



**nileGUIDE**

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



# Ten Great Places For Adventure in Las Vegas

## Las Vegas, 1 Day

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# Guide Description



**AUTHOR NOTE:** Las Vegas knows how to get your heart pounding, and not just in the casino. If you're in the mood for an adrenaline rush, you've got several options. You can definitely find adventure on one of the Strip's thrill rides--you'll find rollercoasters, controlled free-falls, and other things that spin, dangle, or drop you. Just off the Strip, you can try skydiving indoors, or racing go-carts at 50 m.p.h. If you want to drive really fast, you can learn how to drive a race car or take an ATV tour through remote areas of the Mojave Desert--but if you like your adventure a little quieter, go rock climbing, hike, or rent a boat. Mountain bikers can experience an "Epic" trail ride, but if you'd rather zoom through the air, try a zipline. ~Photo courtesy of Rob Lucas at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ultrarob/3947225828> ~

# Itinerary Overview

things to do  
restaurants  
hotels  
nightlife

## Day 1 - Las Vegas



### Red Rock Canyon Climbing

Nevada's best rock climbing



### Flyaway Indoor Skydiving

Freefall In The City



### ATV Off-Road Desert Adventure

ATV Tour in the Valley of Fire



### Fast Lap Indoor Kart Racing

Indoor racing



### Richard Petty Driving Experience

Speeding allowed



### Stratosphere Thrill Rides

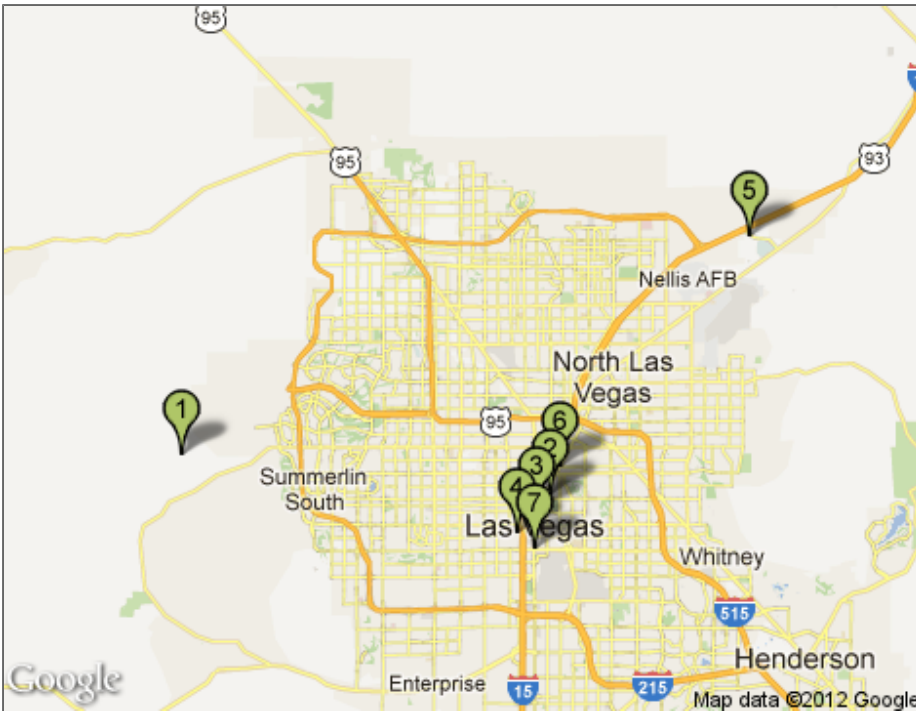
A Spin above the Rest



### The Roller Coaster at New York-New York

Loops, spirals, and drops at up to 67 m.ph.

# Day 1 - Las Vegas



## QUICK NOTE

### contact:

tel: (702) 515-5138

[http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm\\_programs/blm\\_special\\_areas/red\\_rock\\_nca/recreation/rockclimbing.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm_programs/blm_special_areas/red_rock_nca/recreation/rockclimbing.html)

### location:

Las Vegas NV 89130-2301

## 1 Red Rock Canyon Climbing

### OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Although Red Rock is a day use area, climbers may request late exit permits.

