

## Las Vegas on a Budget

Las Vegas has changed over the years, I remember traveling thru Las Vegas from the Midwest to visit relatives in Los Angeles growing up. It was easy to find old school diners that served classic American food for just a few dollars. It continued to be a popular spot for me and my friends fresh out of college, just a few hours' drive from Southern California, where we would grab a quality steak dinner for \$9.99 on the Las Vega Strip. Today Las Vegas and especially the Las Vegas Strip is over saturated with High End restaurants and other activities that constantly pull cash from your wallet. However, you can still find bargains and be able to enjoy Las Vegas on a budget.

A perfect example on visiting Las Vegas on a budget is the deal our travel guru Mike Streff made for us with the Tuscany Suites and Casino, \$79.00 per night an extra-large room, an amazing deal for a destination city. In the December 2024 Sitrep we highlighted some great bargains:

- Tuscany Suites and Casino
- Ellis Island Casino – Don't forget the free daily beer for Veterans with proof of ID.
- Stage Door Casino
- AM PM Mini Mart – stock up your room refrigerator.

While it can get pricey especially if you are on the Las Vegas Strip. The following are ways you can save during your stay. The list will primarily include locations easily accessible and in Tourist destinations.

First, Sign up for a Players Card where you can get discounts/comps and always ask for Veteran's and Senior discounts with valid ID.

Bring your AAA card, your AARP card, and any discount cards you may have. Use your discount cards in Las Vegas just as you would at home. There are locations near the Tuscany that accept these discount cards such as Denny's. Visit the following sites for deals and coupons and very importantly read the fine print on usage times and are valid during your stay to Las Vegas. These sites have some very good deals, remember to review and print coupons if necessary prior to arriving.

- Groupon Las Vegas
- Vegas.com
- Smartervegas.com
- Vegas4Locals Ebay
- Vegas4locals.com

Las Vegas has lots to see and every major Casino along the Strip has its own theme to explore. From South end to the North end of the Las Vegas Strip is approximately 4 miles long. You could spend a full week walking the Strip and never see everything and importantly not everything cost tons of money. I will not cover everything that is low cost but hopefully, this will increase your desire to explore.

### **Free Attractions**

To get to the southern edge of the Las Vegas Strip – there are free trams that begin at Bellagio Casino and ends at Mandalay Bay with a break at New York New York. The Monorail is a fee based transportation (we will cover in future months).

- Take a photo at Welcome to Las Vegas Sign
- Pinball Museum – Free to enter – most games .25 - .75
- Bellagio Fountain – free shows both day and night
- Bellagio Conservatory & Botanical Gardens – seasonal displays
- Hershey’s Chocolate World – free to enter
- New York New York Casino
- M&M’s Store – Showcase Mall- Next to MGM Casino
- Coca Cola Store – Showcase Mall
- Harrah’s –Free Big Elvis show – M-W-F 2 PM-5 PM
- Caesar’s Palace – Fall of Atlantis show
- Flamingo – Wildlife Habitat
- Horseshoe – Ole Red - Free Country music concerts
- Venetian Resort – wander through the canals
- Wynn’s – Flora Conservatory and Lake of Dreams Light Show (after dark)
- Sphere Light show
- Circus Circus – circus acts – 1:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Take a free Table Games Lesson – Excalibur/Luxor/Sahara/Venetian/Circus Circus/Golden Nugget (Downtown)
- Visit the newest Casino’s in Las Vegas - Resorts World and Fontainebleau on the North end of the Strip



### Eats

While you are on the move and just want a quick bite there are many food courts with fast food spots where one can enjoy a cheap meal for approximately \$10.00, however, there are quite a few regional fast food spot nearby on the Strip that you may not have at home such as:

