

Is it Safe to go to a Theme Park?

Friday, July 24, 2020

To All Financial Journey Partners Clients,

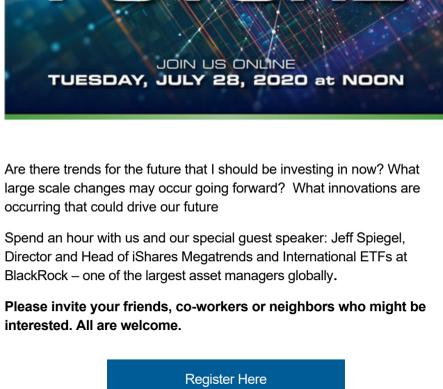
Around the world, theme parks have been opening in a safe manner. It is not surprising that there have been challenges along the way with venues that serve large numbers of people. These companies are learning and evolving along the way. It gives us a view of how the world is trying to move forward in a world with the Coronavirus.

NEXT WEEK: "Megatrends for the Future" Webinar on Tuesday

With all the tough news of the present, we are eager to focus with you on the future!

Join us online for our "Megatrends for the Future" webinar, on Tuesday, July 28, at noon, where we will cover some of the amazing developments happening now and over the next 5 years. We will discuss the megatrends:

- Technological breakthroughs
- Demographics & social change
- Rapid urbanization
- Climate change & resource scarcity
- Emerging global wealth



Are there trends for the future that I should be investing in now? What large scale changes may occur going forward? What innovations are occurring that could drive our future

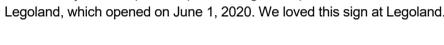
Spend an hour with us and our special guest speaker: Jeff Spiegel, Director and Head of iShares Megatrends and International ETFs at BlackRock – one of the largest asset managers globally.

Please invite your friends, co-workers or neighbors who might be interested. All are welcome.

[Register Here](#)

Is it Safe to go to a Theme Park?

The reopening of theme parks around the world have been met with strong enthusiasm by die-hard fans. While others are shocked that they could even open. The good news is that after a thorough online search, we could find no evidence of significant increases of COVID-19 cases related to the reopening of the parks.

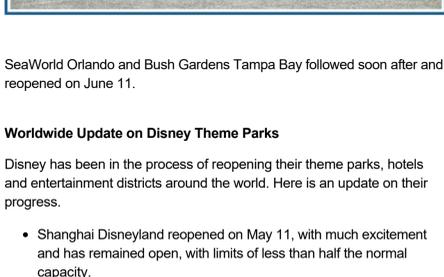


New procedures implemented at the parks include wearing masks for employees and guests, temperature checks at the entrance, making procedures touchless when possible (such as the entry turnstiles), reduced capacity on rides and in the park and markings for physical distancing. Even a recent adjustment at Disney World where visitors may not walk while eating because it requires removing face masks.

The first major theme park to open to the general public in Florida was Legoland, which opened on June 1, 2020. We loved this sign at Legoland.



A few days later, Universal Studios in Orlando reopened on June 4, 2020. People visiting the park reported low attendance and on June 24 the company announced they were laying off employees throughout their divisions¹. Wearing a mask all day in the hot Florida sun may not be everyone's idea of a good time.



SeaWorld Orlando and Bush Gardens Tampa Bay followed soon after and reopened on June 11.

Worldwide Update on Disney Theme Parks

Disney has been in the process of reopening their theme parks, hotels and entertainment districts around the world. Here is an update on their progress.

- Shanghai Disneyland reopened on May 11, with much excitement and has remained open, with limits of less than half the normal capacity.
- Hong Kong reopened on June 18, but closed again starting on July 15, after the number of cases of the virus increased in the area².



- Tokyo Disneyland and DisneySea reopened on July 1, with the recommendation that thrill-seekers asked to "refrain from vocalizing loudly" on roller coasters and other rides. Park operators offered advice to "scream in your heart" and shared a video to show it was possible⁴
- Disneyland Paris began a phased reopening of the resort on July 15, with both theme parks.
- Disneyworld in Florida opened all four theme parks in mid-July. Notice the sign the cast member is holding.



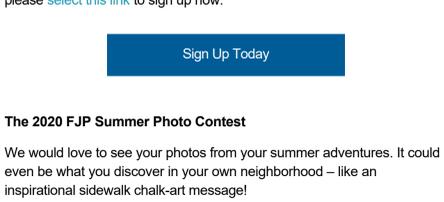
- Disneyland and California Adventure remain closed in Southern California as California continues a more conservative approach.

Theme Parks in Northern California

Regarding the parks in Northern California, Six Flags Vallejo is closed, but their Marine World Experience is open, allowing people to visit their animals on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays³. The amount of people allowed in is limited so reservations are required to attend.



California's Great America Park in Santa Clara remains closed based on statewide restrictions from Governor Gavin Newsom.



Please Take our Short Survey on the Stock Market and Economy

In our newsletter a few weeks ago, we did a deep dive on the state of the economy and stock market. You can find it on our website if you missed it. We asked people to complete a short survey to give your thoughts regarding the state of the stock market and economy:

- What will be the shape of the economic recovery?
- Do you think there will be an effective vaccine for the Coronavirus in 12 months?
- Where will the US Stock Market (S&P 500) end up at the end of the year?
- Do you think there should be more Federal government stimulus programs passed?

If you have not already completed the survey, it is not too late. We will report the results in a future weekly client email.

[This is What I Think!](#)

Sign Up For this Newsletter

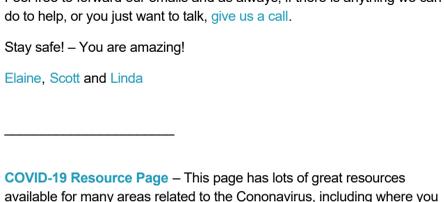
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If you are not a client and would like to register to receive this newsletter, please select this link to sign up now.

[Sign Up Today](#)

The 2020 FJP Summer Photo Contest

We would love to see your photos from your summer adventures. It could even be what you discover in your own neighborhood – like an inspirational sidewalk chalk-art message!



Simply email your photos to Arielle at arielle@financialjourney.com. We'd love to hear your story behind it too. You can enter as many times as you like up until August 31. Remember there will be prizes too! You can find all the details on our website here.

Where Do We Go From Here?

It is encouraging to see steps being made to move forward, such as the reopening of theme parks and each park working on new ways to have visitors enjoy attractions safely.

This week, Elaine and Scott watched a live exhibition game on TV between the Oakland A's and San Francisco Giants. It was fantastic to see live sports again although strange to see the photos of fans in the seats. The major sports leagues are moving forward to start playing again in the near future. We will give an update on professional sports next week.

We have been talking about the amazing fruits and vegetables available at the farmer's market in Sunnyvale. Here are a few photos from last week's visit.



We hope you get a chance to get out and enjoy the nice summer weather. Be sure to snap a few photos along the way.

Feel free to forward our emails and, as always, if there is anything we can do to help, or you just want to talk, give us a call.

Stay safe! – You are amazing!

Elaine, Scott and Linda

COVID-19 Resource Page – This page has lots of great resources available for many areas related to the Cononavirus, including where you can get free COVID-19 testing in Santa Clara County, stats, government programs and the latest information on what businesses are open and closed.

References

¹ NBC News – [Universal Orlando laying off workers just two weeks after reopening](#)

² ET – [Hong Kong Disneyland Reclosing After Coronavirus Cases Spike](#)

³ Six Flags – [The Marine World Experience](#)

⁴ NPR – ["Please Scream Inside Your Heart", Japanese Amusement Park Tells Thrill-Seekers](#)

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