**DESCRIPTION:** Red Rock Canyon NCA is one of the finest rock climbing areas in the world. The main type of rock found here is Aztec (or Navajo) sandstone, formed years ago through the natural cementing of ancient sand dunes. The rock at Calico's 1 & 2, and Sandstone Quarry are the focus of sport climbing. The rock of the main escarpment possesses a greater cementing factor and is considered to be a good quality sandstone. The black or varnished rock is generally considered to be the hardest. Keep in mind however, at its best, it is still sandstone. Routes in the Red Rock Canyon NCA are rated via the Yosemite Decimal System. All class V routes (those involving the use of protection) in Red Rock Canyon NCA range from 5.0 (easiest) to 5.14 (most difficult). © NileGuide



Photo courtesy of Maria Ly

**contact:**

tel: +1 702 731 4768  
fax: +1 702 731 0051  
<http://www.vegasindoorskydiving.com/>

**location:**

200 Convention Center Drive  
Las Vegas NV 89109

**hours:**

Mon-Thu 9:45am-6pm Fri-  
Sat 9:45am-10pm Sun  
9:45am-6pm

**2 Flyaway Indoor Skydiving**

**DESCRIPTION:** Vegas Indoor Skydiving, is an indoor skydiving facility located in the heart of The Strip in Las Vegas. The individual experience's a sky dive through simulation. The chamber has trampoline floor and padded walls. This is done with the help of a vertical tunnel that shoots up air that supports the weight of an average individual, the result is the feeling of a free-fall from a plane. As the sky dive begins, individuals can experiences a free-fall from a plane without any plane or parachute. © wcities.com



**contact:**

<http://www.partner.viator.com/en/6793/tours/Las-Vegas/ATV-Off-Road-Desert-Adventure/d684-3017ATV>

**location:**

Las Vegas NV 89109

**3 ATV Off-Road Desert Adventure**

**OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:**

An tour company handles all the details associated with equipment, transportation and food. Off-road tours will take you into remote areas that you would otherwise not see.

**DESCRIPTION:** Get ready for a wild all-terrain vehicle adventure in the red desert near the Valley of Fire State Park! You'll receive expert instruction on how to ride an ATV safely, and soon be zipping along sand dunes and gullies on a wild 2.5-hour desert adventure. A professional guide will lead you though a unique trail that will allow you to experience the Southwestern Desert from a unique perspective on a private trail system that no uninvited intruders may enter. At the staging area, north of the park, you'll be outfitted with helmets, goggles and gloves for your safety orientation. You'll learn how to operate your fully automatic, easy-to-handle, late model ATV before your expert guide takes you on a wild 2.5-hour desert adventure. Drive to the top of the mesas to see views of Lake Mead, the entrance to the Grand Canyon and the north side of the Valley of Fire. Also included in this tour is an Off Road Razr Track. Test your driving skills as you navigate the twists and turns, making 2 laps on this fun and unique track.

Razrs are 2 person models, 800cc and are a blast to operate! Next, a van will pick you up and take you through the valley of Fire State Park, where you stop to quench your thirst with complimentary bottled water and enjoy a picnic-style lunch (meal included). During the break you will have time to sight see, view petroglyphs and take photos at Nevada's oldest State Park!

This After this exciting adventure, hop back on your air-conditioned shuttle or bus for the comfortable ride back to Las Vegas. Special Offer - Book by December 31, 2010 and save



viator

over 25% off the recommended retail price - BOOK NOW! © Viator

**contact:**  
tel: 702-736-8113  
<http://fastlaplv.com/>

**location:**  
4288 Polaris Ave  
Las Vegas NV 89103

**hours:**  
Mon-Sat 11am-11pm; Sun  
11am-9pm

## 4 Fast Lap Indoor Kart Racing

**DESCRIPTION:** Zip around an indoor track at up to 50 m.p.h. on gas-powered 200 cc Hondas. Races are ten minutes around a roomy track.  
© NileGuide



