

LAS VEGAS

Las Vegas is a sophisticated, well-oiled business convention center machine. The city has more than a dozen convention/conference centers, most connected to large hotels, and hosts some of the largest and most widely attended conferences in North America. Las Vegas's primary commercial areas are **the Strip** and **Downtown**.

The Strip extends for 4 1/2 miles along Las Vegas Boulevard, between McCarran International Airport to the south and the Stratosphere Tower on the north. The south end of the Strip is referred to as the “bottom,” and the north end is referred to as the “top.” Most of the convention facilities—including three of the largest in North America—are along, or just off, this main drag. Most of the major casinos and resorts are also located on the Strip.

North of the Stratosphere is **Downtown**—or “Glitter Gulch,” as it is sometimes called—where the city's more casual hotels, restaurants, and smaller conference facilities are located. Downtown's main drag is Fremont Street.

North Las Vegas (about 8 miles north of the Strip) and Henderson (10 miles southeast of Las Vegas) are smaller cities growing with developing business and commercial areas. Las Vegas is located in Clark County, Nevada.

Fast Facts

Time Zone: Pacific

Area Code: 702

Sales Tax: 7.25%

Hotel Taxes: 11%

Rush hour: Las Vegas, the 24-hour town, doesn't have standard middle American rush hours; instead, it has unpredictable “periods of heavy traffic.”

INFORMATION SOURCES

Visitor bureau: Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority

Chamber of commerce: Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce ☎702.735.1616 🌐www.lvchamber.com
☎702.892.0711 🌐www.LVCVA.com

Local newspaper: *Las Vegas Review Journal* 🌐www.reviewjournal.com

Local weather: 🌐www.reviewjournal.com

Local traffic: KNUU 970 AM 🌐www.knews970.com

Restaurant reviews: 🌐www.reviewjournal.com

GETTING THERE

LAS VEGAS MCCARRAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

*Fast Facts: McCarran***Airport Code:** LAS

📍 5757 Wayne Newton Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89119

🌐 www.McCarran.com

☎ 702.261.5211

Parking Information: 📞 702.261.5121

Drive time to the bottom of the Strip: 10 minutes

(20 minutes in heavy traffic)

Drive time to the top of the Strip: 20 minutes

(40 minutes in heavy traffic)

Drive time to Downtown: 20 minutes (35 minutes in heavy traffic)

Las Vegas McCarran International Airport is located at the bottom of the Las Vegas Strip, about 7 miles from the Downtown area. McCarran has two separate terminals—1 and 2.

Terminal 1, which services domestic flights only, has three levels. Ticketing and gate areas are located on level 2, as is the Esplanade or central terminal. You will pass through the Esplanade to get to security checkpoints and the gates. Four gate areas—A-D—are in this terminal. Baggage claim, taxi stands, and shuttle pickups are located on level 1. Limousine services and public transportation are on level 0.

The D gate's satellite concourse, the airport's newest addition, is connected to the rest of the terminal by a 2-minute ride on the ATS Tram. The C gate area is also connected by Tram, but here you have the option of walking, as well.

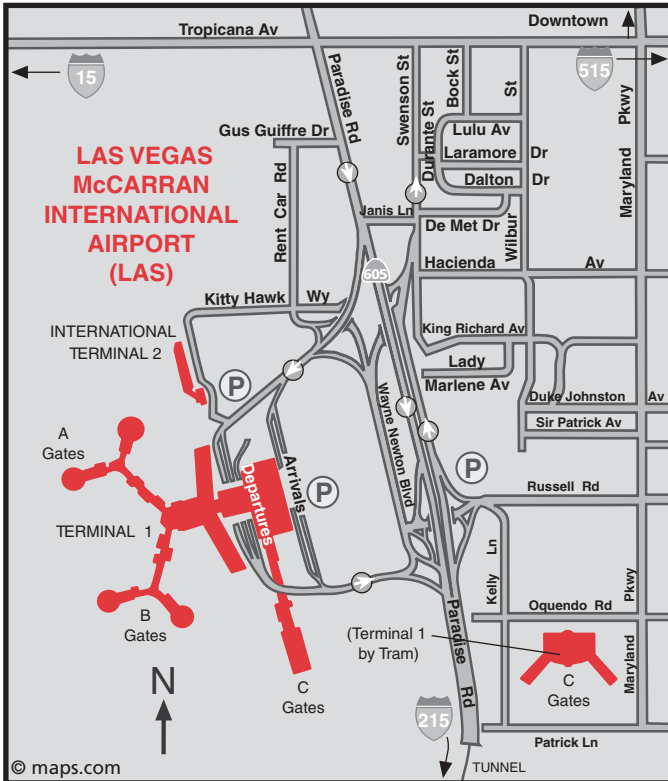
Terminal 2 accommodates international and charter flights, as well as domestic airlines. This terminal is much smaller than terminal 1 and consists of just eight gates (T2-1 through T2-8). All gates are on the upper level; ticketing, baggage, and all ground transport share the lower level. This terminal has its own small parking area and is connected to terminal 1 via the Inter-Terminal Shuttle, running every 12 to 15 minutes.

