



## Las Vegas+ Trip Notes January 1-8, 2020

### **Headlines**

- Marie always said she liked ruins – what better ruinous place but decadent Vegas?
- History was added with trips to Hoover Dam and Grand Canyon.
- Tom did fine, stayed in some, and said he enjoyed the views from our 37<sup>th</sup> floor penthouse apartment looking out over The Strip.
- Eating is always a big priority and a food tour and some famous restaurants were enjoyed.
- Cirque du Soleil shows took Marie's breath away.
- As did the Canyons.



### **Notes**

From a good friend following my whining about growing old: Aging, I'm sure finding out, isn't always pretty although it also means we made it—pretty much like when you finish a marathon, right?



Tom and I have been to Las Vegas many times over the our 50-plus years of travel. My last time might have been in 2011 for the Boulder Marathon and then in 2012 for the Red Rock Marathon when Tom joined me. Maybe a time or two in between for the start of a hike.

### **Marie's take on Las Vegas**

Day 1 - After spending an enormous amount of time in planes and airport I finally made it to Las Vegas with Tom and Diana. Despite being up since 3 in the morning we hit the ground running and drove through Las Vegas to get an overview of the strip. I got to see the outside of all these themed hotels and I got to see the famous pawn shop from Pawn Stars. For our first dinner we made reservations at Paris Las Vegas in [Mon Ami Gabi](#) and I saw my first Las Vegas casino. My words were "It's like a casino but like a Disney version".

Day 2 - Diana and I had to be up for a wonderful tour of the Hoover Dam. On our way out I finally got to see desert landscape and all the mountains surrounding Las Vegas. Diana and I arrived to the Hoover Dam for our power plant tour and we watched a short documentary about how they built the dam. I was impressed by such a feat of engineering and amazed that it was done in such little time. After our power plant tour Diana and I got to walk about and see the Hoover Dam and all I could say was wow. It was amazing and larger than life which has been my entire phrase for this Vegas trip. Everything is just larger than life. After the Hoover Dam our driver took us by a look out point for Lake Mead which was equally beautiful and impressive as the dam but a little sad to see how low the water is compared to what it should be. After we got back from our tour of the Hoover Dam we took a quick walk through the Bellagio as a teaser before we go for our Cirque Du Soleil show. The most striking

feature of the Bellagio is the incredible Dale Chihuly ceiling in the lobby. For our lunch/dinner Diana and I stopped by a Korean BBQ place where I had Korean BBQ for the first time. Our eyes were much bigger than our stomach and I don't think either of us had ever put down so much food but it was safe to say we waddled out of the restaurant. In order to try and work off some of our dinner we walked around to some neighboring casinos and the city center. Afterwards we returned back home to tell Tom all about our wonderful day.

Day 3 - I went out in the morning on my own to explore some of the strip. I started my day by walking from of hotel to the MGM grand. I walked through all of the shops, the casino, and finally found my way to the lobby. Originally, I just wanted to see MGM Grand, New York New York and Luxor but the nice thing about being out on your own is you can change your mind whenever you want. I made my way to New York New York and while it was cute, I have seen the real thing many times. The casinos are still a fun sight for me because you think that after seeing so many, you'd become numb to the lights and sounds but they never cease to catch my attention. Maybe that's why people spend so much time in there. After coming out of New York New York I made my way over to Excalibur to see how they could make a medieval themed hotel. While on my way to Excalibur I discovered there was a free monorail to take me to Luxor and Mandalay Bay but I chose to get my steps in and walk as far as I could. I made my way to Luxor to see how in the world they could make a pyramid shaped hotel. Upon entering I discovered they travel at a diagonal angle. I made my way back to our hotel to meet up with Tom and Diana to have the lunch buffet at the Bellagio. After walking about 4 miles it felt well earned. After our lunch buffet we walked around the casino a bit, then made our way to Caesar's Palace where I walked around the shops and saw all the giant fountains. We made our way back to Bellagio for a quick drink before our Cirque du Soleil show. We saw "O" which was my first Cirque du Soleil show and my mouth was open in awe the entire time. I have never seen something so incredible and it was very much the highlight of the trip.

Day 4 - Diana and I took a food tour to some famous restaurants in Las Vegas. We began at [Spago](#) by Wolfgang Puck where I had the most delicious pizza made with butternut squash. We made our way over to Gordon Ramsey's pub and grill inside Caesar's Palace where I had my first Scotch Egg. To our surprise our tour guide poured us glasses of wine out of her purse which was a wine cooler. We walked to our next location with our wine since open container is legal in Las Vegas. We stopped at the most adorable shortbread cookie shop where we sampled several cookies and were given little gift bags with cookies inside. After this we walked over to a restaurant by Buddy V and had a meatball slider and the best Mac and Cheese I've ever had. At this point I don't think I can fit any more food inside of me but we're not done. We walk to a Japanese chocolate restaurant where we're given these specialty chocolate samples over and over. In addition to this we had Prosecco and I'm surprised I was even able to keep eating. I was hoping we were done but we had one more stop to get a giant macaron. Our tour was done and our tour guide shed some tears while saying goodbye. Diana and I began our walk home to once again hopefully burn some calories from all the food we ate. On our way home we found some NSFW business cards with pictures of prostitutes on it that we took home for Tom to look at and have a good laugh. Once home Tom and I got ready to go back out again for another show by Cirque du Soleil. This time we were going to see Mystere. Once again, I was amazed and holding my breath in some parts. I couldn't believe these people could do these amazing acrobatic routines.

