

# GRLS GRLS!

## GRAB YOUR GIRLFRIENDS AND PLAN TO HAVE A VA(ATION YOU WON'T FORGET

Neither rain nor sleet, demanding jobs nor busy schedules can keep me and my friends from our annual girlfriends' getaway to Las Vegas. Vegas is the only place in the world that cansatisfy a shopaholic, a discriminating foodie, an adventurous outdoorsy type and a fun-loving party girl. From sizzling nightlife and breathtaking scenery to inspired cuisine and 24-hour shopping, Vegas is the perfect destination because it offers something for each of us.



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SUGAR RUSH

Satisfy your sweet tooth with a cup of frozen hot chocolate at Max Brenner in the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace.

#### WINE AND DINE

Food is one of Sin City's most enticing attractions, and we're more than happy to indulge. For a swanky night out, you can't beat Fleur at the Mandalay Bay Hotel where Chef Hubert Keller serves up small plates inspired by his global travels. Our favorite is the "in the shower" mac-and-cheese with lobster and brunoise vegetables. A splurge at one of Las Vegas' posh eateries is a definite must, but for a

deliciously authentic meal that won't dent our budget, we head downtown to Du-Par's Restaurant and Bakery inside the Golden Gate Hotel and Casino. Voted one of the Top Five 24-Hour Diners in Las Vegas, Du-Par's is great for lunch or a late-night snack. Of course, no trip to Vegas is complete without a visit to one of the city's famous all-you-can-eat buffets. We usually hit Cravings Buffet at the Mirage for a late lunch. After choosing from 11 different cooking stations, we're satisfied for the rest of the evening.

Plan your own Foodie Fantasy at www.visitlasvegas.com/how-to-vegas/the-foodie-fantasy.

#### FASHION FORWARD

Shopping isn't just an activity in Las Vegas – it's an adventure. Most

of the hotels and casinos house indoor mini-malls and offer choices that range from the exclusive to the extremely affordable. Our fashionista can shop like a Kardashian at Crystals at CityCenter, the 500,000-square-foot mall that's home to such designer labels as Prada, Versace, Hermes and Carolina Herrera, or spend the day bargain hunting at the Las Vegas Premium Outlets or the Grand Canal Shoppes at the Venetian.

For a list of shopping venues, visit www.visitlasvegas.com/activities/shopping.

#### SEE AND BE S(ENIC

They say you haven't seen Vegas until you've seen it from 855 feet in the air. That's the view you'll get if you're one of the brave souls who

take the 108-story plunge from the Stratosphere Casino's SkyJump Las Vegas, the world's highest controlled free fall. Me – I prefer my adventure a little closer to the ground, and nearby Boulder City offers plenty.

Just a short 30-minute drive from the Strip, Boulder City is the gateway to Red Rock Canyon, where you can admire the natural beauty of the desert by horseback, on foot, or even in the air with help from Bootleg Canyon Flightlines. Las Vegas can get hot in the summer, and one of the best ways we like to cool off is with a guided kayak tour along the Colorado River.

Visit www.visitlasvegas.com/ activities/tours-and-sightseeing for a list of outfitters and tour guides.

#### NOTEWORTHY NIGHTLIFE

From the King to the King of Pop, Vegas is always playing our song. The city offers a host of live music venues such as the Joint at the Hard Rock Cafe and Casino, the Pearl at the Palms, as well as musical theater like The Michael Jackson Experience at Madame Tussauds. We always splurge on a Cirque du Soleil performance: There are seven to choose from. We all especially love the music-inspired productions featuring the music of Elvis and The Beatles. But for a performance with girl power, we know to reserve our seats early for Celine Dion's popular show at Caesars Palace.

Name your Vegas tune: visit www.visitlasvegas.com/how-to-vegas/vegas-on-a-high-note.

### VEGAS TO-DO LIST

Have your picture taken in front of the Bellagio Fountains – an aquatic wonder with more than 1,200 sprays rising and falling in rhythm some 460 feet in the air.

2 Take a gondola ride down the Grand Canal at the Venetian. You don't have to be on your honeymoon to get a kick out of this romantic attraction.

Take people watching to a whole new level at Fremont Street Flightlinez, a zipline that stretches across one of the busiest streets in downtown Vegas.

Indulge in a Roman bath at Qua Spa at Caesars Palace, then relax Nordic style in the famed Arctic room where snow falls from the ceiling.

Get your game on at the Golden Nugget, multiple "Best of Gaming" award winner. New to gaming? The Golden Nugget offers daily classes in craps, blackjack and roulette.