The airport has more than 50 retail shops, 30 restaurants, a full-service fitness center, and a lot of slot machines. The **Esplanade** (pre-security) houses the 24 Hour Fitness Center, several shops (including Cigars of the World, WH Smith News and Gifts, and Waterstone Booksellers), and one eatery. Most of the bigger casinos have gift shops here as well. Other retailers include AltiTUNES Music Store (D), Books & Co (C), Inmotion Pictures (D), Marshall Rousso Apparel (A and B), and Ethel M and Las Vegas Fruit & Nuts (all gate areas).

The airport has droves of fast food restaurants, but if you've had one too many personal pan pizzas, try Harlon's BBQ and Country Breakfast or Gordon Biersch Brewing Co. (in the D gates area), Don Alejandro's Texan Grill (in the Esplanade), or Cheers Bar and Grill (in gate areas A and B). There is also a Starbucks in the Esplanade.

The 24 Hour Fitness Center (📞 702.261.3971) is worth noting. The center is equipped with a cardiovascular workout center, full compliment of exercise equipment, steam rooms, dry sauna, and locker rooms with showers. The daily fee is \$15. A \$30 day pass supplies you with tee shirt, shorts, socks, sneakers, and towel—all of which, except the shoes, is yours to keep.

AIRPORT MAP



DOMESTIC AIRLINES

Airline	Terminal
Alaska Airlines	1
Allegiant Air	1
Aloha Airlines	1
America West Airlines	1
American Airlines	1
ATA	2
Champion Air	1
Continental Airlines	1
Delta Air Lines	1
Frontier Airlines	1
Hawaiian Airlines	2

JetBlue Airways	1
Midwest Express	1
Northwest Airlines	1
Song	1
Southwest Airlines	1
Spirit Airlines	1
Sun Country Airlines	1
United Airlines	1
US Airways	1
West Jet	2

INTERNET ACCESS

Most phone banks, located throughout the airport, are equipped with data ports.

AIRLINE LOUNGES

America West Club

☛ Terminal 1, level 2 (north mezzanine, before security checkpoint for A/B gates) ☎ 702.736.5614

🕒 4:45 a.m.-1 a.m. daily

Services include standard amenities plus workstations with dial-up Internet access.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Two information booths are in terminal 1; one is located on level 2 in the Esplanade, and the second is located between the north and south baggage claim areas. If someone is picking you up, head to the passenger pickup area by following the yellow triangles across the pedestrian bridge to the first level of long-term parking. The terminal 2 information booth is in the baggage claim area. Your best bet for getting to the strip is taxi or rental car.

Rental Cars

Rental car counters in terminal 1 are located in the center of the baggage claim area on level 1; in terminal 2, on the lower level opposite baggage claim.

Located at the airport: Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Dollar, Hertz, Alamo/National, Payless, Sav-mor, and Thrifty

Taxis

At terminal 1, taxis are located outside door exits 1-5 on the east side of baggage claim. At terminal 2, they are outside baggage claim.

Taxis are metered and accept credit card payments. There is a \$1.20 charge on all fares originating at the airport. Airport personnel are available on the taxi curb to assist passengers. Approximate fares to the center of the Strip are \$14; to the top of the Strip, \$16; and to Downtown, \$21. Rates to Henderson range from \$20 to \$30.

Limousines

A variety of limousine and car services is available at McCarran, and, unlike most airports, you don't need to call ahead for reservations. Pickup at terminal 1 is outside door exits 8 to 14, located on the north and west sides of baggage claim; from terminal 2, outside baggage claim. The minimum fare for a limo is about \$30.

