

# 2008 PLANNERS' GUIDE



# WELCOME

## Welcome to Las Vegas!!!

We are excited for this year's conference and hope you are too. As in the past, the sessions, workshops, presentations and events will be excellent. We hope that you take full advantage of the APA 2008 schedule. When you have a break in your busy schedule, we are ready to guide you to our favorite places in Las Vegas.

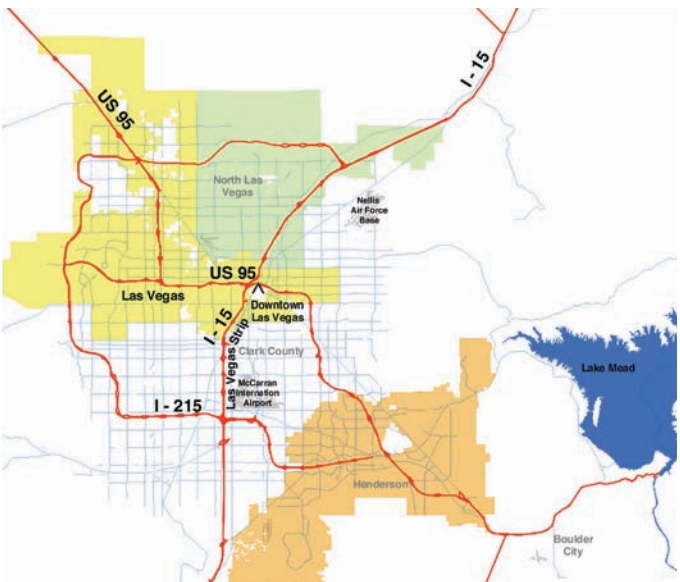
This Planners' Guide offers a handy "locals" view of what to see and do in Las Vegas. Come explore the City of Lights and its beautiful surrounding areas. You will find places to dine, shop, be entertained and enjoy the nightlife both on and off The Strip.

For those of you visiting Las Vegas for the first time, you will find that there are plenty of things to see and do for people of all interests, not just gambling (although you cannot leave Las Vegas without spending some time in one or more of our fabulous casinos!). You will find world-class restaurants and shows, museums, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. For those of you returning, we encourage you to try something new.

Spring is a beautiful time to be in Las Vegas. Enjoy the conference and our city, and come back again, soon!

The Planners' Guide Committee

APA 2008, Las Vegas



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Dining Pricing Guide:  
\$ Cheap  
\$\$ Average  
\$\$\$ Pricey  
\$\$\$\$ High Rollers Only

# HISTORY OF LAS VEGAS



Las Vegas was home to permanent settlers as early as 300BC when the Anasazi tribe, and later the Paiute tribe around 1500 AD, cultivated crops along the area's many artesian springs. It then became a stop on the Old Spanish Trail in the 1800s. But it was the routing through Las Vegas of the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad (now Union Pacific) that spurred the growth of modern Las Vegas. On May 15, 1905, a total of 110 acres of land was auctioned off in what is now downtown Las Vegas, and the City of Las Vegas incorporated in 1911 with a population of approximately 800.

Still additional forces drove Las Vegas's growth. In 1931, the State of Nevada legalized gaming, made the divorce laws more favorable, and construction on the Hoover Dam began. People flocked to Las Vegas for both work and pleasure. Due to Las Vegas's isolated location, the area was considered a top destination by the military, and in 1941 the Army Air Corps opened a gunnery school on what is now Nellis Air Force Base.

In the 1960s, large corporations began investing in Las Vegas due to the vision of Howard Hughes, who at his prime owned over half a dozen casinos on The Strip. The investments of these large, publicly-traded corporations eventually forced the mob out of the gaming industry. It was also around this time that the community was born; Green Valley in Henderson became the Valley's first in the 70s and 80s, and Summerlin (on land once owned by Howard Hughes) soon followed.

And in the late 1980s the phenomenon of the "mega resort" literally erupted with the opening of The Mirage and Excalibur. Dozens of new casinos followed, and the rest, as they say, is history.



## **Silver Nugget:**

At 66%, Nevada was the fastest-growing state in the 1990 and 2000 census. For that same decade, Las Vegas was the fastest growing metropolitan area at 83.3%. Las Vegas, founded in 1905, is the largest American city founded in the 20th Century.

# PLANNERS' FAVORITES

Everywhere you look there is something to see and do in Las Vegas, but when your time to explore is limited, all of those choices can be a little overwhelming. Here's a list, compiled by local planners, of our favorite destinations that you shouldn't miss.

**The Fountains and the Conservatory at Bellagio:** Hidden under the lake in front of the Bellagio are 1,200 nozzles and 4,500 lights that come to life and perform to music ranging from Pavarotti to Sinatra.

**Red Rock Scenic Loop:** The Red Rock Scenic Loop drive is a great way to experience the splendor of the 197,000-acre Red Rock National Recreation Area. The 13-mile loop will take you past brightly colored rock formations, a wide variety of desert plants and open vistas.

**Fremont Street Experience:** If you think the bright lights are just on The Strip, then you haven't seen the free Viva Vision show at the Fremont Street Experience. Over 12.5 million synchronized LED lights put on a show like no other.

**The View from the Top of the Stratosphere:** Get a 360-degree panoramic view of Las Vegas from the tallest freestanding observation tower in the United States. The outdoor deck at 869 feet and the indoor deck at 857 feet provide views of the valley that you just can't get anywhere else.

**Las Vegas Springs Preserve:** Built at the site of the birth place of Las Vegas, the new 180-acre Springs Preserve celebrates the natural and cultural history of Las Vegas. Boasting exhibits, galleries, trails, gardens and Wolfgang Puck's Springs Café, there's a little something for everyone.

**Hoover Dam:** Over 725 feet high, Hoover Dam is the highest concrete dam in the western hemisphere and was named one of the Top 10 Construction Achievements of the 20th Century.

**The Forum Shops at Caesar's Palace:** Talking statues, a spectacular battle for the city of Atlantis and a 50,000-gallon salt-water aquarium filled with tropical fish, sharks and rays make a visit to the Forum Shops much more than a shopping trip!

**The Roller Coaster at New York New York:** If you find yourself flying past a replica of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor at 67 miles an hour, you must be on The Roller Coaster at New York New York. And you thought a royal flush was exciting!

# SEVEN DEADLY SINS



**1. Lust:** Nevada state law allows brothels to be licensed to operate in counties with a population of 400,000 people or less, meaning it is illegal only in Clark (Las Vegas) and Washoe (Reno) Counties. Vegas isn't as sinful as you thought it was!

**2. Gluttony:** The ultimate eating experience for the smallest price is the Las Vegas buffet. Las Vegas does have very liberal liquor laws; you may drink in public and on the sidewalks on The Strip and Downtown. Smoking is permitted inside ALL large casinos, strip clubs, and stand-alone bars not serving food. Restaurants inside casinos are non-smoking.

**3. Greed:** The legal age for gambling or gaming in the State of Nevada is 21 years of age.

**4. Sloth:** Las Vegas is known for having some of the finest spas in the world. Treat yourself to relaxation, tranquility and rejuvenation through pools, hot tubs, massages, saunas, exercise rooms, facials, manicures, pedicures, aroma therapy and many other services to destress and get away from it all!

**5. Wrath:** Las Vegas is pedestrian-friendly, but make sure to use the crosswalks; jay-walking here carries a \$95 fine. We want you to be safe and don't want you to spend more money walking than on a rental car.

**6. Envy:** Las Vegas is known throughout the globe as The Entertainment Capital of the World. There are so many fabulous choices for sightseeing. By far, the single best piece of advice about sightseeing in Las Vegas is this: Bring along soft, comfortable shoes!

**7. Pride:** Las Vegas is hot in the summer and cool in the winter, but the dress is normally casual. You'll find a select few show rooms and gourmet dining establishments require a more dressy attire like a cocktail dress or a dinner jacket. Also, it's a good idea to bring a sweater or light coat because even though it is warm outside during the day, the night air and the air conditioning inside the casinos can be chilly.

# TRANSPORTATION

**Bus:** The CAT system includes “The Deuce” (a double-decker bus) which runs north and southbound on the Las Vegas Strip. [www.rtcsonthernnevada.com/cat](http://www.rtcsonthernnevada.com/cat).