Day 5 - It was an early day for Diana and I since we had to catch a bus to go out to the Grand Canyon. We left our hotel [at 5:45](#) in the morning to catch a bus for a very long bus ride but it was all worth it. Probably [around 3:00pm](#) we finally made it to the Grand Canyon and I practically ran to the observation point because I was so excited to see it. I have climbed the Duomo in Florence and seen the skyline, I have seen the Colosseum in Rome, and I have climbed a mountain in Chile but nothing compares to the beauty of the Grand Canyon. All the pictures I took just don't capture the beauty of it. Our bus took us to two different locations in the south rim and I spent as much time as I could

admiring the Grand Canyon. After about 2 hours at the Grand Canyon it was time for us to get back on the bus and head back. We had the nice treat of seeing the Hoover Dam at night on our way back but our bus driver was less than stellar. After about 11 hours on a bus Diana and I were ready to get off and finally walk. We arrived in Las Vegas [at about 10pm](#) and made our way home to tell Tom of our spectacular day.

Day 6 - I spent the morning on my own and decided to take an uber to the [Atomic Testing Museum](#). It was quite interesting and talked a lot about nuclear testing during the Cold War and even had a theater where the short movie started off by providing a simulation of what it is like to watch an atomic bomb go off. The museum had a plethora of information and every wall had something to say. It also had a very helpful timeline of the US atomic testing that also had pop culture in the timeline to help us place ourselves in what the time period was like. While I appreciated the information, I felt like the museum seemed a little too proud of how the US has used atomic bombs. Maybe it's because I've learned too much about the detrimental health effects from the radioactive pollution or maybe it's because I don't approve of the mass devastation that these bombs can cause. There was only one picture from what Hiroshima looked like after an atomic bomb was dropped on it and I was disappointed that the museum said it was a necessary evil. To see a city completely leveled is devastating. Onto more positive things upon my return from the [atomic testing museum](#) Tom, Diana and I left for Red Rock Canyon where I was once again amazed by the beauty of nature. I climbed up a short distance of the Calico Hills and had Diana take my picture. I definitely didn't have the proper footwear. We continued the 13-mile scenic loop and I got to see a small amount of petroglyphs. By the end of it I told Diana I want to see more national parks and maybe take up hiking. To end our day Tom and I made reservations for Eataly and it was the first time I had seen Tom send back a dish. It was too bad the restaurant was loud so Tom and I spent most of our time looking at each other and smiling but the meal was fantastic. Tom and I both ordered the same main course and dessert but it was too bad he didn't like his main course. It seems like every day I become more and more like Tom. Often times when he and I eat together at the Marseille they try to give him my food. I guess they don't think little me would like escargot.

Day 7 - For my last day in Vegas I walked all the way down to Mandalay Bay to see the casino and shops. I also paid to see the walk-through aquarium. I got into a wonderful conversation with one of the workers there and found out that Piranhas are legal to have as pets in the state of Kansas and the state of Missouri. I know you can see an aquarium anywhere but I still enjoy seeing all the kinds of fish and besides the humidity in the rainforest section really helped me since the desert air has been drying me out like no other. I returned back to the hotel after walking the strip once more and found out I walked about 5 miles before coming back to the hotel. Las Vegas is larger than life and I wasn't sure what to expect but I had a wonderful trip with Tom and Diana like always and hopefully many more wonderful trips to come. To close out our trip our last dinner is going to be at Tom's favorite Mexican restaurant in MGM Grand which he has tried to go to at least 3 times unsuccessfully.

End of Marie's notes and thank you very much! We got lots of positive comments!

From "Aunt" Judy: Marie, I really enjoyed reading your report. Thanks so much for sharing this. Great photos too.

From Angie: Great writing Marie - I felt I was there w/ you - thank you for sharing. Grand Canyon took my breathe away.... Las Vegas took my money away!

Following notes revert to Diana's writings:





The Venetian and their gondolas where the drivers sing. No, we don't know those people but there's never an empty time to take pictures in Las Vegas. We also didn't see the Siegfried & Roy Secret Garden which I hear still exists. Marie looked at this fountain and said "I've seen the real thing" which she has, bigger than life, and I'm so glad she quickly acknowledges the "real thing" vs going to Las Vegas or Disney for instance.



A friend of Marie's momma thought Las Vegas was full of prostitutes. Maybe, but other than costumed potentials or business cards on the street, we don't know that Las Vegas has any more than anywhere else. In Reno I visited the famous Bunny Farm and came away with a whole different idea of prostitutes. Many of those legal prostitutes were earning their college tuition or food for their children whereas in other places some are just giving it away free.



On our way to the Grand Canyon, stopping at an overlook of Hoover Dam.

***What did Tom do while we were in Grand Canyon?*** “I did just what I wanted to do - nothing! Beautiful day out my window. If I can be happy watching water, then I can be happy watching beautiful scenery, a sunset, a sunrise, The mountains, or my koi just leisurely swimming in my pond....

“My life is so good that I can be content almost anywhere. I don’t know how I got to this point but I’m glad I did. And I am most content just knowing you’re with me.”





There's not much reason to take pictures of the Grand Canyon as not one does it justice. Unfortunately, this was what I call a fly-over trip and like about 99% of the tourists, we only saw the Canyon from the rim. Was it worthwhile? She says it was. I say it might be because she voiced interest in hiking. The last picture was in Red Rock Canyon where Marie climbed up the hill to join another person way up there, then scooted down on her behind to get back.