Share-Ride Shuttles

Share-ride shuttles and buses are found outside terminal 1 door exits 8 to 14, located on the north and west sides of baggage claim; from terminal 2, outside baggage claim. The shuttles run every 20 minutes. Most hold up to 20 people, so the combination of multiple stops and traffic means that the trip to the Strip can be more than an hour. Fares to hotels range from \$4 to \$6. Major companies are Bell Trans (☎ 702.739.7990) and Las Vegas Limousine (☎ 702.736.1419).

Public Transportation

The CAT (Citizens Area Transit) isn't recommended for most business travelers.

NORTH LAS VEGAS AIRPORT

Fast Facts: North Las Vegas Airport

☛ 2730 Airport Dr., Suite 101, North Las Vegas, NV 89032

☎ 702.261.3806 🌐 www.McCarran.com

Drive time to Downtown: 15 minutes (double in heavy traffic)

Drive time to the Strip: 20-40 minutes (double in heavy traffic)

North Las Vegas Airport, the second-busiest airport in Las Vegas, is located less than 7 miles north of Downtown and 9 miles from the Strip. This airport primarily services tourist-oriented scenic flight companies, but several of these companies also book business charter flights. Charter airlines that service the airport include Courier (☎ 702.373.1099), Scenic (☎ 702.638.3200), Vision Air (☎ 702.261.3850), and Zepp Air (☎ 702.437.3466).

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

A courtesy one-way shuttle is available by reservation to Downtown and Strip hotels between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Call ahead for a cab. The fare to Downtown and the top of the Strip is \$15 to \$25, but expect to pay up to \$40 if you are going to the bottom of the Strip. The "A" Cab Co. (☎ 702.369.5686) goes there regularly.

Rental car companies are located 1 mile from the airport but will bring your car to the airport or send a car to pick you up. Companies include Avis, Enterprise, Hertz, and Toyota (☎ 702.889.9777).

HENDERSON EXECUTIVE AIRPORT***Fast Facts: Henderson Airport***

📍 1400 Executive Airport Dr., Henderson, NV 89052

☎ 702.261.4800 🌐 www.McCarran.com

Drive time to McCarran Airport and bottom of the Strip: 15 minutes (30 in heavy traffic)

Henderson Airport, a general aviation reliever for the McCarran airport, is 15 minutes east of McCarran, in Henderson, Nevada. The airport is a small, no-frills facility at present—although construction plans over the next two years are designed to cater to the corporate travel market. Charter airlines serving the airport include Desert Southwest Airlines (☎ 702.263.9520) and King Aire, Inc. (☎ 702.361.7811).

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Enterprise Rental Car (☎ 702.431.6016 or 702.968.5500) is the only company onsite. For cabs, call Deluxe Taxicab Service (☎ 702.568.7700) or Checker Cab (☎ 702.873.2227); allow 15 minutes for pickup. The fare to the mid-Strip area is approximately \$25. Henderson Corridor Connection (☎ 702.565.7087 or 888.822.6971) offers a round-trip fare from the airport to the Strip for \$40 but requires 24-hour advance reservation.

AMTRAK

Amtrak does not have a direct service into Las Vegas.



DRIVING, PARKING, AND WALKING

Las Vegas is easy to navigate. The city is on a grid plan, with Las Vegas Boulevard (the Strip) running through the middle from north to south. If you intend to leave the immediate vicinity of your hotel, you'll want to rent a car; otherwise, walking (either outside or via People Movers) and taking cabs will get you where you need to go within the Strip area.

However, if you choose to walk you'll need to pay attention to the weather and to distance. In the winter, nighttime temperatures can drop to freezing (from balmy 60-degree days), and in the summer, daytime highs can well exceed 100 degrees. (And it doesn't cool down much in the evening, either; on some hot summer nights the mercury stays in the triple digits.)

Distances in Las Vegas can be deceiving to even the most dedicated walker. All those big buildings and neon signs make things appear a lot closer than they actually are. In reality, distances between hotels are substantial; the Strip itself is 4 miles long. Be wary of setting off on an unexpectedly long walk in the heat of the desert sun. Fortunately, People Movers connect the Tropicana, Excalibur, Luxor, and Mandalay Bay hotels; they also connect the Monte Carlo with the Bellagio, the Mirage with Treasure Island, and the MGM with Bally's.