**Las Vegas Monorail:** This is an elevated transit system on the east side of the Las Vegas Strip with stations at the following hotels: The Sahara, Las Vegas Hilton, Harrahs/Imperial Palace, Flamingo, Ballys and the MGM Grand. It operates Mon - Thu: 7 a.m. - 2 a.m., Fri - Sun: 7 a.m. - 3 a.m. <http://www.lvmonorail.com>.

**Taxi Cabs:** There are several different companies in Las Vegas.....but be aware, you cannot “hail” a cab in Nevada. Most hotels have taxi stands out front, so you do not have to call ahead. HOWEVER, the lines at these taxi stands are frequently very long, and you may end up waiting a half-hour or more to actually get a cab.....so plan ahead.

**Car Rental Companies:** All the major agencies, as well as some smaller ones, are located at the McCarran International Airport. [www.mccarran.com/03\\_carrentals.asp](http://www.mccarran.com/03_carrentals.asp).

**Shuttles/Limos:** There are many different companies for this kind of service in Las Vegas. [www.mccarran.com/03\\_shuttles\\_01.asp](http://www.mccarran.com/03_shuttles_01.asp).

**City Ride Bus Service:** This is the bus system for the city of Las Vegas, which operates in the downtown area. [www.lasvegasnevada.gov/information/5384.htm](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/information/5384.htm).

**Las Vegas Strip Trolley:** This is a trolley that has routes throughout downtown and The Strip, and operates from 8:30 a.m. to 12 a.m. daily. [www.striprolley.com](http://www.striprolley.com).

**The Mirage/Treasure Island Tram:** This elevated complimentary tram operates between 9 a.m. and 12 a.m. daily between Treasure Island and The Mirage hotels.

**Excalibur/Mandalay Bay Tram:** This elevated complimentary tram operates 24 hours daily between Mandalay Bay, The Luxor and Excalibur hotels.



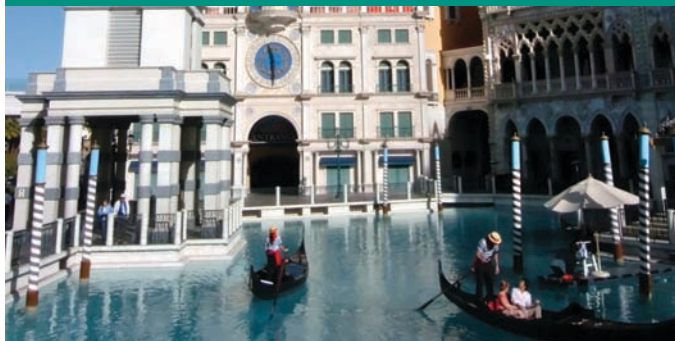
## **Silver Nuggets:**

Nevada is home for the “Loneliest Road in America” (US Highway 50) and the “Extraterrestrial Highway” (State Route 375).

Fremont Street in downtown Las Vegas became the city’s first paved boulevard in 1925.

Carson City, Nevada is the only state capital without a US Interstate highway going through it.

# THE STRIP



The Strip is a 4-mile stretch of Las Vegas Blvd., extending from Sahara Avenue to the famous “Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas” sign near Russell Road. Most of The Strip has been designated as a National Scenic Byway and includes 17 of the 20 biggest hotels in the U.S., world-class restaurants and entertainment.

## PLACES OF INTEREST

### **Guggenheim Hermitage Museum, The Venetian**

Opened in 2001, this world-class facility features special art retrospectives worthy of any museum in the world. To date, exhibitions have included works of van Gogh, Monet, Renoir, Cezanne and Picasso.

Admission: \$10-\$15. (702) 414-2440. [www.guggenheimlasvegas.org](http://www.guggenheimlasvegas.org). Hours: Open daily from 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; last ticket sold at 7 p.m.

### **Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art**

Located at the heart of the elegant Bellagio resort, the gallery presents world-class exhibitions of artworks and objects drawn from internationally acclaimed museums and private collections. Past exhibitions have included the works of Picasso, Ansel Adams, Monet, Andy Warhol, and Faberge.

Admission: \$12-\$17. (877) 957-9777. [www.bgfa.biz](http://www.bgfa.biz). Reservations suggested, but walk-ins taken every 15 minutes. Hours: Sun - Thu: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., and Fri - Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.



#### **Silver Nugget:**

In 1938, former Los Angeles Police Captain, Guy McAfee, purchased the Pair-O-Dice Club, one of the first nightclubs on what is now known as “The Strip”. He coined the phrase “The Strip” because the road reminded him of L.A.’s Sunset Strip.



# THE STRIP



## **Eiffel Tower, Paris**

This 50-story Eiffel Tower replica is about half the size of the original. Its observation deck, at 460 feet, is the perfect location for viewing The Strip and the entire Las Vegas valley. Cameras are a must!

Admission: \$9 for adults, \$7 for seniors 65 and older and children 6-12. Children under five are free. Hours: Daily, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 a.m., weather permitting.

## **The Fountains of Bellagio & Conservatory**

An absolute locals' favorite and known around the world, these fountains are a sight to behold. Approximately 1,200 water jets and cannons are professionally choreographed to 12 different songs, ranging from Sinatra to Pavarotti, and shoot water over 200 feet in the air.

The displays in the conservatory are changed seasonally, and each one showcases approximately 40 trees, 1,500 shrubs and 10,000 blooming plants. Flowers and plants for the conservatory, including weeping willows, miniature roses, and dahlias, are shipped from all over the country, but many are also grown on-site.

Hours: Fountains – every 30 minutes and every 15 minutes from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Mon - Fri, every 30 minutes 12 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and every 15 minutes 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. weekends; Conservatory – 24 hours daily. Admission: Free.

## **Volcano, The Mirage**

The “eruption” shoots bright orange flames at about 100 feet above the water, creating a brilliant contrast to the dark sky. Located outside the Mirage hotel-casino, on The Strip between Flamingo Road and Spring Mountain Road.

Admission: Free. Hours: Beginning at 8 p.m., the volcano erupts every hour until 12 a.m.

# THE STRIP



## **Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat, The Mirage**

Actually two separate exhibits, the Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat are truly a unique Vegas experience. While the dolphins do not perform “shows,” you can view them at play, at rest, and often interacting with visitors. The Secret Garden is home to beautiful large cats, including white tigers, white lions, snow leopards, and black panthers. Learn all about these amazing animals right on The Strip.

Admission: \$15 adults; \$3 children 4-12. Hours: Open daily, 11 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. weekends.

## **The Roller Coaster, New York New York**

A New York City cab ride is a cake-walk compared to this! A revolutionary steel coaster, this was the first coaster to use a “heartline” barrel roll inverted loop, which can be clearly seen from the Las Vegas Strip. The first drop is 144 feet, and it reaches speeds up to 67 miles per hour.

Admission: \$12.50 for 1st ride; \$6 each additional ride; \$25 all-day pass. (702) 740-6969. [www.newyorknewyorkcasino.com](http://www.newyorknewyorkcasino.com). Hours: Sun - Thu: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Fri - Sat: 10:30 a.m. to 12 a.m.

## **Adventuredome, Circus Circus**

Billed as 5 acres of indoor fun, Adventuredome is one of the only totally enclosed theme parks around. With something for the whole family, Adventuredome has a wild assortment of attractions including a roller coaster, a log flume ride, popular carnival and thrill rides, games, lazer tag, and of course clowns, all within air-conditioned comfort. Please call for hours of operation. (866) 456-8894. [www.adventuredome.com](http://www.adventuredome.com).

Admission: Single rides range from \$4 to \$7 each; All-day passes range from \$15 to \$25.

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## Speed, Sahara

The fastest ride in Las Vegas, Speed catapults riders out of the station at 45 miles per hour, plunges under the sidewalk and along The Strip, into a loop, then catapults you again to 70 miles per hour. Speed snakes its way through the Sahara's giant marquis sign, shoots straight up a 200-foot tower, and then does it all in reverse!

Admission: \$10 per ride or \$22 for an all-day pass. (702) 737-2111. [www.saharavegas.com](http://www.saharavegas.com). Hours: Sun - Thu: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m., Fri-Sat: 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.

## Stratosphere Tower

Stretching an amazing 1,149 feet into the desert sky, Stratosphere is the tallest building west of the Mississippi. And if that isn't spectacular enough for you, three horrific rides sit atop its observation deck: Insanity, a spinning swing ride that literally dangles riders 900 feet above Las Vegas; Big Shot, which blasts riders up to mere feet from the tip of the tower's mast; and X-Scream, a teeter-totter that dips riders over the edge of the observation deck. Leave your fear of heights on the ground!