In Red Rock Canyon where we hiked to find the Petroglyphs but never found the Pictographs. We did find some hiking trails and hopefully one day will find more.

### ***Off we go to Las Vegas***

Was I ready for another trip? Probably no as I've accomplished next to nothing for Christmas. Not even my yearly holiday wrap up. (Yet we did have a busy adventurous time with Marie over Christmas). Was Tom ready for another trip? Probably no and his cardiologist wouldn't even allot him the 24/7 heart monitor yet because of the trip. Were we recovered from Italy? I wasn't and ghosts pervade my life.

But the apartment, tours and shows were prepaid and non-cancelable so here we go from January 1 to 8. Then I'll have a few days at home prior to a skating event in North Carolina with my sister Beverly from January 17 to 28. Then a few days before Tom and I have 15 days away for a Paris renewal. So, I should get the holiday letter out well before Easter and apology letters out to those I usually send cards over Christmas.

The MGM apartment(s).

Twin connecting apartments in MGM Signature - Between the Strip and Kova Lane - 37th floor penthouse - Free parking – valet service only

<https://www.vrbo.com/4040128ha?adultsCount=3&arrival=2020-01-03&departure=2020-01-10>

See video of the actual penthouse on youtube by searching for “cindy's MGM 2 bedroom 2 bath”  
Description: *MGM Signature 2BR 2BA Right on Las Vegas Strip w/ View, Balcony, Pool & Hot Tub - On Las Vegas Strip, Connecting Condo 1100 sq. ft., Sleeps: 8, Bedrooms: 2, Bathrooms: 2*  
*You'll love our luxurious Penthouse. It is directly in the MGM Casino Hotel Signature Tower right on the Las Vegas Strip. This provides you with enormous advantages versus other vacation rental locations. You will be staying in a condo directly connected to the huge MGM Hotel complex which includes a massive pool, hot tub, gym, dozens of wonderful restaurants / buffets, incredible shows, and the MGM casino itself. We charge no resort fees or parking fees. Our luxurious condo has stunning views, 2 private balconies, 2 kitchenettes, 2 king size beds, 2 queen size sleeper sofas, and 2 luxurious bathrooms. The condo sleeps up to 8. Free WiFi is available in every room. Each kitchenette has a cooktop, refrigerator, microwave, toaster and coffee maker. The 2 luxurious bathrooms have Jacuzzi bathtubs, California showers, and double sinks. Each bedroom has a flat screen TV and DVD. Our guests have free access to the huge MGM pool complex, which features multiple pools, a waterfall, a lazy river, and a big hot tub. Our guests also have free access to the MGM Signature gym with state of the art equipment. Check-in and check-out are done at the front-desk just as in any hotel and are available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Valet parking is free. Our Penthouse condo is in the MGM Signature Tower directly in the MGM Hotel complex right on the Las Vegas Strip. Our condo has all the advantages of staying in an MGM hotel room and more, for substantially less money! The condo is on a penthouse floor, has a stunning view of the Las Vegas Strip, and a private balconies to enjoy it from. Staying on the strip makes a Las Vegas vacation much more memorable. All the world famous attractions and casinos are within walking distance! The Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower, and a live Volcano can all be seen running down the legendary Vegas Strip! After a long night playing, laughing, eating, drinking, and dancing, you walk home up the Las Vegas Strip lit up as bright as daylight!*

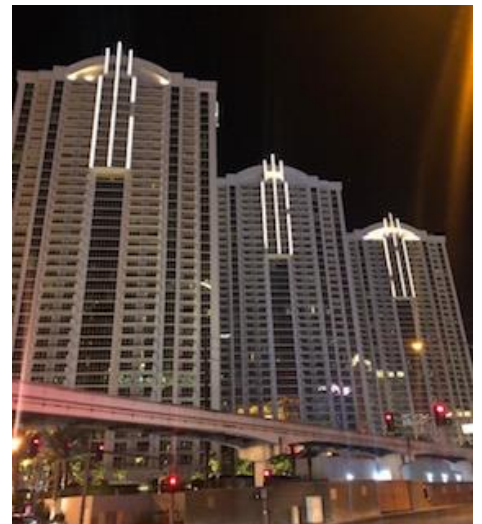
*The 2-bedroom 2 bath condo is composed of 2 adjacent Penthouse suites which share a common outer door. The two Penthouse suites can be used as a common connected space by opening the Penthouse doors and closing the common outer door. The luxurious condo combination has 2 king size beds and 2 sleeper sofas and, can sleep up to 8 people.*

**The picture** shows the three towers of the Signature MGM and we were on a top floor facing the strip in Tower 3 closes to the street.

We arrived at the airport early and Marie had arrived even earlier so she was at the gate to meet us, as well as a wheelchair. Just in case and it turned out to be helpful. This Las Vegas airport is usually larger than I remembered.

Not being able to check in to the apartment until 3 PM, we made the choice to drive the strip and as you can guess, that is slow going. It is also quite interesting and amazing how much more has been added since our trip in 2012. Every available piece of land is filled. By new businesses and swarms of people.