If you decide to drive, odds are you will sit awhile in traffic—particularly on the Strip, where a theoretical 10-minute drive from the top to the bottom can take more than a half hour. During the day you may also encounter construction backups. (All of Las Vegas is a booming construction area.) A good alternative to driving the Strip is to take Industrial Drive, which runs parallel to the Strip, one block west, along Route 15 behind the casinos. It provides a "secret" back way into most of the hotels on that side of the Strip.

The bottom line is that traffic in Las Vegas is a crapshoot. Heavy traffic is a function of a number of factors, including tourist seasons, convention attendance, the ever-present construction, shift changes, and, as one cab driver put it, "it depends on whether people are acting stupid."

To alleviate these ever-present traffic problems, the city is building a monorail that will run above the Strip and provide an alternative to today's traffic jams. The first phase is expected to be completed by January 2004. For now,

Las Vegas Strip Trolleys run continuously every 15 minutes, and CAT buses run about every 7 minutes.

RULES OF THE ROAD

Nevada speed limits, unless otherwise posted, are 70 m.p.h. on rural interstates, 65 m.p.h. on urban freeways and rural highways, and 25 m.p.h. in business and residential zones. In Nevada, all passengers must wear safety belts. Violation of the seat belt law is a secondary offense. Headlights are required a half hour after sunset until a half hour before sunrise, and when visibility is less than 1,000 feet.

PARKING

All hotels and facilities have ample parking areas; the majority are free, and you don't have to be a guest to use them. In addition, all casino hotels offer valet service. Note that some parking facilities are enormous, so if valet parking is not available, be prepared to hike a ways.

TAXIS

You will find a lot of taxis lined up outside every hotel, casino, restaurant, and convention venue. You can also flag cabs. Cabs charge \$2.70 at the meter drop, 1.80¢/mile, and \$.35/minute wait time. The fare from the bottom to the top of the Strip will run \$15 to \$20. Call Checker Cab (☎702.873.2227) or Desert Cab (☎702.386.9102).

RENTAL CARS

Most major rental car companies have locations in Las Vegas. Hertz rents luxury cars (such as Jaguars and Volvos) out of its Las Vegas locations. If you get lucky at the casinos, try Rent-a-Vette Sports Cars/Exotics Rentals (☎702.736.2592 or 800.372.1981) (www.rent-a-vette.com).

LIMOUSINES

Like taxis, limousines and Town Cars cruise the Strip and wait outside hotels for high-roller passengers. In general, limousine rates range from \$30 per hour for a Town Car to \$70 per hour for a stretch limo. Most companies also rent 10-passenger vans, at \$45 per hour. You can also call and reserve service. The major companies include Las Vegas Limousine (☎702.739.8414 or 888.696.4400) (www.lasvegaslimo.com) and Bell Trans (☎702.739.7990).

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

There are two public transportation options on the strip—the Las Vegas Strip Trolley and the CAT (Citizens Area Transit) buses. The Trolleys run from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m.; fare is \$1.65. (Exact fair is required.) Trolleys run about every 15 minutes and make 19 stops along the Strip and at the Las Vegas Convention Center. The CAT bus 301 Strip route runs every 7 minutes, depending on the time of day. The fare is \$2; transfers are free.

IN TOWN

CONVENTION CENTERS

LAS VEGAS CONVENTION CENTER

📍 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109

☎ 702.892.0711 🌐 www.lvcva.com

The Las Vegas Convention Center, 3 miles from the airport, is located at the corner of Desert Inn Road and Paradise Road, just minutes off the central strip area. The massive 3.2 million square foot facility is one of the largest convention centers in North America.

The Convention Center is divided into three hall areas—halls N1–N4 are on level 1 near the Las Vegas Hilton, halls C1–C5 are in the center of the building on level 1, and halls S1–S4 are located in the new building on the south end of the complex.

Business centers are located off the Grand Concourse near halls C3 and C1, and offer a full range of business supplies and services. The Convention Center's wireless Internet service is accessible both inside and outside the building.

Banners Restaurant is located in the Grand Concourse, and the International Food Market, with five restaurant choices, is in the South Hall building, near the main entrance. Several other eateries are located throughout the center, including two Starbucks. All restaurants are self-service facilities.

