



FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT®

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Special Reporting Service

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Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily – Weekend Update

INDEX

CULINARY: 22 DEAD

ILLINOIS CASINOS GET TAX BREAK

MACAU VISITATION STARTING TO GROW

OPENINGS: CA, MGM, NY, RUSH ST, UK, WY

COMPANIES: GENTING SING, LVS, MGM

US: CA, MN, WI

INTERNATIONAL: SUMMIT ASCENT

FANTINI'S VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW

CONVENTIONS, TRADE SHOWS, CONFERENCES, EXPOS

CULINARY: 22 DEAD

The Culinary Union is calling for the Nevada legislature and casinos to strengthen health protocols saying COVID-19 has cost the lives of 22 union members or of their families and that 352 have been hospitalized from March 1 through July 15.

The number of cases has jumped 800 percent since casinos began to reopen on June 4, Nevada's largest casino union said.

ILLINOIS CASINOS GET TAX BREAK

Illinois casinos are set to benefit from tax breaks ahead of schedule as part of COVID relief.

Legislation that revised gaming revenue tax structures to help make a Chicago casino feasible also reduced taxes for existing casinos. An amendment removed a provision that would have made casinos wait until after the Chicago casino opens before getting the tax breaks.

MACAU VISITATION STARTING TO GROW

Macau visitation has started to grow since Guangdong Province ended its 14-day quarantine requirement on Wednesday.

Visitation has been running at 2,000 persons a day compared to a few hundred before Wednesday, GGRAsia quoted Macau tourism Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes.

Guangdong is Macau's biggest feeder market accounting for 25 percent of gaming revenue.

Edward Engel of Macquarie remains cautious on Macau stocks expecting a slow recovery.

If average daily revenue exceeds 25 percent of last year's because of Guangdong's reopening, there could be investor excitement on possible future pent-up demand, he said. If revenues fall short of 15 percent, that would affirm that the impact of eased travel restrictions is minimal, Engel said.

OPENINGS: CA, MGM, NY, RUSH ST, UK, WY

NOTE: An interactive map and list of US casino openings and closings are at <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/gaming/fantini-s-covid-19-gaming-daily.html>.

- CALIFORNIA. Havasu Landing casino reopens Monday after closing July 10 when an employee tested positive for COVID.

No other employees have tested positive since then, the casino said.

- MGM RESORTS reopened Vdara hotel in CityCenter in Las Vegas.

The Mirage and Park MGM remain closed.

- NEW YORK. Akwesasne Mohawk Casino plans to open August 3 although an employee tested positive.

The casino will not operate table games or bingo and slots will be spaced out.

Elsewhere, Oneida Nation will reopen the sportsbooks at its three casinos on Wednesday.

- RUSH STREET. Rivers Philadelphia has reopened again with additional safety and social distancing measures in place after closing earlier this month after an employee tested positive for COVID-19.

- UNITED KINGDOM. Casinos in England will finally be allowed to open on August 1.

The Betting and Gaming Council is asking Wales and Scotland to permit casinos in those countries to reopen on that day, too.

- WYOMING. Wind River Casino near Riverton reopens on Wednesday.

COMPANIES: GENTING SING, LVS, MGM

- GENTING SINGAPORE's Resorts World Sentosa and LAS VEGAS SANDS' Marina Bay Sands in Singapore had visitors carrying COVID-19 while still infectious after casinos reopened earlier this month, GGRAsia quoted Singapore's Ministry of Health.

- MGM RESORTS. Unions representing workers at MGM Springfield in Massachusetts are asking the company to extend employee benefits through the end of the year, MassLive reports.

The company has committed to the benefits through August.

US: CA, MN, WI

- CALIFORNIA. Casino Morongo, the smaller sister property of Morongo Casino and Resort in Riverside County, has replaced its bingo room with 100 slot machines and eight blackjack tables and has gone smoke-free.

- MINNESOTA. Black Bear casino near Carlton is temporarily going smoke-free.

- WISCONSIN. Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee sent layoff notices to 1,600 employees.

The casino had 2,600 employees prior to the shutdown.

INTERNATIONAL: SUMMIT ASCENT

- SUMMIT ASCENT's Tigre de Cristal near Vladivostok in Russia's Far East will temporarily have lower taxes as part of Russia's COVID-19 relief measures, Asia Gaming Brief reported.

Taxes for every slot machine will now be \$42 vs. \$200 and per table games \$700 from \$1,750.

The tax relief period runs through October.

FANTINI'S VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW

Don't let the cancellation of G2E stop you from getting your products seen. Now is the time to turn to our virtual show where you can display and advertise all your products, video demos and news events too.

Become an exhibitor today by contacting Dee Wild-Shyver at DWild@FantiniResearch.com.

Visit the trade show at www.FantinisGamingShow.com.

CONVENTIONS, TRADE SHOWS, CONFERENCES, EXPOS

Shows and conferences have been canceled or postponed, due to the coronavirus outbreak. As new dates become available or for those that transition to online, they will be listed in our calendar at <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/conventions.html>.

ABOUT THIS REPORT:

In Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily report we consolidate all developments about the virus that have business and investment implications for the gaming industry. We will post them on our website until further notice. Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily is a Special Report that is included with all levels of Fantini's Gaming Report subscriptions.

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