Admission: \$11 tower admission only; \$17 tower admission + 1 ride; \$25 tower admission + 3 rides; \$31 all-day pass. (702) 380-7777. [www.stratospherehotel.com](http://www.stratospherehotel.com).



### Silver Nuggets:

The Stratosphere Tower is 1,149-feet-high, making it the tallest building west of the Mississippi and the tallest free-standing observation tower in the United States.

Clark County provided services to approximately 2 million residents and 43 million visitors per year in 2007.

Approximately 45% of the Nevada state budget relies on gambling taxes.

# THE STRIP



## Music

*You can find live music in almost every casino on The Strip, but here are a few hangouts that take great, live music a bit more seriously.*

### **House of Blues, Mandalay Bay**

It's all about the music, and the legendary House of Blues (HOB) delivers like no one else. In fact, there's almost too much to mention: free original live rock and blues shows, salsa merengue, the famous Sunday Gospel Brunch, Rockstar Karaoke (with a live band!), 80s cover bands, comedy, a full restaurant, a bar and lounge, and of course the biggest names in music. Las Vegas's best local bands also frequent the HOB. It's definitely a music mecca. (702) 632-7600. [www.hob.com/lasvegas](http://www.hob.com/lasvegas).

### **Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville, Flamingo**

As the name implies, the theme here is good times in a tropical paradise. There is live music and dancing nightly. But even when there isn't, there's plenty to do in this 3-story restaurant and bar with an outdoor balcony practically perched atop The Strip. (702) 733-3302. [www.margaritavillelasvegas.com](http://www.margaritavillelasvegas.com).

### **Carnaval Court Bar & Grill, Harrah's**

The perfect Strip location to sit outside, drink a beer or cocktail, and enjoy fantastic live music daily. Musical acts include pop, jazz, and beach music. Carnaval Court was also voted one of the best flair bars in the country (think of the movie *Cocktail*). There are even live table games on weekends at Carnaval Court! (702) 369-5000. [www.harrahslasvegas.com](http://www.harrahslasvegas.com).

### **The Bar at Times Square, New York New York**

Everyone loves a great dueling piano show, and the hands-down local favorite is at New York New York. Shows occur daily/nightly. (702) 236-0374. [www.newyorknewyorklasvegas.com](http://www.newyorknewyorklasvegas.com).

# THE STRIP

## DINING

### **Bally's Steakhouse, Bally's**

Steakhouse with a famous Sunday "Sterling Brunch." (702) 967-7999. Hours: Daily 5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. \$\$\$.

### **Battista's Hole in the Wall**

*4041 Audrie Street (at Flamingo)*

Italian complete with all-you-can-drink wine with each entrée in a kitschy atmosphere fit for the Rat Pack; a Las Vegas favorite! (702) 732-1424. [www.battistaslasvegas.com](http://www.battistaslasvegas.com). Hours: Daily 4:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. \$\$.

### **Border Grille, Mandalay Bay**

Mexican restaurant owned by the "Two Hot Tamales" with outdoor seating, margaritas by the pitcher, and great appetizers (702) 632-7403. [www.bordergrill.com](http://www.bordergrill.com). Hours: Open daily from 11:30 a.m. for lunch and dinner. \$\$\$.

### **California Pizza Kitchen, Mirage**

Hearth-baked pizzas, innovative salads, pastas, desserts and more. (702) 791-7357. [www.cpk.com](http://www.cpk.com). Hours: Vary, open for lunch and dinner, and until 2 a.m. on Fri - Sat. \$\$.

### **Cravings Buffet, Mirage**

Buffets reinvented with eleven cooking stations, and a "street" of restaurants featuring a variety of ethnic foods (702) 791-7111. Hours: Vary, open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. \$\$\$.

### **Grand Lux Café, The Venetian**

Choose from a huge menu of eclectic fare at this sister property of the Cheesecake Factory. (702) 414-3888. Hours: 24/7. \$\$.

### **Harrah's Range Steakhouse, Harrah's**

Steak and seafood restaurant with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking The Strip. (702) 369-5000. Hours: Daily 5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. \$\$\$.

### **Le Creperie, Paris**

Crepes with adjacent bakery, a perfect lunch spot! (702) 946-7000. Hours: Daily 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. \$.

# THE STRIP



## DINING

### **Le Village Buffet, Paris**

Enjoy live-action stations and food cooked to order in a charming French village setting. (702) 946-7000. Hours: Daily 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. \$\$.

### **Mesa Grill, Caesar's Palace**

Southwestern fare in an upscale yet relaxed setting at Bobby Flay's Vegas restaurant. (702) 731-7731. [www.mesagrill.com](http://www.mesagrill.com) Hours: Daily 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$\$\$\$.

### **Mon Ami Gabi, Paris**

French cuisine with patio seating overlooking the Bellagio fountains. (702) 944-4224. Hours: Vary, open for lunch and dinner daily and a weekend brunch. \$\$\$.

### **Prime Steakhouse, Bellagio**

Steaks and more with the best views of the Bellagio fountains in town, but don't forget to bring your expense account! For tighter budgets, enjoy desserts and drinks on the patio instead. (702) 693-8484. Hours: Daily 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. \$\$\$\$.

## NIGHTLIFE

*A quick note about dress codes at clubs – some require formal attire, almost none allow shorts. It's still the norm to get dressed up in Vegas for an evening out. Cover charges vary per night or event, but are typically around \$20 for men, \$10 for locals, and ladies are often free.*

### **Risqué, Paris**

3655 Las Vegas Blvd. South

You don't have to go far from the conference to experience ultra-chic nightlife. Risqué, the nightclub at Paris, has a dis-

# THE STRIP



tinctly French aura and puts you right in the middle of it all on its 2nd-floor balcony. Enjoy music all the way from Latin and hip-hop to Top 40s and 80s rock. (702) 492-3960. [www.parislasvegas.com](http://www.parislasvegas.com)

## **Pure, Caesars Palace**

*3570 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

Voted the #1 nightclub in Las Vegas by several outlets, Pure is four themed clubs in one, each with its own DJ and sound system, and is known for its unrivaled house music. You can also chill outside at the Terrace, which overlooks the fabulous Las Vegas Strip. (702) 731-7873. [www.purethenightclub.com](http://www.purethenightclub.com).

## **Krave, Planet Hollywood**

*3663 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

Dubbed as “the only alternative club on The Strip,” Krave offers dancing, live music, karaoke, and tons more, and has become a favorite of gay locals and tourists. There’s a different theme for each night of the week, and world-class DJs play every Saturday night. (702) 836-0830.

## **Tao, The Venetian**

*3355 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

Tao’s outdoor terrace is 40 feet long and offers spectacular views of The Strip. Inside you’ll find DJ house music in two main rooms, beautiful dancers, and a stunning environment.

## **Tryst, Wynn**

*3131 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

As with anything Steve Wynn puts his name to, Tryst is an experience in itself. An intimate but exciting club, Tryst’s main attraction is its dance floor that extends into a 90-foot-long waterfall and lagoon. (702) 770-3375. [www.wynnlasvegas.com](http://www.wynnlasvegas.com).

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## **LAX, Luxor**

*3900 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

One of the newest and most anticipated clubs in Las Vegas, LAX is the new call sign for Las Vegas nightlife. Its grand opening was hosted by none other than Britney Spears and it counts Christina Aguilera among its investors. LAX is quickly becoming the favorite of the young, sophisticated clubber as well as social elites and A-List celebrities. House music is spun by the industry's leading DJs. (702) 262-4529. [www.laxthe-nightclub.com](http://www.laxthe-nightclub.com).

## **Rumjungle, Mandalay Bay**

*3950 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

True to its namesake, Rumjungle boasts the largest rum bar in Las Vegas. One of the hottest clubs on The Strip, Rumjungle is known for its exotic, almost tribal beats and live percussions, fire and water, and dancers and aerialists for nightlife and dancing at its most primal. (702) 632-7408. [www.mandalay-bay.com](http://www.mandalay-bay.com).

## **Polly Esthers, Stratosphere**

*2000 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

Already known across the country, Polly Esther's Las Vegas spans four decades of pop culture with four levels of music, dancing, and nightlife from the 70s through today. The themes here are typical Vegas – completely over the top! You'll find things like Back to the Future's DeLorean suspended from the ceiling, OJ Simpson's white Bronco, and a giant, working Pac Man game. (702) 889-1980. [www.stratospherehotel.com](http://www.stratospherehotel.com).