The Las Vegas Hilton, located on Paradise Drive, is adjacent to the Convention Center. The Riviera and Sahara Hotels are across the street, within easy walking distance. Many trade shows arrange shuttle bus transportation from other hotels; it's just as easy to grab a cab, unless it's a really big convention. Taxi and shuttle stands are readily available outside the main entrance. A pedestrian bridge

over Paradise Road connects the parking area with the Convention Center, should you drive. During especially large conventions, parking can be difficult; the center suggests taking a taxi or shuttle.

MANDALAY BAY CONVENTION CENTER

📍 3950 Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89119

☎ 702.632.7900

🌐 www.mandalayconventions.com

The new Mandalay Bay Convention Center is located at the south end of the Strip, near the airport. This one million square foot facility is split into four connecting convention centers on three levels—North Convention Center, South Convention Center Level 1, South Convention Center Level 2, and South Convention Center Level 3. The Bayside Exhibit Halls (A–D) are located in the South Convention Center Level 1; the Shoreline Exhibit Halls (A–B) are located in the South Convention Center Level 2.

Business and computer centers that include workstations with high-speed Internet access are located in both the North Center and South Level 1. A large parking deck is located in back of the facility. The South Parking Lot entrance is the main entrance and drop-off area for taxis and shuttles.

The International Food Court is located inside the main entrance on the first level of the Conference Center. The Mandalay Bay, Luxor, and Excalibur Hotels are linked to the Convention Center by shuttles, trams, and walkways along a route called The Mandalay Mile. You can quickly walk to "Restaurant Row" from your conference; notable dining establishments include Aureole, House of Blues, Red Square, and Wolfgang Puck's Trattoria del Lipo. A 1,100-suite tower at Mandalay Bay is scheduled to open by November 2003.

THE SANDS EXPO CONVENTION CENTER/VENETIAN HOTEL

📍 201 E. Sands Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89109

☎ 702.414.1000 🌐 www.sandsexpo.com

The Sands Expo at the Venetian Resort/Hotel & Casino is another one of this city's larger conference centers at 1.9 million square feet (when combined with the Venetian Congress Center). The Sands is located at the center of the Strip, at East Sands Avenue.

Connected under one roof with the Venetian, the Sands Expo's main exterior entrance is just around the corner on East Sands Avenue. A taxi and shuttle drop-off loop is located in front of the Sands. A parking ramp for both facilities is attached to the Venetian, about a 5-minute walk to the Sands facility. The Sands is divided into exhibit halls A, B, and C on the upper level, with the larger hall G on the lower level. The halls are surrounded by meeting rooms, a full-service business center, and snack bars.

Attached to the Sands is the smaller Venetian Congress Center, which has ballrooms and conference and meeting rooms. A business and computer center, including workstations with high-speed Internet access, is located on the upper level, opposite the Venetian Ballroom.

Sixteen restaurants are located in the Venetian, many headed up by well-known chefs such as Emeril and Wolfgang Puck. They range in culinary and atmospheric diversity from elegant fine dining to casual. The Treasure Island hotel is directly across the street; the Harrahs, Mirage, and Imperial Palace hotels are also all within walking distance along the Strip.

HOTELS

In spite of hotel rooms numbering in the hundreds of thousands, you will need lady luck or a good travel agent to book the accommodations you want if a couple of big conferences are in town. During these heavy convention periods, hotels tend to book up months in advance. Beware especially the spring and fall convention seasons.

DOWNTOWN

Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino

This surprisingly upscale Downtown property is Glitter Gulch's most glamorous destination, exuding a certain faux-European charm with crystal chandeliers, Grecian marble, and a lot of twinkling lights. With 1,805 comfortable rooms, the place also stands out from the rest of the competition Downtown and offers five full-service restaurants—most notably Stefano's, one of the city's most popular steakhouses. The property includes a spa, beauty salon, more than 25,000 square feet of banquet and meeting space, a heated Olympic-sized pool with an outdoor Jacuzzi, and (of course) a bustling slot parlor.

