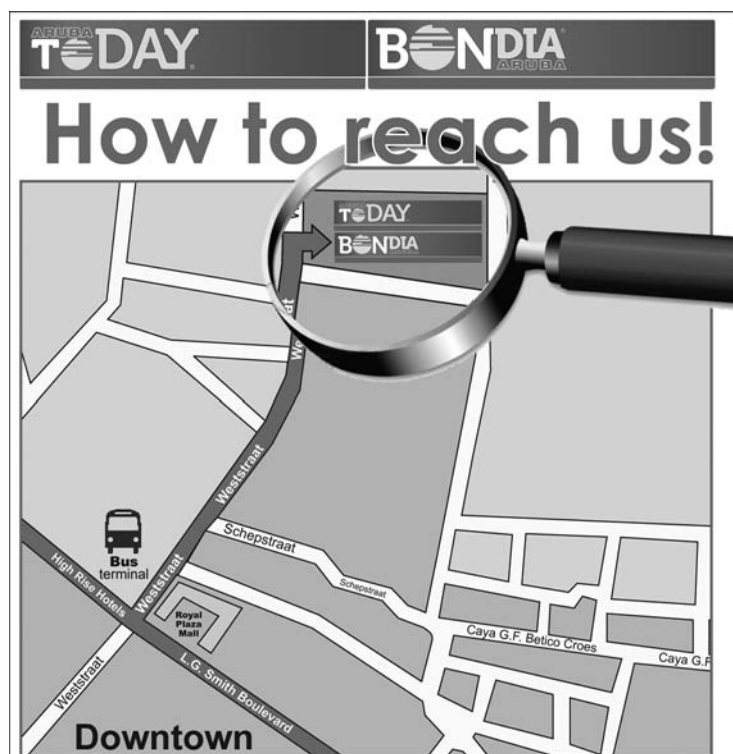
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS



New Zealander Fox birdies last hole for 'surreal' British Open win

Southport, United Kingdom

New Zealander Ryan Fox said winning the British Open was "more than a dream come true" after a birdie at the final hole claimed his first major at 10 under par on Sunday.

The world number 56 produced a two-under-par 68 on the final day to pip American Cameron Young to the Claret Jug by one shot.

Tied for 52nd after playing the first two rounds in level par, Fox produced the largest 36-hole comeback by position ever to win a men's major.

Son of former All Black rugby union international Grant Fox, the 39-year-old equalled the all-time record low score of 62 for a major round on Saturday to set up his shot at history.

As the other overnight contenders faltered on a thrilling final day at Royal Birkdale, Fox produced his best under extreme pressure with birdies at 13, 14, 16 and 18 to claim, by a distance, the biggest win of his career.

"It's still surreal to be honest. To have my name in golf history and to be called the champion golfer of the year is more than a dream come true," said Fox.

"I spoke to my kids last night and they said 'bring back a trophy'. I think this is a pretty cool one to bring back for



New Zealand's Ryan Fox poses with the Claret Jug, the trophy for the Champion golfer of the year after his victory in the 154th Open Golf championship at Royal Birkdale Golf Club near Southport in north-west England on July 19, 2026.

them."

He becomes just the third man from New Zealand to win a major after Bob Charles at the 1964 British Open and Michael Campbell at the US Open in 2005. The Kiwi kept his nerve as others, unaccustomed to the pressure of battling for a major, wilted in a tense final round.

"I pretty much didn't miss a shot yesterday. Kept the same theory today," he added.

"Kept the composure down the stretch and kept aggressive and kept hitting those shots. I'm really proud

of myself for that."

Sam Burns held a two-shot overnight lead, but that vanished in three consecutive bogeys at four, five and six that cost the American his first major as he finished third at eight under par. South Korea's Kim Si-woo moved within sight of his major breakthrough with nine holes to play but was four over on the back nine to finish in a tie for sixth.

Young's shot appeared to have gone with a four-over par back nine on Saturday to leave the American seven shots off the lead at the

beginning of the day.

But the world number four stormed through the front nine in 29 shots to go from three under to eight under par and added more birdies at the two par fives on the 14th and 17th coming home to move to 10 under. However, he found the sand off the tee at 18 and smashed his second shot into the face of the bunker for a costly bogey.

- Scheffler falls short -

Defending champion Scottie Scheffler left himself too much to do as he finished in a tie for fourth at seven

under after a rollercoaster final round of 67.

The world number one began the day six back, but halved that deficit with three birdies in his opening five holes.

Bogeys at the 13th, 15th and 18th ensured he will end 2026 without adding to his four major wins.

"Today was a great effort," said Scheffler. "I gave myself a lot of looks again today. I guess it just wasn't my week." Local hero Tommy Fleetwood finished alongside Scheffler after briefly giving his adoring public belief he could end the wait since 1992 for an English winner of the British Open.

The world number nine was three under for the day through eight holes to close to within one of the lead.

Three consecutive bogeys dropped Fleetwood back to where he started the day at five under before a birdie-birdie finish to move into the top four.

Rory McIlroy was never truly in contention to land his seventh major and ended with a 71 to finish at one under par for the tournament. Bryson DeChambeau's two-shot penalty after his second round on Friday ultimately did not prove decisive in the destiny of the championship as the American finished at four under. □



Shohei Ohtani #17 of the Los Angeles Dodgers scores a run during the third inning against the New York Yankees in game one of a double header at Yankee Stadium on July 19, 2026 in New York City.

New York, United States

Los Angeles Dodgers batting and pitching star Shohei Ohtani will not make a scheduled mound start at Philadelphia on Wednesday

due to lingering knee soreness, manager Dave Roberts said Sunday.