### **Silver Nugget:**

The Strip is home to eight of 10 of the largest hotels in the world.

Nevada ranks first in silver and gold production in the U.S. If Nevada were a country, it would rank 3rd behind South Africa and Australia as a gold-producing region.



# THE STRIP



## SHOPPING

### **Forum Shops, Caesar's Palace**

A shopper's paradise, with everything from famous designers such as Versace, Ann Taylor and Boss Hugo to popular favorites Diesel, Guess and Banana Republic. Visitors are greeted by a large reflecting pool, huge Roman statues and a beautiful glass-domed ceiling. The shops boast a spiral escalator, which is one of only two in the United States. (702) 893-4800. [www.harrahs.com](http://www.harrahs.com).

### **Fashion Show Mall**

Fashion Show offers seven flagship department stores, including Neiman Marcus, Macy's and Nordstrom, along with over 250 shops and restaurants. (702) 693-5985. [www.the-fashionshow.com](http://www.the-fashionshow.com).

### **Grand Canal Shoppes, The Venetian**

Stroll along a cobblestone walkway, take a ride in an authentic Italian gondola or enjoy the 80 boutiques and restaurants at the Grand Canal Shoppes. (702) 414-4500. [www.venetian.com](http://www.venetian.com).

### **Mandalay Place, Mandalay Bay**

Mandalay Place has a mix of one-of-a-kind boutiques and specialty stores, including Urban Outfitters, The Art of Shaving, Nike Golf, and The Reading Room, a unique bookstore. (702) 632-9333. [www.mandalaybay.com](http://www.mandalaybay.com).

### **Miracle Mile, Planet Hollywood**

With more than 170 stores and 15 restaurants, the mall has something for everyone. Other favorites include Gap, Bath & Body Works, Origins, Victoria's Secret, Sur La Table and Build-A-Bear Workshop. [www.miraclemileshops.lv.com](http://www.miraclemileshops.lv.com).

# DOWNTOWN



## PLACES OF INTEREST

### Cashman Field

*1101 Las Vegas Blvd. North*

Home to the Las Vegas 51s, Nevada's minor league baseball team. Plan on arriving for the conference early so you can attend the game against Portland on Sunday afternoon. Located in downtown Las Vegas, there is no better way to spend a spring afternoon. Information and tickets: (702) 464-5800. <http://web.minorleaguebaseball.com>.

### 18b Arts District

*Between Commerce, Hoover, 4th Street and Las Vegas Blvd. North*

An eclectic mix of galleries, antique shops and one-of-a-kind stores just a short walk or bus ride from Fremont Street. The name "18b" represents the original arts district neighborhood, which consisted of 18 blocks. Today, the arts district area has grown beyond those original 18 blocks and is a classic urban mix of residential, commercial and cultural uses that continues to grow as the hub of the arts scene in Las Vegas.

### Fremont Street Experience

*Fremont Street, between Las Vegas Blvd. and Main Street*

Fremont Street Experience is a \$70-million light canopy and a 550,000-watt sound system, which covers five city blocks. Positioned 90 feet above Fremont Street, the attraction stretches 1,400 feet and consists of 12.5 million synchronized LED modules, including 180 strobe lights and eight robotic mirrors per block.

### Holsum Lofts

*231-241 W. Charleston Blvd.*

Holsum Lofts is a unique redevelopment of the historic Holsum Bakery. It currently houses a collection of art galleries, design centers, boutiques and dining/entertainment venues. The building itself was originally constructed in 1954 as a bak-

# DOWNTOWN

ery that produced fresh bread for decades until its closure in 2002. Located at the gateway to the arts district, Holsum Lofts retains its memorable neon signage and classic architecture. [www.holsumlofts.com](http://www.holsumlofts.com).

## **Las Vegas Natural History Museum**

*900 Las Vegas Blvd. North*

Bamboo Sharks and Burmese Pythons in Las Vegas? You bet! Learn all about Las Vegas's prehistoric past at this museum near downtown. (702) 384-3466. [www.lvnhm.org](http://www.lvnhm.org). Hours: Daily from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

## **Lied Discovery Children's Museum**

*833 Las Vegas Blvd. North*

Hands-on learning is the name of the game at the Lied Discovery Children's Museum where kids can learn about careers, the desert and travel, just to name a few. (702) 382-3445. [www.ldcm.org](http://www.ldcm.org). Hours: Tue - Fri: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sun 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

## **The Neon Museum ("The Boneyard")**

Want an up close view of those glittering lights? See over 150 historic signs including a 2-ton, 15-foot-high Silver Slipper. (702) 387-6366. [www.neonmuseum.org/boneyard.html](http://www.neonmuseum.org/boneyard.html).

## **Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park**

*500 E. Washington Avenue*

See how Mormon missionaries and other early valley settlers lived as they built the early Las Vegas. (702) 486-3511. [www.parks.nv.gov/olvmf.htm](http://www.parks.nv.gov/olvmf.htm). Hours: Mon – Sat: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## **DINING**

### **Chicago Joe's**

*820 S. 4th Street*

Wonderful Italian cuisine in a tiny brick cottage. (702) 382-5637. [www.chicagojoesrestaurant.com](http://www.chicagojoesrestaurant.com). Hours: Open Tue - Fri: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sat: 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. \$\$.

### **Tinoco's Bistro**

*103 E. Charleston Blvd. (In the Arts Factory)*

Modern urban continental cuisine in an artsy atmosphere.. (702) 464-5008. [www.tinocos.net](http://www.tinocos.net). Open for lunch and dinner. Reservations suggested. \$\$\$.

# DOWNTOWN

## **Triple George Grill**

*201 N. 3rd Street*

Upscale steaks and seafood for power lunches or a date. (702) 384-2761. [www.triplegeorgegrill.com](http://www.triplegeorgegrill.com). Hours: Mon - Fri: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sat: 4 p.m. - 10 p.m. \$\$\$\$.

## **NIGHTLIFE**

### **Ice House Lounge**

*650 S. Main Street*

The Ice House is hip and retro, with stainless steel and velvet galore, but modern with plasma TVs and a cool bar with an ice surface. Grab a drink and a bite to eat and listen to live music downstairs or chill-out upstairs. (702) 315-2570.

### **Art Bar**

*1511 S. Main Street*

In the middle of the growing arts district, this down-home Vegas favorite displays the work of local artists at no charge. (702) 437-2787.

### **Beauty Bar**

*517 Fremont Street*

With a retro, old beauty salon theme and real-life old beauty salon equipment, Beauty Bar offers the famous martinis-and-manicures happy hour and live music or a DJ nightly. (702) 598-1965.

### **Hennessey's Tavern**

*425 Fremont Street*

A good, old-fashioned Irish pub right on Fremont Street. Hennessey's often hosts live Irish bands, and sometimes they let other bands play, too. (702) 382-4421.

### **The Griffin**

*511 Fremont Street*

The Griffin is dark, gothic, and one of the coolest places to be seen downtown. (702) 382-0577.

### **Downtown Cocktail Room**

*111 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

In stark contrast to the lights and bustle of Fremont Street, the mood here is subtle, modern, and high style. A very sophisticated place for cocktails and mingling. (702) 880-3696.

# OFF-STRIP



## **Gay Las Vegas “Loop”**

Located one block south of the Hard Rock Hotel between Harmon Avenue, Swenson Street, and Paradise Road.

Visit the Piranha, 8 ½ Lounge, Gipsy, the Double Down Saloon and more. [www.gayvegas.com](http://www.gayvegas.com).

## **Liberace Museum**

*1775 E. Tropicana Avenue (at Spencer)*

Founded by Liberace in 1979, this museum showcases his jewelry, rare antiques, unsurpassed wardrobe, unique and historical pianos, and custom car collection. (702) 798-5595. [www.liberace.org](http://www.liberace.org). Hours: Mon - Sat: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sun: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

## **Palms Hotel and Casino**

*4321 W. Flamingo Road*

Resort featuring a hotel, casino, theaters, restaurants, night-clubs and more. Favorites include N9NE Steakhouse, Nove Italiano restaurant, Ghostbar Lounge, Playboy Club, and Rain nightclub. (866) 942-7777. [www.palms.com](http://www.palms.com).