📍 129 E. Fremont St., Las Vegas, NV 89101

☎ 702.385.7111, 800.634.3454

🌐 www.goldennugget.com

Rooms, \$59-\$119 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷

THE STRIP

Bellagio Las Vegas

There's water, water everywhere—including an 11-acre lake with thousands of dancing fountains, a Romanesque pool area, and, on stage, the water-themed "O" show—making Bellagio, indeed, seem very far removed from the harshness of the desert. Like any small European dukedom, the resort wouldn't be complete without its own art gallery, featuring masterworks—all for sale—by such artists as Van Gogh, Monet, Manet, Renoir, Cézanne, Matisse, and Gauguin. There's also an elegant spa, where it's virtually impossible to schedule a treatment without reserving well in advance. Ditto for the myriad of fine name restaurants—Aqua, Le Cirque, Osteria del Circo, Olives, Picasso, Prime, Shintaro, Nectar, Noodles—where nabbing a dinner table after 5:30 p.m. can be difficult.

📍 3600 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109

☎ 702.693.7111, 888.987.6667 📠 702.693.8585

🌐 www.bellagioresort.com

Rooms, \$159-\$499; suites, \$250-\$1,400

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Caesars Palace Las Vegas

With three enormous casinos, a world-famous shopping mall (Forum Shops at Caesars), an IMAX 3-D thrill ride, a pioneering race-and-sports book, imaginative magic dinner-theater, four busy lounges, numerous restaurants, health spa, two swimming pools, a seven-story Omnimax Theatre, a 4,300-seat indoor showroom, and a 15,300-seat outdoor stadium, Caesars has managed to keep up with the new kids on the block. Besides its encouragement of overindulgence and fun, Caesars is perhaps best-known for its marquee entertainment options. A recent \$600 million expansion brought the 80-acre resort's room inventory to 2,454.

📍 3570 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109

☎ 702.731.7110, 800.634.6661 📠 702.731.7172

🌐 www.caesars.com

Rooms, \$109-\$179; Palace Tower Rooms, \$229+

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The Flamingo Hilton

Located on the famous four corners of the Las Vegas Strip, this pink-neon-splashed hotel is where it all began. If you look hard enough, you'll find vintage photos and a plaque honoring the founder, Bugsy Siegel—who wouldn't recognize the place today. The hotel has 3,642 rooms and suites, which, though nothing special, are nicely appointed, always clean, and a great value in this price range. The same can be said of the rest of the property, including its restaurants, water park, health spa, and a 70,000-square-foot casino.

📍 3555 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.733.3111, 888.308.8899 📠 702.733.3353
 🌐 www.lv-flamingo.com

Rooms and suites, \$39-\$279 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🔍

Four Seasons Hotel

A white-gloved hand opens your car door, whisks away your bags, and points you in the direction of the reservation desk or bank of elevators that lead to your understated yet elegant Four Seasons room or suite. In 1999, Four Seasons took a gamble and opened the only non-gaming hotel on the Strip, occupying the top four floors of Mandalay Bay and offering its guests reciprocal privileges at the larger resort. Four Seasons itself has a gorgeous private pool, a serene lobby lounge, a world-class restaurant (The Grill), and one of the best spas on the Strip. Rooms feature an abundance of special touches designed to keep guests happy—bathrobes, Bulgari bathroom amenities, down comforters, toasters, irons, and coffeemakers.

📍 3950 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89119
 ☎ 702.632.5000, 877.632.5000 📠 702.632.5222
 🌐 www.fourseasons.com

Rooms, \$200+; suites, \$600+ 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🔍

The Hard Rock Hotel and Casino

The world's first rock-'n'-roll-themed hotel and casino has hit the jackpot; Gen-Yers love the place. Located at Paradise and Harmon, it's not within easy walking distance of the Strip on a hot summer day, but that doesn't matter. Open since 1995, the 11-story, 340-room-and-suite hotel—marked with a signature giant electric guitar at its entrance—recently expanded to nearly twice its

original size. Guest rooms are uniformly well-appointed, and some feature Jacuzzis. Part of a recent \$100 million expansion are 35 opulent new suites with expansive living rooms and state-of-the-art music systems. The pool area has a sandy beach, waterfalls, water slides, and a Beach Club where the action hums day and night. The nightlife extends to the rock-music concerts held in the cozy 1,200-seat theater called The Joint.