I love it! Like a kid, I was squealing with delight and remembrances. We have been here many times from early days when I met Tom, periodically, and a





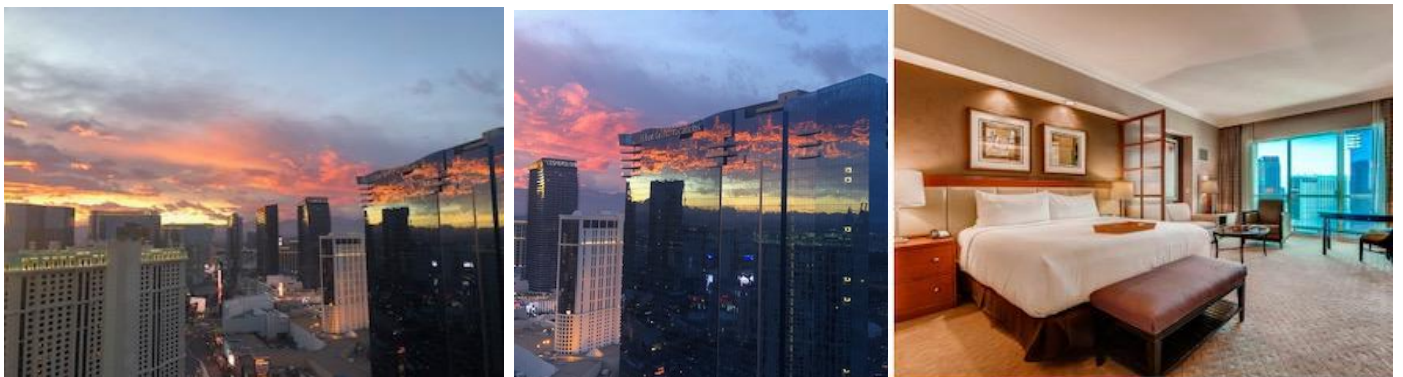
number of times for business. Business when we had Jacuzzi or Eljer or Zurn conventions, and business when my company sponsored an IndyCar. Our memories are all good.

Tonight, we head to Mon Ami Gabi at the Paris Hotel which is one of our all-time favorites and we are hoping it remains so.

Tomorrow Marie and I go on a guided tour of Hoover Dam while Tom gets to sleep in and take in another favorite (Mexican) restaurant in MGM.



We got a good overview, and I learned about a TV program that featured a pawn shop. No wonder I don't watch TV.



The sunsets and sunrises in the desert are always dramatic. We could watch the sun and The Strip in the adjoining black glass building. The two adjoining apartments were better than we expected.





The bathroom(s) included a huge walk in shower, double sinks, separate WC and a giant jacuzzi.



**Still in Las Vegas**

You might question how a couple in their mid-70s and 80s can keep up with a 21-year-old. The answer is, they can't.

Here I am with my first quiet moment because Tom and Marie have gone off to see a Cirque du Soleil show at treasure Island. This show is one of the first and one of our favorites and we've seen it many times — called Mystere.

On our first full day we did manage to get a rental car, get checked into our lovely dual apartments of which were a very pleasant surprise, and eat at an all-time favorite at the Paris Hotel called Mon Ami Gabi. I was too pooped to go grocery shopping other than at a local Walgreens where I paid double for milk and a few small items.

Early Thursday, Marie and I left Tom for a big chunk of the day and took a guided tour of Hoover Dam.

I believe that Marie had never seen the desert let alone the high desert. This included the sad shortfall of water at Lake Mead, the huge cliffs and mountains of the adjoining Las Vegas area, and the momentous Hoover Dam magic. We came back through Boulder City which of course was built just to house the huge number of workers to build a dam.

Marie is particularly good at taking in museums and the science of wherever we go. You might recall that when we first met her and she was barely 11 years old, I took her to a presidential library. All of

our friends fell asleep in the movie and she was enchanted and took it all in. Thus, she became a part of our family. Smile.

Hoover Dam Tour – From [https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/hoover-dam-express-half-day-tour-from-las-vegas-6147\\_8/](https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/hoover-dam-express-half-day-tour-from-las-vegas-6147_8/) - Includes government guided VIP tour inside the Hoover Dam, access to the newly opened visitors center, museum, monuments, and gift shop.

### **Highlights**

- **Government Guided VIP tour inside the Mighty Hoover Dam**
- **Access to the newly opened Visitor's Center, Museum, Monuments, and Gift Shop**
- **Photo stop at the historic 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign**
- **Up to 90 Minutes to visit the exterior of the Hoover Dam**
- **Get amazing photo opportunities from the Nevada and Arizona look-out points**
- **Experience the breathtaking spillway**

### **Itinerary**

*Experience this man-made engineering wonder of the world, one of the biggest and most successful government projects of its time. The Hoover Dam actually was actually completed on time and under budget. Your professional guide will provide narration on this roundtrip tour from Las Vegas while you enjoy a ride on a luxury motor-coach with airline-style reclining seats, footrests, onboard restroom, air conditioning, and large vista view windows so you won't miss a thing.*

*Enjoy a tour deep down inside the mighty Hoover Dam. The mighty Hoover Dam created Lake Mead - the largest man-made lake in the Western Hemisphere. Don't miss your chance to stand on top of this amazing piece of American History!*

Hoover Dam: [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoover\\_Dam](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoover_Dam)

12 Facts: From <http://mentalfloss.com/article/67916/14-powerful-facts-about-hoover-dam>

### **7 things you might not know about Hoover Dam.**

<https://www.history.com/news/7-things-you-might-not-know-about-the-hoover-dam>

After our “dam” tour we were hungry and found a Korean barbecue restaurant and indulged almost to the extreme. Marie and I had a multicourse experience. It was such the fun experience that the following day while we were off putting on many miles, Tom would go there on his own.