## **Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino**

*3700 W. Flamingo Road*

Enjoy the carnival spirit, Masquerade Show in the Sky, Carnival World Buffet, and more. Dance to live music and enjoy great views from the Voodoo Lounge, located 51 stories above The Strip. (800) 851-1703. [www.riolasvegas.com](http://www.riolasvegas.com).

## **DINING**

### **Firefly**

*3900 Paradise Road*

Spanish cuisine including tasty tapas, the best mojitos in town and outdoor seating. (702) 369-3971. [www.firefly.com](http://www.firefly.com). \$\$.

# OFF-STRIP



## **Lindo Michaocan**

*2655 E. Desert Inn Road*

Authentic Mexican dishes complete with handmade tortillas. (702) 735-6828. [www.lindomichoacancatering.com](http://www.lindomichoacancatering.com). \$\$.

## **Lotus of Siam**

*953 E. Sahara Avenue*

Noted as the “single best Thai restaurant in North America” by Gourmet Magazine, this northern Thai restaurant has been noticed by Wine Spectator magazine, the Wall Street Journal, and the LA Times. Reservations recommended for dinner. (702) 735-3033. [www.saipinchutima.com](http://www.saipinchutima.com). \$\$.

## **Origin India**

*4480 Paradise Road #1200 (across from the Hard Rock)*

Creative and colorful Indian food ranked as the best in town. (702) 73-INDIA. [www.originindiarestaurant.com](http://www.originindiarestaurant.com). \$\$.

## **Paymon’s Mediterranean Café**

*4147 S. Maryland Parkway*

Voted Best Middle Eastern Restaurant in 2007. (702) 731-6030. [www.paymons.com](http://www.paymons.com). Hours: Open late Mon - Sat. \$\$.

## **SHOPPING**

### **Las Vegas Premium Outlets**

*875 Grand Central Parkway (near downtown)*

Over 120 outlet stores and a food court in an outdoor setting. (702) 474-7500. [www.premiumoutlets.com](http://www.premiumoutlets.com). Hours: Mon – Sat: 10 a.m. -9 p.m., Sun: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### **Town Square**

*6605 Las Vegas Blvd. South (at Sunset)*

An open-air shopping, dining and entertainment center reminiscent of Main Street. [www.townsquarelasvegas.com](http://www.townsquarelasvegas.com).

# NORTHEAST



## PLACES OF INTEREST

### **Las Vegas Motor Speedway**

*7000 Las Vegas Blvd. North*

Do you feel the need for speed? Take a track tour, ride-along or drive a car yourself! (800) 644-4444. [www.lvms.com](http://www.lvms.com). Hours: Mon - Sat: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sun: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### **Shelby Automobile Sports Car Museum**

*6755 Speedway Blvd.*

The sports car museum and tour features the latest version of Shelby American sports vehicles, along with a dozen Cobra cars. (702) 942-7325. Hours: Open Mon - Fri: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tours of the assembly area at 10:30 a.m. or by appointment only at 3:30 p.m.

## DINING

### **Austins Steakhouse, Texas Station**

*2101 Texas Star Lane, North Las Vegas*

Austins Steakhouse takes extreme pride in preparing every dish to perfection. Using only USDA-Graded Prime Meat that is dry-aged 21 days, hand-cut on premises, marinated in Austins' own special marinade, and mesquite-charcoal broiled, to create a unique flavor profile that is unmatched! (702) 631-1033. Hours: Sun - Thu: 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.; Fri - Sat: 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$\$\$.



#### **Silver Nuggets:**

Did you know that construction on the largest solar photovoltaic system ever to be built in North America began in April 2007 at Nellis Air Force Base? The Nellis solar energy system will generate in excess of 25 million kilowatt-hours of clean electricity annually and supply more than 25 percent of the power used at the base.

The Desert Wildlife Refuge which stretches over some 1.5 million acres in Southern Nevada is the largest wildlife refuge in the lower 48 states.

# NORTHWEST



## PLACES OF INTEREST

### **Las Vegas Springs Preserve**

*7050 Wetlands Park Lane*

This 180-acre cultural and historical site is the birthplace of Las Vegas. Enjoy desert botanical gardens, galleries, outdoor concerts and walking trails. (702) 455-7522. [www.lvwash.org](http://www.lvwash.org).

### **Red Rock Casino, Resort and Spa**

*11011 W. Charleston Blvd.*

Recently named as one of the best new resorts in the world by Leisure Magazine, the Red Rock is home to T-Bones steakhouse and lounge, entertainment by "Louis Louis," and Cherry nightclub. (702) 797-7777. [www.redrocklasvegas.com](http://www.redrocklasvegas.com).

### **Gilcrease Nature Sanctuary**

*8103 Racel Street*

A safe haven for animals including burros, llamas, turtles and many types of birds. (702) 645-4224. [www.gilcreasenature-sanctuary.org](http://www.gilcreasenature-sanctuary.org). Hours: Wed - Sun: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

## DINING

### **Grape Street Café, Wine Bar and Cellar**

*7501 W. Lake Mead Blvd.*

Features eclectic Mediterranean entrees, wine flights and over 75 wines by the glass. (702) 228-9463. [www.grapestreetcafe.com](http://www.grapestreetcafe.com). Hours: Sun - Thu: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri - Sat: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. \$\$.

### **Rosemary's Restaurant**

*8125 W. Sahara Avenue*

Award-winning gourmet restaurant with Southern influences; don't miss the weekday prix fixe menu. (702) 869-2251. [www.rosemarysrestaurant.com](http://www.rosemarysrestaurant.com). \$\$\$\$.



# SOUTHEAST/HENDERSON

## PLACES OF INTEREST

### **Ethel M's Chocolate Factory Tour**

*2 Cactus Garden Drive, Sunset Way at Sunset Road*

Take a FREE tour and sample premier chocolate and sinfully sumptuous treats. Also take a stroll through the Botanical Cactus Garden while you're there! Over 350 species of cactii, succulents, & desert plants are displayed on 2.5 acres. (702) 458-8864 or (888) 627-0990. [www.ethelm.com](http://www.ethelm.com).

### **The District at Green Valley Ranch**

*Village Walk Drive, Green Valley Parkway at I-215*

The District has become one of the hottest local hang-outs in the valley. 88 luxurious residential condominiums rest atop shops such as REI, Talbot's, and Williams Sonoma. Exciting restaurants like Lucille's Bar-B-Que, Elephant Bar, Kennedy's Tavern, and the Cheesecake Factory also await you. [www.thedistrictatgvr.com](http://www.thedistrictatgvr.com).

### **Lake Las Vegas Resort**

*1600 Lake Las Vegas Parkway*

Just 17 miles from the Las Vegas Strip, Lake Las Vegas is unlike anything you've seen. World-class hotels, spas, restaurants, entertainment, gaming, shopping, golf, and residences all surround a private, 320-acre lake. The mixed-use MonteLago Village offers an old-world cobblestone shopping plaza with 14 shops, 11 restaurants, and art galleries. (702) 564-1600 or (800) 564-1603. [www.lakelasvegas.com](http://www.lakelasvegas.com).

## DINING

### **Viaggio Italian Cuisine & Wine Shop**

*11261 S. Eastern Avenue #200*

Homemade cooking showcases traditional specialties as well as modern adaptations served with an amazing view of the valley and one of the most amazing wine lists around. (702) 492-6900 . [www.viaggio.net](http://www.viaggio.net). \$\$.

### **Hank's Fine Steaks & Martinis**

*2300 Paseo Verde Parkway*

Featuring seafood and corn-fed prime beef aged for 48 days, more than 30 unique martinis, and a 2,200-bottle wine list. A pianist performs nightly. (702) 617-7515. \$\$\$\$.

## PLACES OF INTEREST

### **Chinatown Plaza**

*4255 Spring Mountain Road*

Visit this unique suburban Chinatown with Tong Dynasty Architecture. Chintatown Plaza features the largest collection of Asian businesses in Las Vegas, a cultural exhibit with arts and crafts, gift shops, bookstore, supermarket, and restaurants serving Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese cuisine. (702) 221-8448. [www.lvchinatown.com](http://www.lvchinatown.com).

### **Silverton Hotel & Casino and Bass Pro Shops**

*3333 Blue Diamond Road (near I-15)*

Bass Pro Shops has 165,000 square feet of outdoor fun for the entire family. Attractions include a 40,000-gallon freshwater aquarium, rock climbing wall, archery range, shooting range and live mermaid & mermen shows. The Silverton Casino, attached to Bass Pro, has an 114,000-gallon saltwater aquarium and a custom Orange County Chopper specially made for Bass Pro Shops.