📍 4475 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.693.5000, 800.693.7625 📠 702.693.5010
 🌐 www.hardrockhotel.com

Rooms, \$185+ (midweek specials as low as \$55); suites, \$250+ 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🔍

Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino

If some of Las Vegas's newer resorts seem like small cities, Mandalay Bay feels like the kind of place Robinson Crusoe might have envisioned upon his return to civilization. Mandalay Bay's 11-acre guests-only tropical lagoon is surrounded by 5,300 palm trees and comes complete with a spacious wave pool, a sandy beach, a winding lazy-river ride, and a swim-up shark tank. Inside, beyond the megacasino, the resort includes a shopping mall, theater, 12,000-seat arena, and a House of Blues concert hall, restaurant, and Foundation Room. Rooms are tastefully appointed with an island theme, all very lovely—but finding yours among 3,199 others presents a special challenge. If you want, you can request specially designed rooms in the House of Blues Wing.

📍 3950 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89119
 ☎ 702.632.7777, 877.632.7701 📠 702.632.7234
 🌐 www.mandalaybay.com

Rooms, \$99-\$429; suites, \$149+ 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🔍

MGM Grand Hotel and Casino

The world's largest hotel boasts about its size, and they're not kidding. Bring along a map, a bottle of water, a cell phone, and a sturdy pair of walking shoes when you set out to explore the 5,005-room megaresort. The rooms are spacious and have all the standard amenities—but you may have to walk and walk from the elevator to reach yours. As part of a \$750 million expansion plan, the MGM recently opened The Mansion of MGM Grand, a complex of 30 elaborate suites and villas ranging in size from

3,000 to 14,000 square feet—but you have to be a high roller even to get a look at it, let alone stay there. A new conference center includes a 50,000-square-foot, column-free ballroom.

📍 3799 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.891.1111, 800.929.1111 📠 702.891.3036
 🌐 www.mgmgrand.com

Rooms and suites, \$79.95-\$648 🍷 🍸 🍹 🍺 🍻 🍷

The Mirage Casino and Hotel

Warning: A volcano will erupt every few minutes, there's a giant aquarium where live sharks swim, and in the tropical rain forest it will, in fact, rain. It's all part of the plan at this lush resort that masquerades as a tropical paradise. The resort has a full-service spa and salon; a shopping mall; and Italian (Onda), French (Renoir), Chinese (Moongate), Hawaiian (Kokomo's), and Brazilian (Samba Grill) restaurants; plus meeting and convention space for up to 5,000 people. The Siegfried & Roy show has been doing sold-out business for years, so make reservations early.

📍 3400 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.791.7111, 800.627.6667 📠 702.791.7446
 🌐 www.themirage.com

Rooms and suites, \$179+ 🍷 🍸 🍹 🍺 🍻 🍷

Paris Las Vegas

The 2,916-room Paris Las Vegas provides one of the most unusual experiences in Las Vegas, with its huge—and authentic-looking—replicas of the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, and Alexandre III bridge. The \$785 million, 34-story resort is yet another addition to the re-creation of Western Civilization on the Strip, and staff members are instructed to greet guests with "Bonjour!" Resort amenities include a 2-acre casino rooftop pool, 24-hour room service, a business center, two wedding chapels, and convention and buffet facilities. The hotel connects to its sister property, Bally's Las Vegas, by way of a re-creation of Le Boulevard, a "street" lined with high-end French boutiques.

📍 3655 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.946.7000, 888.266.5687 📠 702.967.4925
 🌐 www.paris-lv.com

Rooms, \$89+; suites, \$350 & up

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Stardust Resort and Casino

For more than 40 years, this glittering, traditional Las Vegas resort has been a familiar landmark. The Stardust has a nice range of accommodations, with more than 2,400 rooms in the tower, villa, and motor inn. A total of 160 newly decorated suites feature wet bars, granite-tiled bathrooms, and Jacuzzi tubs. The newly remodeled and expanded casino has a world-famous race-and-sports book. Also onsite are six restaurants, eight cocktail lounges, a shopping mall, video arcade, two pools, and an all-new conference center.

📍 3000 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.732.6111, 800.824.6033 📠 702.732.6257
 🌐 www.stardustlv.com

Rooms, \$36-\$300; suites, \$250+ 🍷 🍸 🍹 🍺 🍻 🍷

Treasure Island at the Mirage

This themed adventure resort is a tropical hideaway, linked by monorail to its sister property, the Mirage. At the hotel entrance, the British frigate HMS Britannia takes down the pirate ship Hispaniola every 90 minutes in a breathtaking display of swashbuckling, acrobatics, and pyrotechnics. Things are much calmer once inside, where Treasure Island offers tastefully appointed guest rooms, dining in nine restaurants, a tropical swimming pool, and an elegant spa and salon.