- In and Out Burger – between Flamingo and Linq
- White Castle – at Casino Royale
- Shake Shack – at New York New York
- Whataburger – at Waldorf Astoria Las Vegas
- Earl of Sandwich – at Planet Hollywood
- Dirt Dog – Grand Bazaar Shops
- Another great option for a cheap meal on the run would be one of the many options for large slice of pizza
- Secret Pizza – Cosmopolitan \$6.50 (Can you find it?)
- Pisa Pizza – Horseshoe \$8.99
- Pin-up Pizza – Planet Hollywood \$12.99 (Largest Slice)
- Pizza D’Italia – Miracle Mile Shops – Planet Hollywood and between Harrah/Casino Royale \$6.95
- Slice of Vegas – Mandalay Bay \$5.95
- Flour & Barley Linq \$7.00
- Pizza Cake – Harrahs \$7.50
- Sirrico’s – New York New York \$7.50
- Sliced Pizza North Strip near Strat – Horror Themed \$4.50
- Pizzaoki – Aria - \$6.75
- Miami Slice – Fontainebleau - \$8.00
- That’s a lot of pizza

### **Sit down meals on s budget**

- Hash House A Go Go – large portions that can feed two – (A) Linq, (B) Rio, (C) Plaza (Downtown)
- Tacos El Gordos – north of Encore - \$4-\$5 tacos
- Tacos El Pastor – north of Encore - \$4-\$5 tacos
- Blondies – Bottomless Mimosas 7am – 11am \$20.00 Breakfast Special \$4.99
- La Salsa – Breakfast special \$6.99 \$9.99 Bloody Mary’s
- Aztec Casino – North Strip by Strat \$5.00 Breakfast
- Peppermill Restaurant – Happy Hour and senior discounts – scenes from movie “Casino” filmed on site. [www.thepeppermillrestaurant.com/about](http://www.thepeppermillrestaurant.com/about)
- Casino Royale - \$2.99 Hot Dog

### **Drinks**

The best way to save money on drink is bring your own or purchase from one of the convenience stores.

Drinking alcohol in a plastic cup is acceptable on the Las Vegas Strip and downtown, always use an acceptable plastic cup.

### **Happy Hours**

Visit Happy hours and enjoy the drink specials such as;

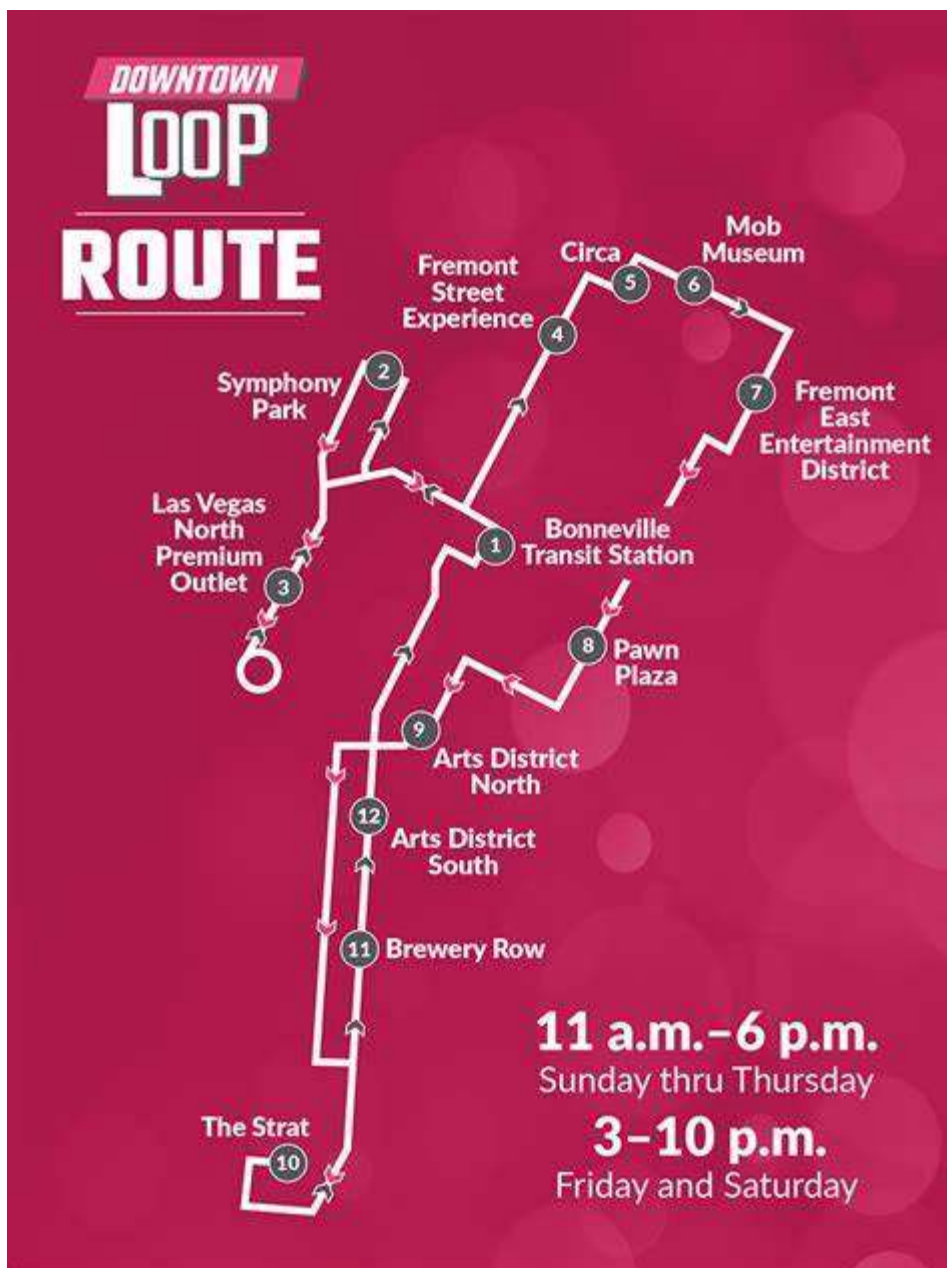
- La Salsa Cantina – Miracle Mile Shops
- Blondies – Planet Hollywood

