



Touring > Driving Itineraries

CANYON COUNTRY

Balance Las Vegas' glamorous nightlife with some nurturing nature!

This itinerary is ideal for two-week holidaymakers wanting to catch the wildlife - both in and out of the city! Experience Las Vegas' dazzling city lights PLUS the tranquillity of the USA wilderness.



DAY 1: HIT THE PAVEMENT

Put on some comfortable shoes and hit The Famous Strip. It's a great way to get your bearings and absorb Las Vegas' magic! Start at the north end and head south. You'll pass the spectacular themed hotels that are more like amusement parks - some are as big as two Australian blocks!

Some of the highlights not to be missed during your day's exploring include:

What: Sirens of TI
Where: TI - Treasure Island Hotel, the Strip
When: 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm & 10:00 pm
Price: FREE

The Sirens of TI is the newest show on The Strip. Created by award-winning director and choreographer Kenny Ortega, the production features a clash between a group of beautiful, tempting sirens and a band of renegade pirates. Be awed by the music, dance, excitement and seduction in this modern musical-meets-action-movie spectacular. From daring swordplay to high-diving acrobatics and eye-popping

pyrotechnics, the show is packed with countless thrills.

WHAT: Festival Fountain Show and Atlantis Entertainment Feature
WHERE: The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace, The Strip
WHEN: Hourly from 11am
PRICE: FREE

This free animatronics show features fire, steam, lasers, sound effects and a 50,000- gallon aquarium with tropical fish!

WHAT: The Volcano
WHERE: The Mirage Hotel (main entrance), The Strip
WHEN: Every 15 minutes from 6pm to midnight
PRICE: FREE

This explosive action is set in a lagoon - with towering palm trees and cascading waterfalls! When the volcano erupts it spews smoke and fire 30 metres above the water. Look out!

WHAT: Fountains of Bellagio
WHERE: The Bellagio Hotel, The Strip
WHEN: From 3pm

PRICE: FREE

A visual feast of over 1,000 specially lit fountains "dancing" to light and music ranging from Pavarotti to Sinatra.

WHAT: Eiffel Tower
WHERE: Paris Las Vegas, The Strip
PRICE: Adults, US\$9.50, children under 12 and seniors, US\$7.00, children five and under, FREE

Gaze at this impressive replica of Paris' most famous structure, or ride to the top for a breathtaking bird's eye view of The Strip.



More details and information available on the www.visitlasvegas.com.au website or phone (02) 9356 2266

WHAT: Roller Coaster - Manhattan Express

WHERE: New York-New York Hotel Casino, The Strip

PRICE: Adults and children, US\$10.50

Famous for its "heart-line twist and dive" feature, this is one of the newest roller coasters on The Strip. Las Vegas has plenty of roller coasters to choose from - try them all if you dare!

WHAT: Dinner

WHERE: Legends in Concert, Imperial

Palace Hotel and Casino

Look-alike (and sound-alike) performers recount the timeless tunes of yesterday and today in this extravagant buffet dinner and show venue. Many hotels also offer a show and dinner double (a Las Vegas specialty) - the selection and price range is huge so keep your eyes peeled.

DAY 2: AROUND THE WORLD ON THE STRIP

Now you've walked the length of The Strip, it's time to explore inside some of those enormous hotels more closely. Choose your favourites from the day before. And take your camera because the folks at home will never believe your stories!

WHAT: The Venetian Hotel

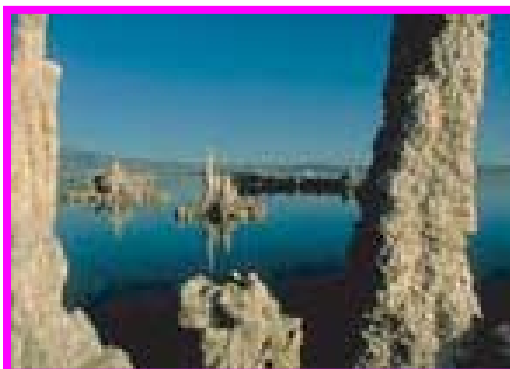
WHERE: The Strip

The Venetian Hotel features canals through the shopping mall "Grand Canal Shoppes" where you can take a gondola ride while being serenaded by opera singing gondoliers! Dine at St. Marks Square and be awed by the magnificently adorned ceilings throughout the property. Some surprise attractions await you at the Venetian Hotel including Las Vegas' own Madame Tussaud's Interactive wax museum and the Guggenheim Museum.

WHAT: Ra

WHERE: The Luxor Hotel and Casino, The Strip

Be seen in Las Vegas' hippest nightclub. It features two bars, dance floor, stage, live DJs and an incredible sound and lighting system. Dress up to avoid disappointment at the door.



DAY 3: PLAY SOME GAMES

Hit the casinos and learn some games.

Don't be afraid to ask casino staff questions - but if you want to act like a real high roller, enrol in gambling lessons. Your hotel's concierge desk should have a schedule of free gaming lessons.

What: Shark Reef

Where: Mandalay Bay

When: 10:00 am - 11:00 pm daily

Price: Adults US\$14.95, Children under 12 US\$9.95, Children under 4 FREE

Head to Mandalay Bay's Shark Reef attraction. Your passport waits for an adventure that will put you face to face with some of the most dangerous and exotic animals in the world. Your journey through the ancient sunken temple will thrill you. If you dare...

WHAT: Bowling

WHERE: The Orleans Hotel and Casino

If you like combining gambling with other activities, head to the Orleans Hotel and Casino. The Orleans' 70-lane bowling alley was voted the best in Las Vegas five years on the trot.