📍 3300 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
 ☎ 702.894.7111, 800.944.7444 📠 702.894.7446
 🌐 www.treasureisland.com

Rooms, \$59-\$300; suites, \$110-\$400

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The Venetian

The \$1.5 billion Venetian is a miniature city, complete with replicated statuary, hand-painted frescoed ceilings, and homages to familiar Venetian landmarks—including, natch, the Grand Canal. All of the 3,036 guest rooms are suites, providing spacious 700 square feet of living space. Amenities include an entertainment center, mini-bar, fax machine with copier and computer printer capabilities, a separate dedicated phone line with speakerphone, and writing desk with arm chair. In-room safes are

designed to hold a laptop computer. A total of 14 restaurants, bearing the signatures of world-famous chefs are available for dining—but, believe it or not, there's no buffet! The Grand Canal Shoppes combine high-fashion luxury boutiques, national branded stores, and entertainment retailers, and the Canyon Ranch Spa is unequalled for high-energy workouts and deluxe pampering.

☛ 3355 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109
☎ 702.733.5000, 888.283.6423 📠 702.414.1100
🌐 www.venetian.com

Suites, \$109-\$399 🍷 🍸 🍹 🍺 🍻

RESTAURANTS

Las Vegas is becoming a player in the international restaurant scene. Restaurants operated by name-brand celebrity chefs abound, creating a famous restaurant sampler.

TOP FIVE BUSINESS RESTAURANTS

Aureole

Cuisine: Contemporary. **Features:** Great wine list, full bar, private rooms, reservations suggested. **Attire:** Casual. **Open:** Dinner nightly.

☛ Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, 3950 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89119 ☎ 702.632.7401

Emeril's New Orleans Fish House

Cuisine: Seafood. **Features:** Great wine list, heart-healthy dishes, full bar, private rooms, open late, reservations suggested. **Attire:** Dressy casual. **Open:** Dinner nightly.

☛ MGM Grand Hotel and Casino, 3799 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109 ☎ 702.891.1111

Picasso

Cuisine: Contemporary. **Features:** Great wine list, full bar, reservations suggested. **Attire:** Jackets and ties suggested. **Open:** Dinner Thursday-Tuesday.

☛ Bellagio Las Vegas, 3600 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109 ☎ 702.693.8105

Renoir

Cuisine: French. **Features:** Great wine list, full bar, open late, reservations suggested. **Attire:** Dressy. **Open:** Dinner Thursday-Tuesday.

☛ The Mirage Casino and Hotel, 3400 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109 ☎ 702.791.7353

Valentino

Cuisine: Italian. **Features:** Great wine list, full bar, private rooms, open late, reservations suggested. **Attire:** Casual elegant. **Open:** Dinner nightly.

☛ The Venetian, 3355 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas, NV 89109 ☎ 702.414.3000

BUSINESS SERVICES AND SUPPLIES

BUSINESS SUPPORT AND COMPUTER/INTERNET ACCESS

KINKO'S

☛ 395 Hughes Center Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89109-4814
☎ 702.951.2400 📠 702.951.2406
✉ usa0741@kinkos.com 🌐

☛ 830 S 4th St., Las Vegas, NV 89101-6709
☎ 702.383.7022 📠 702.383.9967
✉ usa1302@kinkos.com

☛ 4750 W Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89102-3557
☎ 702.870.7011 📠 702.870.3411
✉ usa1303@kinkos.com

Mail Boxes, Etc.

☛ 2620 South Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109-1692 ☎ 702.650.2222

☛ 1350 E. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89119
☎ 702.732.0024

Sir Speedy

☛ 4533-2 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89102
☎ 702.871.3850

Starbucks

There are 73 Starbucks stores throughout the area; none were Wi-Fi equipped at the time of publication.

COMPUTERS, ELECTRONICS, AND OFFICE SUPPLIES

CompUSA

☛ 3535 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89102-5869
☎ 702.252.0149

Office Max

☛ Sunrise City Shopping Center, 2837 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109 ☎ 702.732.4244

📍 4995 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89119

☎ 702.736.4411

RadioShack

📍 2208 S Nellis, Suite 5, Las Vegas, NV 89104

☎ 702.432.6016

📍 Tropicana Center, 3125 Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV

89121 ☎ 702.435.5344