Free daily shuttle service from Mandalay Bay starts at 10:40 a.m. and runs every other hour until 10:40 p.m. Daily shuttle service from the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace starts at 10:20 a.m. and runs every other hour until 10:20 p.m. (702) 263-7777. [www.silvertoncasino.com](http://www.silvertoncasino.com).

## DINING

### **Nora's Cuisine**

*6020 W. Flamingo Road #10*

Enjoy traditional Italian specialties in this restaurant that supports the "Slow Food" movement. (702) 365-6713. [www.norascuisine.com](http://www.norascuisine.com). \$\$.

### **Michael's Gourmet Room, SouthPoint**

This fine dining restaurant was named one of the top 5 restaurants in Las Vegas by the Zagat Survey. (702) 796-7111. [www.southpointcasino.com](http://www.southpointcasino.com). Two seatings nightly: 6 p.m. or 6:30 p.m., and 9 p.m. or 9:30 p.m. \$\$\$\$.

## NIGHTLIFE

### **Hootie & the Blowfish's Shady Grove Lounge - Silverton**

*3333 Blue Diamond Road (near I-15)*

Amidst the Hootie memorabilia are pool tables, plasma TVs for sports, and an old Airstream trailer with a mini bowling alley inside. (702) 263-7777.

# BOULDER CITY



## PLACES OF INTEREST

### **Boulder Dam Hotel**

*1305 Arizona Street*

Built in 1933 to accommodate visiting government and corporate project managers supervising the building of Hoover Dam, the Boulder Dam Hotel was named to the National Register of Historic Places on August 19, 1982. (702) 293-3510. [www.info@boulderdamhotel.com](http://www.info@boulderdamhotel.com).

### **Boulder City Museum and Historical Association**

*1305 Arizona Street*

The museum recreates the story of the Boulder Canyon Project as it was experienced by those who braved the Southern Nevada desert to build Hoover Dam. (702) 294-1988. [www.info@bcmha.org](http://www.info@bcmha.org). Hours: Mon– Sat: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

## DINING

### **Coffee Cup**

*512 Nevada Way*

A family-owned Boulder City icon recently featured on the Food Network for their award-winning, home-made food. (702) 294-0517. [www.worldfamouscoffeecup.com](http://www.worldfamouscoffeecup.com). Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner until 9 p.m. \$.

### **Evan's Old Town Grill**

*1129 Arizona Street*

Serving chicken dishes, prime rib, steaks and pasta in a quaint setting. (702) 294-0100. Hours: Tue – Fri: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. \$\$.

### **Milos Best Cellars**

*538 Nevada Way*

Features gourmet sandwiches, salads, appetizers and over 50 beers and wines by the glass. (702) 293-9540. [www.miloswinebar.com](http://www.miloswinebar.com). \$.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION



## **Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area**

Located 17 miles west of the Las Vegas Strip, it is an area of geologic interest and beauty. Red Rock encompasses 197,000 acres within the Mojave Desert. It features a 13-mile scenic drive, visitor center, and a book and gift store. Recreational opportunities include picnic areas, camping, cycling, hiking, rock climbing and horseback riding available throughout the National Conservation Area. The visitor center contains historical and geological exhibits, a cactus garden and a bookstore. Park is open daily from 6 a.m. - dusk; fee area.

Red Rock Recreational Area Las Vegas is a rock climber's utopia-the sky is a rich shade of blue, the air is dry and it's a sure bet that the sun is shining. For more information: [www.jhmg.com/climbs/index.php](http://www.jhmg.com/climbs/index.php).

Directions: Entrance 10 miles west of city, off Charleston Blvd., Take Charleston Blvd. west, which will turn into State Route 159. Follow Route 159 until you see the entrance. (702) 363-1921. [www.redrockcanyonlv.org](http://www.redrockcanyonlv.org).

## **The Desert National Wildlife Refuge**

The Desert National Wildlife Refuge was established May 20, 1936, and encompasses 1.5 million acres of the diverse Mojave Desert in southern Nevada. It is the largest National Wildlife Refuge in the lower 48 states. The Refuge was established for the preservation and management of desert bighorn sheep and its habitat. Numerous recreational opportunities are available on the Refuge. Camping, bird watching, hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding. Located approximately 20 miles northwest of Las Vegas, travel from Las Vegas on Highway 95 north, turning right at the Refuge sign. [www.fws.gov/desertcomplex/desertrange/index.htm](http://www.fws.gov/desertcomplex/desertrange/index.htm).

# OUTDOOR RECREATION

## **Spring Mountains National Recreation Area**

Located 35 miles northwest of the Las Vegas Strip, visitors enjoy mountain breezes and fresh air, among the Aspen and Ponderosa Pines. Mount Charleston ranges from 3,000 feet to 12,000 feet in elevation. Recreational opportunities include hiking, camping, and mountain biking. Located on Route 157, call for more information at (702) 878-8800, (800) 280-2267, or (702) 515-5400.

For those of you that enjoy the outdoors but like to camp in a hotel, The Mt. Charleston Hotel is conveniently located near the Recreational Area on Route 157. For reservations log on at [www.mtcharlestonhotel.com/](http://www.mtcharlestonhotel.com/) or call (702) 872-5500.

Spring Mountain National Recreation Area also includes Carpenter Canyon, Trout Canyon and Wheeler Pass. Historic sites, hunting, mountain springs, mountain biking, hiking, picnicking and camping are all available here.

Directions: Take Interstate 95 north to Route 157. Turn left on Route 157. Continue on Route 157 until you reach the campsites. (702) 873-8800. [www.vegas.com/sports/recreation/mountcharleston.html](http://www.vegas.com/sports/recreation/mountcharleston.html).

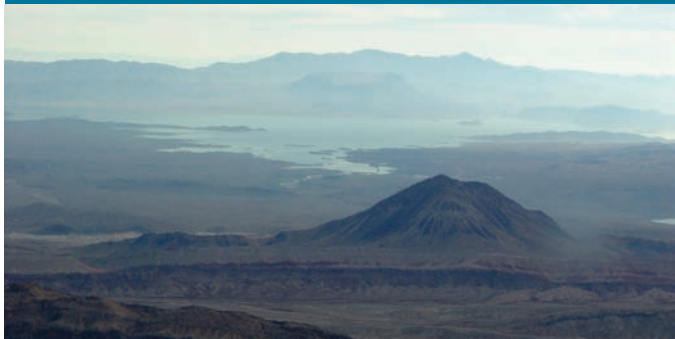
## **Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area**

Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area's 48,438 acres provide peace and solitude for those who visit the unique scenic and geologic features and extraordinary cultural resources. Surroundings can vary from lowland dry lake beds to volcanic rock peaks reaching more than 5,000 feet. The centerpiece of the area is the Sloan Canyon Petroglyph Site, one of the most significant cultural resources in Southern Nevada. Archeologists believe the more than 300 rock art panels with 1,700 individual design elements were created by native cultures from the Archaic to historic era. [www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm\\_programs/blm\\_special\\_areas/sloan\\_canyon\\_nca.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm_programs/blm_special_areas/sloan_canyon_nca.html).

## **Valley of Fire State Park**

Enjoy the red sandstone formations and the beauty of the Mojave Desert, just 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas via Interstate 15 and on exit 75. Located within Valley of Fire State Park are 3,000-year-old Indian petroglyphs and areas of petrified wood. The park also has a visitor center and interpretive displays. There are several camping hiking and picnicking areas. (702) 397-2088. <http://parks.nv.gov>.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION



## **Lake Mead National Recreation Area**

Lake Mead is the 16th largest man-made lake in the world and the largest man-made lake in the Western Hemisphere, covering about 1.5 million acres. It offers year-round recreation, from boating to swimming to scuba diving to hiking to wildlife viewing. Visitor Center is open 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Entrance fee is \$5 per vehicle.

If you are interested in hiking, Lake Mead has that too. The U.S. Government Construction Railroad Trail meanders 2.6 miles through four tunnels (5.2 miles round trip). The trailhead is across from the Alan Bible Visitor Center, midway between Boulder City and Hoover Dam.

Directions: Take US 93 south through Boulder City toward Phoenix. Turn left on Highway 166 or Lakeshore Road. 601 National Highway, Boulder City, NV, approximately 30 miles from the Las Vegas Strip. (702) 293-8907 or (702) 293-8906. [www.nps.gov/lame/home.htm](http://www.nps.gov/lame/home.htm).