## Downtown Las Vegas

Downtown Las Vegas is only ½ mile of walking and a must stop with better deals than the Las Vegas Strip. I will cover less cheapies, however, a sample of what you will find.

- Fremont Street Experience – reminder- enjoy the street performers, however, they may ask for tips if you take a photo with them.
- Container Park – stick around for night time and see the giant fire spitting Mantis
- Watch Monday Night Football or your favorite Baseball team at Circa Sportsbook. The world’s largest Sportsbook.
- Binions – Million Dollar display – take a photo
- Golden Nugget – World’s largest gold nugget
- Main Street Station – a piece of the Berlin Wall is in one of the Men’s restrooms, so go ahead and relieve yourself. Also, if you like antiques ask the front desk for the antique scavenger hunt map. The Brunch Buffet is the last buffet in downtown and has favorable reviews \$23.99.
- El Cortez – Once owned by Bugsy Siegal – Show your boarding pass and receive limited free slot play, \$25.00 matched Blackjack play, and a free drink.
- Tony Roma’s - Fremont – Prime Rib Special \$10.99 4:40 PM – 6:30 PM. Steak & Lobster \$13.99 9 PM – 11 PM. There is a line.
- El Cortez – Siegals 1941 – Wednesday 50% off for 50+ on Dining Menu
- Downtown Grand - \$2.00 PBR and Hot Dog
- Evel Pie – Evel Kneivel memorabilia \$7.00 a slice
- Mob Pie – Container Park \$10 for a 10’ pizza
- American Coney Island – The D Casino
- Huey Magoo’s Chicken Tender – Fremont Hotel

Free transportation is available on the Downtown Loop to North Strip, Arts District, and Las Vegas Outlets.



## Buffets

If you choose to enjoy a buffet in Las Vegas, we kept seeing 2 for 1 coupon links, however, we still have not been able to verify. If you someone does come across a 2 for 1 coupon. Please share.

## Shows

- Tix4vegas Booths – can get bargain show prices day of – check early – located at Linq/Fashion Show/Planet Hollywood/Showcase Mall/Grand Bazaar Shops @ Horseshoe/Casino Royale
- <https://www.vettix.org/email> - sign up and look for free tickets
- Check discount sites previously mentioned.

## Food Trucks

Food trucks are the rage in many cities today, just remember, not all food trucks are created equal so check prices. If you spot a food truck definitely check it out, many have food for under \$10.00.