We managed to get home in time, after a few miles review of a few resorts such as cosmopolitan, Aria, and the shopping center with Tom Ford and Louis Vuitton, to finally collect our car and ho our grocery shopping and come up with enough to eat in the apartment.

I'm pleased to say that Marie has grown up enough and gotten confident enough that the next morning while the old folks were having a lie in that she went off on to The Strip on her own. She went through MGM grand, Excalibur, and into Luxor.

Tom and I were anxious to show her the glorious buffet at the Bellagio. I'm sorry to report that it has become rather mundane. It was super expensive, jammed with sort of iffy folks, and nothing as we remembered. But we ate enough that we then waddled away just like we had the day before after the Korean barbecue. This is become a sport.

Tom had been anxious to see the water show at the Bellagio again. We had time in between to walk through Caesars palace and then back to his favorite people watching bar at the Bellagio. The walk-through the shops and the gardens in the conservatory are still a jewel as is seeing the ceiling of the lobby.



Cirque du Soleil “O” Show at Bellagio - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/O\\_\(Cirque\\_du\\_Soleil\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/O_(Cirque_du_Soleil))

The backstage and under water - <https://www.cnet.com/google-amp/news/cirque-du-soleil-las-vegas-o-bellagio-underwater-magic-tech/>

We had excellent seats, a souvenir from the gift shop, and drinks at our seat. All was well.

Some of us said “I can never eat again I’m so full” and some of us came home and had to eat again.

Next step? In the morning Marie and I had a food tour. That was so special it should probably be a report on its own, but not to be outdone, Tom took Marie to see Mystere at treasure Island.

For those asking how is Tom doing? Much better but he can’t walk very far so we are doing more Uber and or taxi and he is choosing to stay in at times. I have no doubt that having a 21-year old around is incentivizing him to do more than normal and he is as usual very happy with life.

Marie and I will spend the day on Sunday from 5:45 AM to 10:30 PM doing a tour of the south rim of the Grand Canyon. It doesn’t need said that Tom will stay in. Happily. We are suggesting that he go across the street from MGM to the MGM Park and experienced a very famous Italian Eatly. Was it only three weeks ago that we were in Torino where Eatly was started!

PS If I missed you on report number one when we arrived and if you care, please let me know. I lost my distribution list.









You think the statues and art from Cirque's "O" is good? So are the patrons. This gal in the gold dress obviously didn't mind that it was see through. If she was selling it, she deserved a good price.



Maybe the conservatory/gardens at the Bellagio are worth the price of going to Las Vegas. Always different, always a delight, always hard to leave. Good night!

### **Home Again. Follow up from Las Vegas trip**

Saturday food tour - meeting at "Spago" inside Bellagio Hotel. From [www.secretfoodtours.com](http://www.secretfoodtours.com) - you'll get to try delicious dishes from some of the top celebrity chefs who have staked claim in the Las Vegas desert. Why The Las Vegas Strip? This famous city is home to some of the most delicious food, served in restaurants created by the most well-known and respected celebrity chefs in the world. Change and excess are some of the only consistent things about Las Vegas, and this is nowhere more visible than on "The Strip," which stretches just over four miles with hundreds of dining options. We'll guide you through the fast paced, ever changing food scene that is as important to Las Vegas as gambling and showgirls.

- To begin, we'll take you to the restaurant of the first celebrity chef to come to Las Vegas.
- Next, we'll head to a Gordon Ramsay restaurant. He's one of





*the most famous celebrity chefs on the strip, and you'll learn firsthand why he's so successful in this city and on tv.*

- *As we depart for our next bite, we'll stop for a photo on our way through Rome, and gain a better understanding of the connection between food, celebrity, and casino.*
- *As we walk, we'll enjoy a chilled glass of wine and pass the volcano along the way.*
- *Next, we'll take you to the first restaurant opened by a well-known baker.*
- *You'll learn about how Las Vegas came to be and what makes this city so unique.*
- *Did you know that Vegas is considered the "Ninth Island" of Hawaii? You'll find out why at our next sweet spot.*
- *When you think of Japan do you think chocolate? If not, you will after our final stop.*
- *And of course there's our delicious and mysterious Secret Dish.*

#### THE GROUP —



This is one way to get my own picture – sent to us by the tour guide.

#### THE FOOD —

##### **1st Stop - Spago by Wolfgang Puck**

Within the Bellagio -

- **Prosciutto & Butternut Squash Pizza** made with prosciutto, butternut squash, cipollini onion, roasted garlic, rosemary, and chili honey.
- **Wild Mushroom Pizza** made with wild seasonal mushrooms, Fromage Blanc cheese, Fontina cheese, baby leeks, and Taleggio cheese.

##### **2nd Stop - Gordon Ramsay Pub and Grill**

Within Caesars Palace -

- **Scotch Egg** made with portuguese sausage, black pudding, soft cooked egg, panko bread crumbs, HP sauce, and english mustard.
- **Hummus** made with chickpeas, organic tahini, fresh squeezed lemon juice, garlic, virgin olive oil, and rapeseed oil. Served with warm Indian Naan bread

##### **3rd Stop - Honolulu Cookie Company**

Within the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace -

- **Honolulu Cookies and samples**, premium shortbread cookies with use of natural Hawaii-inspired flavors, including Kona coffee, macadamia nuts, guava, mango, coconut, and



pineapple to add a true taste of the islands and create the perfect cookie. All chocolate-dipped cookies are hand-dipped in premium white chocolate, milk chocolate, or decadent dark chocolate.

