



Contents

A Note From Pauline	1
1 Losing It in Las Vegas	2
Sights You've Gotta See, Things You've Gotta Do	3
The Finest Museums	4
Uncommon Lodgings	4
Dining for All Tastes	4
The Finest "Other" Experiences	5
2 Lay of the Land	6
The Vegas Grid	6
Avoiding Traffic Jams	8
Renting a Car	8
Taking Taxis	10
Using the Monorail	11
The Deuce, Cat & Max	12
Enjoying Free Transportation	13
3 Accommodations, Both Standard & Not	15
Renting a Home or Condo of Your Own	17
Hotel & B&B Stays	21
Choosing the Right Hotel	25
South Strip Hotels	26
Center Strip Hotels	34
Hotels on the North Strip	40
Downtown Hotels	45
Hotels East of the Strip	53

Hotels West of the Strip	58
One Choice South of the Strip	62
4 Eating Better for Less	65
So How Can Diners Save Money & Still Have a Quality Meal?	66
Center Strip Restaurants	77
North Strip Restaurants	87
Downtown Restaurants	93
Restaurants East of the Strip	98
Restaurants West of the Strip	109
5 Remarkable Sights & Attractions	117
Making the Most of Your Time	117
Las Vegas' Iconic Attraction: The Strip	118
Top Ten Individual Attractions	126
Thrill Rides	134
Museums & Attractions for Visitors with Special Interests	136
Sports & Recreation	147
6 Say "I Do" To Vegas	152
Planning the Big Day	153
Choosing the Chapel	155
7 The Other Las Vegas	165
How They Learn	165
How Vegas Residents Work	171
How Vegas Residents Play	177
Two Unusual Tours	179
8 It's Showtime	181
Getting Discounted Tickets	182
Choosing Which Shows to See	184
Diva Las Vegas	185

Five Top-Notch Comics	186
The Top Disappointments	187
Five Daytime Shows of Varying Interest	188
Glitz, Glamour & Eyelash Glue: The Production Shows . . .	190
The Five Cirque du Soleil Shows	191
Magicians—Houdini’s Legacy	194
Transplanted Broadway Shows	195
Impersonator (Tribute) Shows (or Performers Who Wish They Were Someone Else)	197
Erotica (Strippers, Both Male & Female)	199
9 Bars, Clubs & Other Nighttime Diversions	203
Clubs & “Ultralounges”	204
Bars of All Types	212
Gay Bars	220
Free (or Cheap) Music Venues	222
Concerts, Boxing Matches & Other Big Ticket Items	223
Comedy Clubs	226
Strip Clubs	227
Strip Clubs for Women	230
Swingers’ Clubs	231
10 Gambling	233
Luck of the Draw	233
Slot Club Cards	234
The Games	237
11 Vegas Shopping (Such As It Is)	270
Malls on the Strip	270
Outlet Malls	277
Oldies but Goodies	278
Vegas Specialty Stores	280

12 Get Out of Town	285
Hoover Dam & Boulder City	286
Lake Mead	290
St. Thomas	291
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area	292
Spring Mountain Ranch	293
Bonnie Springs Old Nevada	294
Valley of Fire	294
Mount Charleston	296
The Extraterrestrial Highway	297
Amargosa Opera House	298
Death Valley	300
The Grand Canyon	301
13 The Essentials of Planning	303
When to Visit?	303
Entry Requirements for Non-American Citizens	307
Customs Regulations for International Visitors	308
Finding a Good Airfare to Las Vegas	309
Travel Insurance—Do You Need It?	310
Traveling from Las Vegas to Other Parts of the United States	311
How Do I Get to (& from) the Airport? Let Me Count the Ways	312
Money Matters	314
Health & Safety	314
Packing	315
Specialized Travel Resources	316
Staying Wired	319
Recommended Books & Films	319
Index	324



List of Maps

Las Vegas at a Glance	7	Downtown Restaurants	95
South Strip Hotels	27	Restaurants East of the Strip . . .	99
Center Strip Hotels	35	Restaurants West of the Strip	111
North Strip Hotels	41	Las Vegas Attractions	119
Downtown Hotels	48	Las Vegas Arts District	141
Hotels East of the Strip	54	Las Vegas Excursions	287
Hotels West of the Strip	59	Excursions East of Las Vegas . . .	289
South Strip Restaurants	69	Valley of Fire	295
Center Strip Restaurants	79	Area 51	299
North Strip Restaurants	89		