## If you decide to Drive

Free parking at the Tuscany Suites and Casino

Worth a visit

- South Pointe Casino – Garden Buffet \$18.99 - \$24.95 for lunch and breakfast buffet, join the free Players Club and save \$3-\$4 per person. Coronado Café great late night deals (Midnight to 6AM) under \$10.00 including steak and eggs.
- Silverton Casino – Aquarium and Mermaid Show – visit on way back from South Point Buffet.
- Shelby Heritage Center/Museum – free and a must stop for car enthusiast – another stop after eating at the South Point. [www.shelby.com/en-us/Shelby-Las-Vegas/Shelby-Heritage-Center-Home](http://www.shelby.com/en-us/Shelby-Las-Vegas/Shelby-Heritage-Center-Home)
- Jackson's Bar and Grill – Great food at Dive Bar prices – Specialty 11lb Ribeye \$20.00
- Vickie's Diner – Breakfast Specials starting at \$8.00

Suggestion – If you plan on exploring away from the Tuscany, purchase a 24 hour or multiple day bus pass (will be covered in future article).

## Special Mention

Herbs and Rye Steakhouse is not technically a budget location but be sure to make a reservation during Happy Hour and get the 50% off selected items on an award winning steakhouse, which some consider the best local steakhouse in Las Vegas. Double star items are half off during selected times. The savings will cover the Uber/Lyft. There are lines and also follow the instructions to get this deal.

Herbs and Rye

Prices are based off 2024. If necessary updated pricing for 2025 will be provided prior to Reunion. We have excluded quite a few free/deal locations while visiting Las Vegas on a budget. We hope this inspires your own research on finding great deals. Go online and visit the sites that interest you.

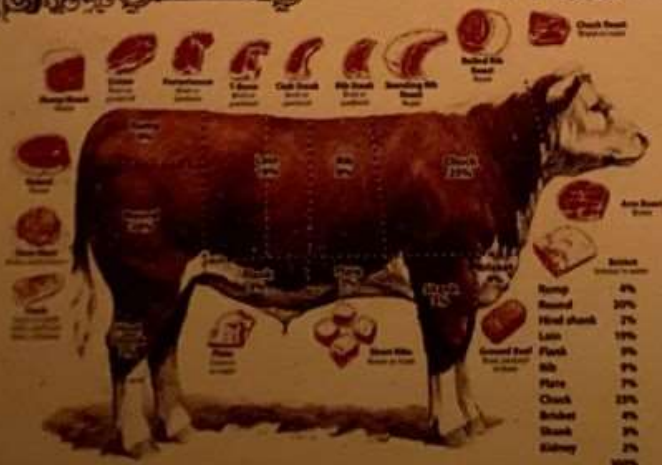
If you come across a budget saving deal that was not mentioned here, please contact Bill Burt at [lmjwr@msn.com](mailto:lmjwr@msn.com) so we can share with everyone. Stay tuned for future more information regarding Las Vegas. Next month we will share unique experiences that you can do while in Las Vegas.

# MEATS METHODS

*Herbs & Rye believes that the highest quality consistent beef comes from calves raised on mother's milk, introduced and raised on pasture grass, finished with a diet rich in protein and corn. This sustainable growing cycle allows the cattle to develop naturally and produce great tasting beef. All of our choice meats come from responsibly raised, corn-fed cows that are hormone, steroid, and antibiotic free.*

<b>Bone in Pork Chop</b>	<b>12 OZ</b>	<b>40   20</b>
<b>Double Cut Pork</b>	<b>16 OZ</b>	<b>52   26</b>
<b>Flat Iron</b>	<b>8 OZ</b>	<b>42   21</b>
<b>New York Strip</b>	<b>12 OZ</b>	<b>56   28</b>
<b>Filet Mignon</b>	<b>8 OZ</b>	<b>64   32</b>
<b>Ribeye</b>	<b>16 OZ</b>	<b>78   39</b>

**ADD Oscar Style +20 Crab Meat, Asparagus, Béarnaise**



### TEMPERATURES \*

- \*Black & Blue - Pan Seared Raw
- \*Pittsburgh - Char Grilled Rare
- \*Rare - Cold, Purple Center
- \*Medium Rare - Warm, Red Center
- \*Medium - Hot, Pink Center
- \*Medium Well - Hot, Slightly Pink Center
- Well Done - BURNT AND POINTLESS

## SIDES