#### 4th Stop - Buddy V's Ristorante

Within the Grand Canal Shoppes at The Venetian -

- **Mac & Cheese Carbonara** made with Cavatelli pasta, fontina cheese, parmesan cheese, heavy cream, egg, peas, pancetta, and breadcrumbs.
- **Meatball Sliders** made with smooth and smoky Provolone cheese, herbed Ricotta cheese, fresh tomato ragu.

#### 5th Stop - ROYCE'

Within the Grand Canal Shoppes at The Venetian -

- **Chocolate tasting**, a sampling of fresh Nama chocolate of pure milk, white, and dark chocolate varieties, potato chip chocolate, prafeuille chocolate berry cubes, matcha and coffee bean chocolate among seasonal assortments.
- **La Vostra Prosecco**, a glass of bubbly, juicy, irresistible flavors of apple, white peach and fragrant honeysuckle.

#### 6th Stop- Thomas Keller's Bouchon Bakery

Within The Venetian Resort Hotel & Casino -

- **Macaron**, an over-sized version of a classic French macaron. Two delicate almond flour meringue shells filled with a luscious buttercream or ganache. A choice of assorted colors and classic or seasonal flavors.



We had trouble deciding what was the best of the best and the Spago pizzas almost won out, until came along the next to last course, a macaroni and cheese. We decided since it was a tie and we were super full by the macaroni and cheese . . .

In between we stopped by Gordon Ramsey's Hell's Kitchen on The Strip. It is said to be the most reserved and longest lines of Las Vegas. It is also said that Gordon Ramsey is a regular kind of guy, seen around often, his children known, and he's well loved. We sure loved his Scotch Eggs.





The purse was in reality a wine cooler, pulled out at various stops. Las Vegas allows drinking on the streets. But that wasn't the only entertainment and I was almost surprised to see the casinos continue dressing the waitress staff in Hooters type outfits. Yet, if you've got it, flaunt it?



Buddy Vs is in the Venetian. The meatball sliders went into a zip bag for a meal another day. The macaroni and cheese probably was the highlight of the day, yet that was tough to decide.



Japanese chocolates that must be eaten in 24 hours? That's what we used to get in Brussels. A box with apparently some preservatives was purchased for a friend of Marie's before sauntering (or



waddling) off to Bouchon's Bakery. We used to get into Bouchon's restaurant each time we came to Las Vegas but this time we were just far too full to add another meal.

***Then – another day, another experience: The Grand Canyon!***

This was a brutally long day but maybe worth it... Marie was blown away and thought she might like to see more. I was up at 4:15am and in after 10pm! Lots of driving but fortunately a few interesting stops along the way, to include lots of movies and commentary on the bus.

**Grand Canyon South Rim Tour**

From [https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/grand-canyon-south-rim-bus-tours-with-imax-tickets-6147\\_2/](https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/grand-canyon-south-rim-bus-tours-with-imax-tickets-6147_2/) - Experience the Grand Canyon South Rim aboard a luxury bus tour from Las Vegas and Experience it in IMAX. This package includes a stop at the Grand Canyon Visitor's Center and IMAX movie theater complex.

***Highlights***

- *Exclusive stop at Grand Canyon Visitor's Center and IMAX theater complex*
- *Visit the widest and deepest point at Grand Canyon South Rim (over 8400 ft. deep and 21 miles across)*
- *IMAX Theatre Tickets included*
- *Hoover Dam photo opportunity*

***Includes***

- *Hotel Pick-up and Drop-off service for most major hotels on the Strip and Downtown*
- *Lunch served at the Grand Canyon Visitor's Center*
- *Grand Canyon and Visitor's Center admission*
- *Rest stops included in Kingman AZ*

***Itinerary***

*After we pick you up in the morning, we will arrive at our check-in terminal for a brief orientation. You will then board one of our Deluxe Luxury Buses.*

*Experience the Mighty Hoover Dam with a breathtaking photo opportunity from the Mike O'Callaghan and Pat Tillman memorial bypass bridge. Travel past the extinct volcano Fortification Hill on your way through Black Canyon and rugged Western Arizona! Home of the Bighorn Sheep!*

*Onto the Grand Canyon, where you'll spend your day viewing one of "The Seven Wonders of the Natural World!" - the Grand Canyon. Enjoy the most spectacular views from the South Rim, spanning 18 miles across and over one mile deep! Upon arrival at the South Rim, your first stop will be at the Grand Canyon Visitors Center and IMAX Theater Complex. You will be provided with a lunch voucher good for your choice of Pizza Hut Pan Pizza, Deli Sandwiches, Hot Dog and Chips, Chicken-Rice bowl, and beverages.*

*Your IMAX movie tickets include access to a giant six-story movie screen and over 12,000 watts of digital surround sound which allow visitors to literally experience the Grand Canyon, throughout time, as if they were actually there. Fly like an Eagle – soar over the rim of the canyon and dive into the depths of the craggy canyons. Take a whitewater rafting trip down the Colorado River and sense the raging currents thundering around you. Experience the history of the Grand Canyon and marvel at the amazing scenery while sitting comfortably in the theater. The movie is visually stunning and delivered in a thrilling, non-stop, filmed adventure complete with realistic sounds and the sensation of motion only made possible by IMAX® technology.*