## **Hoover Dam**

A National Historic Landmark, it is the highest concrete dam in the Western Hemisphere, standing more than 725 feet above the Colorado River. It is also one of the country's largest hydroelectric power facilities. Open from 9 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Admission costs \$11 for adults. Fee includes access to the visitor center, intake tower and observation deck. Parking is \$7 at the garage across from the visitor's center.

Directions: Take US 93 south through Boulder City toward Phoenix. [www.vegas.com/attractions/outside\\_lasvegas/hooverdam.html](http://www.vegas.com/attractions/outside_lasvegas/hooverdam.html).

## **Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs**

Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs is a welcome oasis in the desert in northwest Las Vegas. With wildlife, lush vegetation,

# OUTDOOR RECREATION



lakes and views of the near by mountain ranges, the park includes an archaeological museum, a recreational off-road bike park, fishing, and picnic areas.

Directions: Take Interstate 15 north to US 95 north to Durango and then Tule Springs Road, approximately 10 miles north of The Strip. (702) 486-5413 or (702) 229-6301. [www.lasvegasnevada.gov/planning](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/planning).

## HIKING

### River Mountain Trail

This long loop winds through the quaint 1930s town of Boulder City and quickly escapes to the more primitive desert surrounding the River Mountains. To the east are views of Lake Mead with several places to pause, catch your breath and admire the scenery. The trail then winds to three miles (six miles round trip) in the mountains through Henderson before returning to Boulder City. Begin in either Boulder City or Henderson. The altitude gain is up to 1,225 feet. The trailhead is about 1/10th of a mile north of Boulder City's stoplight.

Information: Lake Mead National Recreation Area, 601 Nevada Highway, Boulder City, NV 89005; phone (702) 293-8907. Boulder City Parks and Recreation Dept., 900 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005. (702) 293-9256. [www.rivermountainstrail.com](http://www.rivermountainstrail.com).

## BIKING

Home to several rides and trails, Nevada offers a variety of riding experiences including the River Mountain Loop Trail, Red Rock, Bristlecone Pine Trail, Cottonwood Valley Mountain Bike Park, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and Bootleg Canyon. For maps and/or directions, please contact bicycle Nevada at (775) 888-7375 or (775) 888-ride or at [www.bicyclenevada.com](http://www.bicyclenevada.com). For more information on road biking, go to the Regional Transportation Commission at [www.rtcsouthernnevada.com](http://www.rtcsouthernnevada.com) (click on Planning, Bicycle Map).

# OUTDOOR RECREATION



## **MOUNTAIN BIKING**

### **Bootleg Canyon**

Bootleg Canyon Mountain Bike Park is an extensive network of World-Class Downhill and Cross-Country mountain bike trails located in Boulder City, Nevada. The International Mountain Bike Association has certified one of the XC trails as an Epic Ride, a title given out only 18 times so far. With names like “The Reaper,” “Dominatrax,” and “Armageddon,” Bootleg Canyon’s series of trails leaves little doubt as to why mountain bike enthusiasts are aiming their tires toward Boulder City. Local mountain-biker and racer Brent Thomson has created this maze of technical and scenic trails just west of Boulder City in the Southern Nevada desert. One of the most extreme portions is in the aptly named “Elevator Shaft” where bikers can fly down a hillside that offers a 22-percent grade.

Directions: Take US 93 south through Boulder City toward Phoenix. Turn left on Yucca Street and follow signs to Bootleg Canyon. [www.bootlegcanyon.org](http://www.bootlegcanyon.org).

### **Cottonwood Valley Mountain Bike Park-Loop**

Cottonwood Valley Mountain Bike Park-Loop is a trail lasting just over eight miles that is for the moderate rider, due to some technical challenges. The trail begins in the town of Blue Diamond off of State Highway 160 near mile marker 17.

### **Bristlecone Pine Trail**

The Bristlecone Pine Trail is in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. This technical single-track trail is a moderate to difficult ride and could pose a problem for those who have difficulty adjusting to high altitudes. The popular trail begins with a steady climb up a graded fire road, then turns into a single-track road full of twists and turns. The six-mile course generally takes one to two hours to complete. To try the trail out, travel north on US 95 to the Lee Canyon turn-off. Turn



# OUTDOOR RECREATION

left and head west toward the mountains for approximately 17 miles until you see a dirt road where you can turn off and park.

## **BIRD WATCHING**

### **Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve**

The Preserve is home to thousands of migratory waterfowl as well as numerous resident desert birds. There are nine ponds available for birding, surrounded by both paved and dirt paths. The paved path is approximately 3/4 of a mile long. The dirt paths are level and allow for easy walking. During the early spring, you can expect to see many species of duck such as the northern shoveler, green wing, cinnamon and blue wing teal, pintail, bufflehead, and one of the most beautiful of all North American ducks, the wood duck. We recommend that you wear appropriate clothing and comfortable, sturdy shoes. If you do not have binoculars, the Preserve has some available for loan.

Open daily from 6 a.m. - 3 p.m. year round. The last entry is at 2:45 p.m. The Preserve is located at 2400 B Moser Drive, near the intersection of Sunset Road and Boulder Highway (look for signs in the medians). It is located within the Water Treatment Facility on approximately 140 acres.

### **Clark County Wetlands Park**

Wetlands Park is a habitat for numerous species of wildlife and an essential step toward cleaner water in Southern Nevada. The Wetlands Park Nature Preserve is located adjacent to the Visitor Center, off of East Tropicana and Wetlands Park Lane. The Nature Preserve features two miles of concrete walking trails, graveled secondary trails, a bird-viewing blind, ponds, trail markers, and aesthetic views of the nearby alluvial fan and mountains of Rainbow Gardens. Additionally, primary trails are ADA-accessible. If you are planning a visit to the Wetlands Park, contact the Wetlands Information Center. The staff can provide directions to the park and information that will make your visit more enjoyable. Open from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., 7 days a week.

Directions: Take Interstate 93/95 south to Tropicana. Turn left on Tropicana. Stay on Tropicana until Broadbent Blvd. Turn right on Broadbent Blvd. The entrance to the Wetlands Park will be on the left-hand side of the road. [www.co.clark.nv.us/Parks/Wetlands/Wetland's\\_Homepage.htm](http://www.co.clark.nv.us/Parks/Wetlands/Wetland's_Homepage.htm).

# OUTDOOR RECREATION

## KAYAKING AND CANOEING

### Eldorado Canyon

Nevada is home to destinations where you can kayak or canoe to your heart's delight. In Eldorado Canyon, just 45 miles south of Las Vegas, your family can embark on a canoeing or kayaking adventure that you'll be talking about for years to come. You can start by paddling through a 2,000 foot canyon filled with burros, bighorn sheep, coyotes and birds of prey. Then you can explore legendary settings of the Wild West, including the haunted Techatticup Mine, which was a famous site for claim jumping in the 1880s. The entire Eldorado Canyon area is rich in history from Native American to Spanish explorers, and from Civil War to steamboat days. [www.eldoradocanyonminetours.com](http://www.eldoradocanyonminetours.com).

## WHITewater RAFTING

### Black Canyon

Located less than 50 miles from the Las Vegas Strip in Lake Mead National Recreation Area, the Black Canyon is truly a unique rafting experience. This canyon, formed by the Colorado River, lies just below the mighty Hoover Dam where the canyon walls rise nearly 2,000 feet from the river's edge! [www.blackcanyonadventures.com](http://www.blackcanyonadventures.com).

## SCUBA DIVING

### Lake Mead

At Lake Mead, with more than 500 miles of shoreline, you'll get started on your scuba adventure in one of America's largest inland diving communities. Swim with largemouth bass, bluegill, freshwater sponges and a whole array of organisms that have made the Lake Mead ecosystem home.

## OHV

### Nellis Dunes

The Nellis Sand Dunes offers a place for locals and visitors to go off-roading. The dunes are located 15 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Camping is allowed, although there are no facilities. Take Interstate 15 north to exit 58. Take a right on Las Vegas Blvd.



#### **Silver Nugget:**

Although Nevada is known for its desert climate, the state's name translates as "snow-capped" in Spanish.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION



## GOLFING

You'll find some of Nevada's most impressive venues scattered throughout Golf Digest's list of America's 100 Greatest Public Courses. We have courses that cater to all skill levels and price ranges. For more information please visit the following websites: <http://golf.travelnevada.com> or [www.visitvegas.com](http://www.visitvegas.com).