Photo courtesy of Fast Lap Indoor Kart Racing

**contact:**  
tel: +1 702 643 4343  
fax: +1 702 644 4343  
<http://www.1800bepetty.com>

**location:**  
6975 Speedway Boulevard,  
Unit D-106  
Las Vegas NV 89115

**hours:**  
By reservation only

## 5 Richard Petty Driving Experience

**DESCRIPTION:** Try out a 600-horse power race car on the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Qualified professional instructors will prepare you to race solo in a genuine NASCAR Winston Cup-style stock car with speeds of up to 160 miles per hour. In the ride-along program, you ride in a two-seat stock car with a professional driver at high speed. Other programs prepare you to drive solo for 8-30 laps. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Richard Petty Driving Experience

**contact:**  
tel: 702/380-7777  
[www.stratospherehotel.com](http://www.stratospherehotel.com)

**location:**  
2000 Las Vegas Blvd. S  
Las Vegas NV 89109

**hours:**  
Sun-Thurs 10am-1am; Fri-Sat 10am-2am. Hours vary seasonally

## 6 Stratosphere Thrill Rides

**DESCRIPTION:** Atop the 1,149-foot Stratosphere Tower are three marvelous thrill rides. There used to be four, but they closed the roller coaster to make way for something even more stomach-churning. That's okay -- it was the least thrilling of the thrills. The **Big Shot** is a breathtaking free-fall ride that thrusts you 160 feet in the air along a 228-foot spire at the top of the tower, and then plummets back down again. Sitting in an open car, you seem to be dangling in space over Las Vegas. We have one relative, a thrill-ride enthusiast, who said he never felt more scared than when he rode the Big Shot. After surviving, he promptly put his kids on it; they loved it. Amping up the terror factor is **X-Scream**, a giant teeter-totter style device that propels you in an open car off the side of the 100-story tower and lets you dangle there weightlessly before returning you to relative safety. And now they have the aptly named **Insanity**, a spinning whirly-gig of a contraption that straps you into a seat and twirls you around 1,000 feet or so above terra firma. Insanity is right. **Note:** The rides are shut down in inclement weather and high winds. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Stratosphere Thrill Rides

**contact:**

tel: +1 702 740 6969  
[http://www.nynyhotelcasino.com/pages/ent\\_coaster.asp](http://www.nynyhotelcasino.com/pages/ent_coaster.asp)

**location:**

3790 Las Vegas Boulevard  
South  
Las Vegas NV 89109

**7 The Roller Coaster at New York-New York**

**OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:**

Formerly the Manhattan Express, now the ride is simply "The Roller Coaster"

**DESCRIPTION:** The New York-New York Las Vegas has wonderfully imitated the city of New York and its attractions. And the Manhattan Express Roller Coaster takes you for a joyride past the replicas of the Big Apple; Empire State Building, Chrysler Building to name a few. Speeding upto 67 miles per hour, the ride specialises in a 203-foot drop. The hotel also offers packages, which include, unlimited rides, souvenir T-shirts, food and drinks, and clown dolls. As for the experience - absolutely dizzying! © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of The Roller Coaster at New York-New York

# Las Vegas Snapshot

## Local Info

Las Vegas defies definition. This city in the desert is a gambling capital, vacation paradise, adventure destination, and premier business convention center rolled into one. Las Vegas is the city of neon and the city that never sleeps. Reality takes a hike when you enter the world of glittering casinos, and the hours trickle away in this realm of slot machines, roulette wheels, and high-stakes poker rooms. If you want to keep track of the time, be sure to wear a watch. Casinos don't have clocks, and they are open 24/7, year-round.