*Your tour of The National Park will include photo stops at both major lookout points, Mather Point and Bright Angel Lodge, with plenty of time to hike along the rim of the Canyon or just relax and enjoy this "Once of a Lifetime" experience! Don't forget your camera as you will have plenty of time to take those once in a life-time photo from the rim of the Canyon.*

*Our award-winning audio guide will enlighten you with the colorful history of the Grand Canyon and its amazing Native Americans inhabitants. Learn about the unique wildlife that you may encounter as you explore the Canyon! Sit back, relax and enjoy a movie on your ride back to Las Vegas! A stop in Kingman Arizona at a fast restaurant is included on the return about two hours from Las Vegas, the cost of the meal is not included in the tour price.*

**Tom's comments** to a friend once home: "The trip was really good

- Accommodations - Perfect.
- Cirque shows astounding! And Marie was blown away.
- Diana and Marie did the heavy duty walking of The Strip and casinos and I took it easy. Still down on energy and stamina but did get a walk-through of the Bellagio and Caesar's.
- Food - The best meal for me was a Mexican at the MGM on the last night. About an 8. The best wine was from Alba (Piedmont of Italy) at Eataly - at least a 9.
- Sent the first meal back and the replacement was polenta and ragu - about 6 1/2.

Got home via Uber about midnight."

***Is this The End?*** We hope not and are now looking for more trips, more new experiences but hopefully no more pounds!



## ***Itinerary***

### **Wed Jan 1 - Marie**

6:00am Depart Kansas City MCI via UA#1828  
7:00am Arrive Denver DEN for plane change

2 ½ hour connection time – interesting airport/use lounge pass

DEN Files – a Spooky Airport: [https://www.flydenver.com/great\\_hall/denfiles](https://www.flydenver.com/great_hall/denfiles)

9:40am Depart Denver DEN via UA#707  
10:41am Arrive Las Vegas LAS

2-hour wait in airport - another interesting airport

### **- Tom and Diana**

7:30am Car ordered – check baggage  
10:00am Depart Newark EWR via UA#2138  
12:52pm Arrive Las Vegas LAS – wheelchair ordered

Rental Car Avis

Apartment MGM Signature - 125 E Harmon Ave 37-811 and 37-809, Las Vegas, NV 89109  
Reservation#HA-MYRYZC MGM Signature confirms #798473994 and 798486732  
MGM Signature Residential Services Tele: 702 797 6040  
Owner Cindy Pietraszek, Tele: 312 909 2333 has other MGM apartments

Twin connecting apartments in MGM Signature - Between the Strip and Kova Lane  
Free parking – valet service only; Free WiFi - MGM Signature wifi network. No password is needed

<https://www.vrbo.com/4040128ha?adultsCount=3&arrival=2020-01-03&departure=2020-01-10>

See video of the actual penthouse on youtube by searching for “cindy's MGM 2 bedroom 2 bath”  
Description: *MGM Signature 2BR 2BA Right on Las Vegas Strip w/ View, Balcony, Pool & Hot Tub On Las Vegas Strip, Connecting Condo 1100 sq. ft., Sleeps: 8, Bedrooms: 2, Bathrooms: 2*  
*You'll love our luxurious Penthouse. It is directly in the MGM Casino Hotel Signature Tower right on the Las Vegas Strip. This provides you with enormous advantages versus other vacation rental locations. You will be staying in a condo directly connected to the huge MGM Hotel complex which includes a massive pool, hot tub, gym, dozens of wonderful restaurants / buffets, incredible shows, and the MGM casino itself. We charge no resort fees or parking fees. Our luxurious condo has stunning views, 2 private balconies, 2 kitchenettes, 2 king size beds, 2 queen size sleeper sofas, and 2 luxurious bathrooms. The condo sleeps up to 8. Free WiFi is available in every room. Each kitchenette has a cooktop, refrigerator, microwave, toaster and coffee maker. The 2 luxurious bathrooms have Jacuzzi bathtubs, California showers, and double sinks. Each bedroom has a flat screen TV and DVD. Our guests have free access to the huge MGM pool complex, which features multiple pools, a waterfall, a lazy river, and a big hot tub. Our guests also have free access to the MGM Signature gym with state of the art equipment. Check-in and check-out are done at the front-desk just as in any hotel and are available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Valet parking is free. Our Penthouse condo is in the MGM Signature Tower directly in the MGM Hotel complex right on the Las Vegas Strip. Our condo has all the advantages of staying in an MGM hotel room and more, for substantially less money! The condo is on a penthouse floor, has a stunning view of the Las Vegas Strip, and a private balconies to enjoy it from. Staying on the strip makes a Las Vegas vacation much more memorable. All the world famous attractions and casinos are within walking distance! The Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower, and a live Volcano can all be seen running down the legendary*

*Vegas Strip! After a long night playing, laughing, eating, drinking, and dancing, you walk home up the Las Vegas Strip lit up as bright as daylight!*

*The 2 bedroom 2 bath condo is composed of 2 adjacent Penthouse suites which share a common outer door. The two Penthouse suites can be used as a common connected space by opening the Penthouse doors and closing the common outer door. The luxurious condo combination has 2 king size beds and 2 sleeper sofas and, can sleep up to 8 people.*

3:00pm Check in. Probably not any earlier but lobby has lounge and pool side restaurant.

Grocery shop. At least Walmart and Target are open on New Year's Day. List in file. Remember there are two kitchens.