### **Callaway Golf Center**

*6730 Las Vegas Blvd. South*

Located on the south end of Las Vegas Blvd., Callaway is home to the Divine 9, a lighted par-three course, and a 110-stall driving range with grass and synthetic tees. This course is great for beginners or for those that haven't dusted off their clubs in a while. (702) 896-4100. <https://cgclv.com>.

### **Angel Park Golf Club**

*100 S Rampart Blvd.*

Designed by the legendary Arnold Palmer, Angel Park offers 36 holes of championship golf. The 18-hole Palm Course has a traditional layout with classic shotmaking challenges with a Par 71, while the 18-hole Mountain Course features a modern approach to course design. Angel Park includes the 12-hole Cloud Nine Short Course, an 18-hole putting course and a fully equipped practice facility, all of which are lighted in the evening. At almost 3,000 feet in elevation, Angel Park offers spectacular views of Red Rock Canyon and the Las Vegas Valley. (702) 254-4653.



#### **Silver Nuggets:**

At 13,143 feet high, Boundary Peak, in the White Mountain Range in the California-Nevada border, is the highest point in Nevada.

Contrary to myth, no one is buried in the Hoover Dam, although there were 111 fatalities during the construction of the dam between 1931 to 1935.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION

## **TPC Las Vegas**

*9851 Canyon Run Drive*

Located in the beautiful master-planned community of Summerlin, TPC at The Canyons is the only public PGA Tour golf course in Las Vegas. Designed by Bobby Weed and Raymond Floyd, the TPC course features scenic elevation changes, mature trees and a wandering canyon. As co-host to the Las Vegas Invitational, TPC at The Canyons highlights superb conditioning, a beautiful layout and top-flight customer service. (702) 256-2000. [www.tpc.com/lasvegas](http://www.tpc.com/lasvegas).

## **Reflection Bay Golf Club**

*75 Monte Lago Blvd.*

The second Jack Nicklaus-designed course at the exclusive Lake Las Vegas Resort, Reflection Bay is open to the public. The championship course features five holes that play directly along 1.5 miles of Lake Las Vegas shoreline. Additional features are spectacular views of surrounding mountains, waterfalls, natural canyons and arroyos. Golf packages are available at the Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort, Ritz-Carlton Lake Las Vegas and Monte Lago Village Resort. (877) 698-4653. [www.lakelasvegas.com/golf\\_reflection.asp](http://www.lakelasvegas.com/golf_reflection.asp).

## **Wolf Creek Golf Club**

*403 Paradise Parkway, Mesquite*

Its been called one of the most remarkable and most visually spectacular courses in the world. And from the very first glance, every visitor to Wolf Creek Golf Club understands why. An easy one-hour drive northeast of Las Vegas in Mesquite, this amazing facility was called the "Most Spectacular New Course in America" by *Affluent Golfer* magazine when it opened for play in 2000. It's also ranked 22nd on Golf Digest's list of the country's top 100 public facilities. (866) 252-4653. [www.golfwolfcreek.com](http://www.golfwolfcreek.com).



### **Silver Nuggets:**

Approximately 82.3% of Nevada lands (nearly 60 million acres) are controlled by the federal government.

The tailor, Jacob Davis working with Levi Strauss in 1869 opened a tailor shop in downtown Reno, Nevada. He found that thread alone didn't hold pockets so he tried using rivets creating the infamous clothing item known as blue jeans in 1871.

# ROAD TRIPPING

## **Laughlin/Kingman/Oatman, AZ**

Laughlin is just a short drive from the Las Vegas Strip with water sports, river night-life, gaming, outlets, shops, and boutiques. Take Interstate 515/US 93 south/US 95 south. Continue on US 95 south toward Searchlight and Needles. Turn left at NV 163 and then turn right on S. Casino Drive.

Kingman is located on the Historic Route 66. Take a walking tour of the historic downtown, or hike/bike one of the local trails. The Bonelli House in Kingman is a marvelous example of Anglo-territorial architecture. [www.kingmantourism.org](http://www.kingmantourism.org).

Oatman began over 100 years ago as a mining tent camp and quickly became a flourishing gold-mining center. Located on the Historical Route 66, it is an authentic old western town with burros roaming the streets and gunfights staged on weekends. (928) 768-6222 or (928) 768-3839. [www.oatman@oatmangoldroad.com](http://www.oatman@oatmangoldroad.com).

## **Amargosa Opera House**

Once a thriving mining town just a few miles west of the California/Nevada border, Death Valley Junction now comes to life at night at the Amargosa Opera House. Open only October through May, it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. [Reservations@amargosa-opera-house.com](mailto:Reservations@amargosa-opera-house.com). [www.eden-nv.com/Opera.htm](http://www.eden-nv.com/Opera.htm).

## **Mesquite**

Just 60 miles north on Interstate 15, Mesquite has big-town action without the big crowds. Home to world-class golf and spas, horseback riding and master-planned communities. Mesquite has it all. [www.mesquitenv.gov](http://www.mesquitenv.gov).

## **Pahrump**

Just 63 short miles west of the Las Vegas strip, Pahrump is home to a winery, retail outlets, and a rural atmosphere. It is also the shortest route to Death Valley recreation facilities via Nevada Highway 160. [www.pahrumpnv.org](http://www.pahrumpnv.org).

## **Ghost towns**

Nevada is home to several old mining towns that have become ghost towns. Some have been said to be haunted. For a list of ghost towns in Nevada visit [www.ghosttowns.com/states/nv/nv.html](http://www.ghosttowns.com/states/nv/nv.html).

# ROAD TRIPPING



## Rhyolite

Located 120 miles north of Las Vegas, this town originated when gold was discovered. The town prospered and was comprised of 45 saloons, an opera house, a telephone company, several hotels, a bank and a variety of other businesses. Rhyolite is now famous as one of the best ghost towns to visit.

## Goodsprings

Goodsprings was a settlement in the hills seven miles west of Jean. It served as an important town for milling or mining from the surrounding mines. The town known as Jean on US Highway 15 in Clark County in southern Nevada is the junction to State Highway 53 that leads to the ghost town of Goodsprings.



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# Guide Map



*note, numbers may be listed multiple times as some sites have more than one text write-up.*

- 1 - 18b Arts District
- 2 - Adventuredome
- 59 - Angel Park Golf Course
- 4 - Art Bar
- 5 - Austins Steakhouse
- 6 - Bally's Steakhouse
- 48 - Battista's Hole in the Wall
- 30 - Beauty Bar
- 104 - Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art
- 46 - Border Grille
- 11 - Boulder City Museum and Historical Association
- 12 - Boulder Dam Hotel
- 105 - California Pizza Kitchen
- 13 - Callaway Golf Center
- 14 - Car Rental Companies
- 15 - Carnival Court Bar & Grill
- 16 - Cashman Field
- 17 - Chicago Joe's
- 18 - Chinatown Plaza
- 19 - Clark County Wetlands Park
- 20 - Coffee Cup
- 105 - Cravings Buffet
- 30 - Downtown Cocktail Room
- 24 - Eiffel Tower at Paris 84
- 25 - Ethel M's Chocolate Factory Tour
- 26 - Evan's Old Town Grill
- 27 - Fashion Show Mall
- 23 - Firefly
- 28 - Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs
- 29 - Forum Shops at Caesar's Palace
- 30 - Fremont Street Experience
- 31 - Gay Las Vegas "Loop"
- 32 - Gilcrease Nature Sanctuary
- 38 - Grand Canal Shoppes at the Venetian
- 38 - Grand Lux Café
- 36 - Grape Street Café, Wine Bar and Cellar
- 30 - Griffin
- 38 - Guggenheim Hermitage Museum
- 39 - Hank's Fine Steaks & Martinis
- 15 - Harrah's Range Steakhouse
- 41 - Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve
- 30 - Hennessy's Tavern
- 43 - Holsum Lofts
- 93 - Hootie and the Blowfish's Shady Grove Lounge
- 46 - House of Blues
- 47 - Ice House Lounge
- 48 - Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville
- 49 - Krave
- 50 - Lake Las Vegas Resort
- 52 - Las Vegas Motor Speedway
- 53 - Las Vegas Natural History Museum

- 54 - Las Vegas Premium Outlets
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Scale: 1 Inch = 4 Miles

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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