Ohtani missed last Tuesday's Major League Baseball All-Star Game to undergo a

Left knee issues will keep Ohtani off the mound for now

left knee procedure. Ohtani, who has helped the Dodgers win the past two World Series crowns, has been able to swing the bat at the Dodgers' designated hitter, but has been battling the knee issues for more than a month.

He is expected to pitch again this season, Roberts said.

"It's going to be some time," Roberts said, "And I would say that it's not going to be a day-to-day thing."

Roberts said the Dodgers want to let the knee completely heal, mindful that pitching could be what he caused the soreness.

Ohtani was dropped from a scheduled pitching start last week because of left knee irritation that began in a June 11 game at Pittsburgh.

The 32-year-old Japanese right-handed pitcher, a four-time Most Valuable Player, received a lubricating shot in his knee that kept him from the All-Star Game.

Hopes he might fully heal during the All-Star break were not rewarded, so the team has backed down his workload.

"It's all contingent on how

his knee is feeling," Roberts said.

This was set to be Ohtani's first full season pitching and batting since 2023 and he made some starts on the mound when he was not in the batting lineup before returning to two-way duty in May.

The Dodgers want Ohtani in top form both pitching and hitting for the playoffs and face no real pressure in the regular-season chase.

They own the best record in MLB at 62-36 and lead the National League West division by 12 games over Arizona. □

Spain down Argentina to win World Cup, shatter Messi dream

East Rutherford, United States

Ferran Torres scored an extra-time winner as Spain defeated holders Argentina 1-0 to win the World Cup on Sunday and shatter Lionel Messi's dreams of a triumphant farewell to football's greatest stage.

Barcelona striker Torres lashed home a thumping finish in the 106th minute to reward a dominant display by Spain against an Argentina team who failed to register a single shot on target in 120 minutes.

A star-studded crowd of 80,663 that included US President Donald Trump packed East Rutherford's MetLife Stadium to see if Argentina captain Messi could crown his glittering career with a second World Cup victory. But the 39-year-old maestro -- almost certainly playing in his final World Cup game -- was reduced to irrelevance as Spain took control early on against an Argentina team who committed a catalogue of cynical fouls throughout.

The South Americans' skullduggery ended with midfielder Enzo Fernandez being sent off after a brutal challenge on Spain defender Pau Cubarsi in injury time.

For long periods though it looked as if Argentina may somehow hold on for a penalty shoot-out as Spain struggled to make the breakthrough.

But after Nico Williams had a goal controversially disallowed in extra-time, Spain struck.

A lofted cross to the back post by Pedro Porro found Williams who nodded into the path of Torres to crash home the goal that would clinch Spain's second World Cup title after their maiden 2010 triumph.

Earlier, a clear sign of Argentina's frustration came in the 15th minute when Alexis Mac Allister went flying in with a studs-up challenge that struck Dani Olmo's ankle.

Mac Allister escaped an early yellow card although after Slovenian referee Slavko Vincic only awarded a foul.

Spain made their presence felt moments later though,



Ferran Torres of Spain shoots during the FIFA World Cup 2026 Final match between Spain and Argentina at New York New Jersey Stadium on July 19, 2026 in East Rutherford, United States.

with Alex Baena poleaxing Messi with an elbow to the back that again escaped sanction.

Argentina continued to test referee Vincic's patience with a series of niggly challenges, and Nicolas Tagliafico was lucky not to

be cautioned after raking Lamine Yamal's calf in a clumsy challenge.

- Lopsided half -

Spain meanwhile continued to probe for openings but Mikel Oyarzabal failed to seriously test Emi Martinez with

a low shot that the Argentina goalkeeper gathered easily in the 39th minute.

Eventually though Vincic did reach for a yellow card, with Lisandro Martinez booked for a cynical challenge on Oyarzabal.

Martinez was substituted shortly afterwards with an apparent injury, veteran Nicolas Otamendi coming on in his place.

The final's controversial extended half-time show featuring the likes of Madonna, Shakira and Justin Bieber stretched to 27 minutes but did little to upset Spain's rhythm.

The Spanish piled on the pressure in a lopsided second half as Argentina hung on grimly.

Spain coach de la Fuente sent on Pedri and Ferran Torres for Fabian Ruiz and

Oyarzabal and the chances continued with Argentina in full siege mode.

Yamal twisted away and chipped a cross for Torres, whose downward header was saved by Martinez.

Pedri and Cubarsi both lashed long-range shots that Martinez failed to grasp at the first attempt but somehow Argentina continued to hold on.

But the arrival of substitutes Williams and Mikel Merino gave fresh life to Spain's attacking momentum, and the onslaught continued.

Fernandez was booked for dissent in the 82nd minute before Torres and Rodri both fired long-range shots from Martinez.

Fernandez's dismissal left Spain down to 10 men heading into extra-time. □



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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.

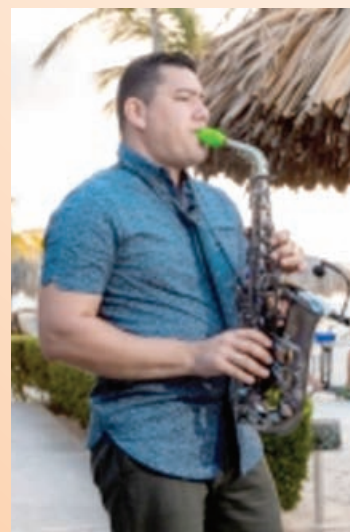
Start your day off with a hearty breakfast. Water's Edge offers a variety of delicious breakfast items, including their house specialties of Avocado Toast, Chicken & Waffles made with homemade Belgium waffles and topped with a gorgeous hot honey sauce. If you want something on the sweeter side, try their 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. For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website watersedgearuba.com