WHAT: Tournament of Kings

WHERE: Excalibur Hotel

For some evening fun, head down to the Excalibur Hotel, where free court jesters entertain the crowds. Get tickets to the hotel's extraordinary show, "Tournament of Kings". Set in a medieval-style arena, this original musical production (adapted from the legend of King Arthur) is suitable for all ages. The show boasts jousting, invading armies, dragons, fire-wizards and dinner.

DAY 4: TAKE IN THE MAGIC

WHAT: The Liberace Museum

WHERE: 1775 E Tropicana Ave

WHEN: Monday to Saturday, 10am-5pm. Sunday, 1pm-5pm.

PRICE: Adults, \$8, seniors and students, \$5, children under 12 FREE.

Catch this tribute to one of the entertainment world's most memorable characters! It showcases the flamboyant performer's life and many of his most outrageous possessions and costumes.

WHAT: Drinks and a Flutter

WHERE: Downtown Las Vegas

As the sun sets, head Downtown for the city's best deals on meals, drinks and lowest minimum bets. Beware; 99-cent margaritas are not uncommon in this part of town!

WHAT: Fremont Street Experience

WHERE: Fremont Street, Downtown Las Vegas

WHEN: On the hour from dusk to midnight

PRICE: FREE

Downtown is also home to the Fremont Street Experience. A wonderland of 2.1 million light bulbs, backed by a pulsating 540,000-watt sound system, it will blow your socks off! You'll also find plenty of bargain priced meals, drinks and the

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lowest minimum bets. Drop by the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino to view the world's largest single nugget of gold.

DAY 5: HIT THE HIGHWAY AND GO WILD

Pick up your hire car and leave the lights of Las Vegas behind as you venture into the desert and nature at its finest.

WHERE: Utah's Zion National Park

The massive rocks of Zion brought early Mormon settlers to their knees in awe. Towering crimson cliffs, vermillion finger canyons, and secluded hanging gardens feature in this park. Hiking is the best way to explore. Back in your car, be sure to traverse the tunnel into upper Zion to see the Checkerboard Mesa and the Great Arch, then continue into "the land of standing red rock".

WHERE: Bryce Canyon National Park In the afternoon, continue to Bryce Canyon National Park where canyons form a series of horseshoe-shaped amphitheatres. Erosion has carved colorful "claron limestone" into thousands of spires, fins, arches and mazes. Driving time: Approximately 6 hours (395 km).

DAY 6: DISCOVER AMERICA'S NEWEST NATIONAL PARK

WHERE: Grand Staircase - Escalante

Explore a little more of Bryce Canyon before turning onto Utah's famous Highway 12 that takes you through many of the most spectacular canyons in the Southwest. Stop at one of America's newest parks, Grand Staircase - Escalante. This dramatic, multihued landscape is rich in natural and human history. Extending across 1.9 million acres, the monument represents a unique combination of archaeological, historical, palaeontologic, geological, and biological resources.

WHERE: Capitol Reef National Park

Start at the Visitor's Centre before putting on your hiking boots and taking a stroll. If you prefer to stay in the car, a scenic drive can be accessed from the vicinity of the Centre.

Driving time: Approximately 3.5 hours (190 km).

DAY 7: JOIN A CRUISE

WHERE: Lake Powell

From the soaring sails of Capitol Reef, continue along the road to see the canyons formed by the mighty Colorado River - quietened here as Lake Powell. Take in the incredible sight of towering red walls and the lake's turquoise waters. This afternoon enjoy a leisurely cruise through this amazing landscape.

Driving time: Approximately 7 hours (390 km).

DAY 8: KEEP EXPLORING

WHERE: Canyonlands National Park

Follow the Colorado on its journey through canyon after canyon. A huge expanse of colourful sandstone canyons, mesas, buttes, fins, and spires make up this park located in the heart of the Colorado Plateau. Water and gravity have been the prime architects of this land, carving flat layers of sedimentary rock into the landscape seen today.

Driving time: Approximately 8.5 hours (460 km).

DAY 9: SPECTACULAR STONE FORMATIONS

WHERE: Moab, Arches National Park

Moab is the base for exploration of the most amazing National Parks you'll ever see. Arches National Park boasts the greatest concentration of natural stone arches and imaginative stone formations.

Among the formations you'll enjoy are Park Avenue, Balanced Rock and the Double Arch to name a few. Afterwards, treat yourself to a refreshing cruise down the Colorado River.

Driving time: Approximately 2.5 hours (190 km).

DAY 10: REVISIT THE FOOTSTEPS OF EARLY PIONEERS

WHERE: Moab To Monument Valley To Kayenta

Travel on to the Mexican Hat, once a rock beacon for the early pioneers of the west. Head on to Monument Valley with its immense monolithic rock formations and learn about some of the stories of the land. Stay overnight on the Navajo Reservation - one of the largest towns in the area.

Driving time: Almost 6 hours (285 km).

DAYS 11,12 & 13: EXPLORE 6: DISCOVER AMERICA'S NEWEST NATIONAL PARK

WHERE: The Grand Canyon

You've made it to one of the Seven Wonders of the World - the Grand Canyon.

Spend the next few days exploring this world-famous place and its attractions. Learn about the Harvey Girls, visit the IMAX theatre and take a joy flight for unsurpassed aerial views. Check out the tram to Hermit's Rest and simply stroll along the edge and ridges into the steeply descending canyon. Watch deer graze, birds soar and the wind play with the clouds. Simply amazing!

Day 11 driving time: Approximately 5 hours (300 kilometres).

DAY 14: A QUICK TOUR BEFORE HOME

WHERE: Hoover Dam

Drive through parts of the old Route 66 before arriving at Hoover Dam. Take the time to explore this incredible masterpiece of human achievement built during the Great Depression. Join a hard-hat tour through the dam before jumping back in the car and making your final return to Las Vegas.

Driving time: Approx 5 hours (350 kilometres)

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