Las Vegas hotels range from utilitarian to luxurious, and options for entertainment come in every variety, from adults-only to family-friendly. As a business destination, Las Vegas wins hands-down with the volume of facilities and services available for either large conventions or small business get-togethers. Upscale eateries by chefs like Wolfgang Puck and Emeril Lagasse are found throughout Las Vegas, both on and off the Strip. Award-winning shows from Cirque du Soleil and adaptations of Broadway hits such as *The Phantom of the Opera* grace the hotels' showrooms. Late-night entertainment is plentiful and diverse. Beyond the casinos, the Mojave Desert holds adventures like world-class rock climbing and mountain biking.

### The Strip: Las Vegas Boulevard

The fabled five-mile area known as the Las Vegas Strip holds more hotel rooms than any other city in the world. You'll find famous and remarkable hotels, each with its own theme and ambiance. Bellagio's dancing fountains and Italian Renaissance aura ooze luxury. Caesars Palace recreates the glory of Rome, Vegas-style. The Venetian takes on another Italian city and era, duplicating Old World Venice, complete with canals and gondoliers. Old standbys include the Flamingo and the Mirage, with its white tigers and erupting volcanoes. See the Paris Las Vegas with

outstanding replicas of the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe and magnifique Parisian atmosphere and charm. Treasure Island offers daily live pirate battles, free of charge. At the "bottom" or south end of the strip, risen from the ashes of the Hacienda Hotel, the magnificent Mandalay Bay takes you to the tropics, including a pool with waves you can actually surf. At the top of the Strip, you will find the Stratosphere Tower visible from miles away. It is the highest free-standing building in the western half of the United States, with views from the top that are indescribable.

You don't have to stay right on Las Vegas Boulevard to enjoy neon and glitz. Just off the Strip, places like the Rio, the Palms, and the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino are only a taxi ride away and offer easier access to areas beyond the Strip.

### Downtown: Fremont Street

The original Las Vegas, where people hung out in the '30s and early '40s, is still thriving, but with a new face known as the Fremont Street Experience. The Fremont Street Experience closed the fabled street to vehicle traffic, and its 90-foot overhead canopy contains state-of-the-art LED lights that create jaw-dropping images. Some tourists actually prefer this area to the Strip because room prices are generally lower. It's an easy walk from one casino to the next, and it's reminiscent of the early, nostalgic days of Las Vegas. The Neon Museum has a permanent display along Fremont Street featuring Old Vegas signs, from Vegas Vic to Aladdin's Lamp. Nightly light shows on the canopy of the Fremont Street Experience are free, and street vendors hawk everything from spray-paint art to henna tattoos. In addition, there are famous hotels such as The Plaza (formerly known as Union Plaza), overlooking Fremont Street, and the classic Golden Nugget. For nostalgia buffs, there is also the Golden Gate Hotel Casino, renovated to its earlier classic glory and appearance and still famous for the 99-cent shrimp cocktail.

## Beyond the Strip

In the last two decades, Las Vegas has added residents at an astonishing rate, creating outlying neighborhoods full of homes and, of course, hotels and casinos. To the west of the Strip, Summerlin sits just outside Red Rock Canyon and contains three hotel/casinos, along with several golf courses. East of the Strip, Henderson/Green Valley puts visitors a quick drive away from Lake Mead National Recreation Area and is home to the trendy Green Valley Ranch Resort, which starred in its very own reality TV show for a while. In North Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Motor Speedway draws racing fans from all over the United States, and places like the Cannery give them a place to stay close to the track.

If playing the tables isn't risky enough for you, you may want to try some of Las Vegas' outdoor adventures. Red Rock Canyon is ranked among the top five rock climbing destinations in the world and contains over 2,000 climbing routes. Bootleg Canyon in Boulder City is home to a network of mountain biking trails and a new zip-line adventure that speeds riders along a suspended cable high above the canyon.

### Las Vegas Weather

Las Vegas is located in the Mojave Desert, which means that from roughly mid-May to late October, you can expect very hot temperatures, often over 100 degrees. The climate is quite dry, except during brief rainstorms—in which case be careful of flash flooding. If you're planning any outdoor activities, drink lots of water, wear sunscreen, and go as early in the day as possible. Better yet, save your desert explorations for the winter months, approximately November through April.

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