Walk strip for overview and free shows:

Caesars for shopping mall

Volcano at Treasure Island

Hard Rock Café?

Wynn at the end near Fashion Mall?

Dinner at Mon Ami Gabi in Paris? Reservations needed

[https://www.caesars.com/paris-las-vegas/restaurants/mon-ami-gabi?utm\\_campaign=GMB&utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=local&utm\\_term=Mon%20Ami%20Gabi&utm\\_content=restaurant#.XCGA14xOmhA](https://www.caesars.com/paris-las-vegas/restaurants/mon-ami-gabi?utm_campaign=GMB&utm_source=google&utm_medium=local&utm_term=Mon%20Ami%20Gabi&utm_content=restaurant#.XCGA14xOmhA)

### **Thu Jan 2**

9:00am Tour pick up - departs nearby from the NY-NY Hotel outside of the main valet.  
145 East Harmon Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89109 Tele: 702-891-1111  
Paid voucher in file. Lasvegas@Grayline.Com Tele: 702-739-7777 or 1-877-333-6556

Hoover Dam Express Half Day Tour – From [https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/hoover-dam-express-half-day-tour-from-las-vegas-6147\\_8/](https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/hoover-dam-express-half-day-tour-from-las-vegas-6147_8/) -

*Includes government guided VIP tour inside the Hoover Dam, access to the newly opened visitors center, museum, monuments, and gift shop.*

### **Highlights**

- *Government Guided VIP tour inside the Mighty Hoover Dam*
- *Access to the newly opened Visitor's Center, Museum, Monuments, and Gift Shop*
- *Photo stop at the historic 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign*
- *Up to 90 Minutes to visit the exterior of the Hoover Dam*
- *Get amazing photo opportunities from the Nevada and Arizona look-out points*
- *Experience the breathtaking spillway*

### **Itinerary**

*Experience this man-made engineering wonder of the world, one of the biggest and most successful government projects of its time. The Hoover Dam actually was actually completed on time and under budget.*

*Your professional audio guide will provide narration on this roundtrip tour from Las Vegas while you enjoy a ride on a luxury motor-coach with airline-style reclining seats, footrests, onboard restroom, air conditioning, and large vista view windows so you won't miss a thing.*

*Enjoy a tour deep down inside the mighty Hoover Dam*

*The mighty Hoover Dam created Lake Mead - the largest man-made lake in the Western Hemisphere. Don't miss your chance to stand on top of this amazing piece of American History!*



Hoover Dam - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoover\\_Dam](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoover_Dam)

12 Facts: From <http://mentalfloss.com/article/67916/14-powerful-facts-about-hoover-dam>

### **Fri Jan 3**

Brunch or Lunch at Bellagio – <https://www.bellagio.com/en/restaurants/the-buffet.html>

Breakfast until 11am and Lunch until 3pm. Or start with Brunch Buffet at 10:30am then get into an early lunch selection. Verify times and if any way to avoid lines.

**Bellagio** [www.bellagio.com](http://www.bellagio.com) - *One of the top picks in Las Vegas -- Set behind the famous Fountains of Bellagio, this luxury Las Vegas Strip hotel and casino offers an upscale day spa, multiple dining options and elegant rooms with marble en suite bathrooms. The Cirque du Soleil show "O" is on site. Beautiful courtyard pools. Lush botanical gardens and a fine art gallery are open for viewing.*

Bellagio Hotel - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bellagio\\_\(resort\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bellagio_(resort))

7:00pm "O" by Cirque du Soleil for 3 people, Section 203, Row R, seats 7-9

### **Sat Jan 4**

12:30pm Secret Food Tours – limited to 8 people

Meet at entrance to "Spago" inside Bellagio Hotel. Call 725 867 4440 if needed

From [www.secretfoodtours.com](http://www.secretfoodtours.com) - *you'll get to try delicious dishes from some of the top celebrity chefs who have staked claim in the Las Vegas desert. Why The Las Vegas Strip? This famous city is home to some of the most delicious food, served in restaurants created by the most well-known and respected celebrity chefs in the world. Change and excess are some of the only consistent things about Las Vegas, and this is nowhere more visible than on "The Strip," which stretches just over four miles with hundreds of dining options. We'll guide you through the fast paced, ever changing food scene that is as important to Las Vegas as gambling and showgirls.*

- *To begin, we'll take you to the restaurant of the first celebrity chef to come to Las Vegas.*
- *Next, we'll head to a Gordon Ramsay restaurant. He's one of the most famous celebrity chefs on the strip, and you'll learn firsthand why he's so successful in this city and on tv.*
- *As we depart for our next bite, we'll stop for a photo on our way through Rome, and gain a better understanding of the connection between food, celebrity, and casino.*
- *As we walk, we'll enjoy a chilled glass of wine and pass the volcano along the way.*
- *Next, we'll take you to the first restaurant opened by a well-known baker.*
- *You'll learn about how Las Vegas came to be and what makes this city so unique.*
- *Did you know that Vegas is considered the "Ninth Island" of Hawaii? You'll find out why at our next sweet spot.*
- *When you think of Japan do you think chocolate? If not, you will after our final stop.*
- *And of course there's our delicious and mysterious Secret Dish.*

*THE FOOD: An unconventional pizza covered in unique toppings; Scotch egg; Warm, fresh naan bread with hummus; Pasta carbonara, Jersey-style; A unique spin on a meatball slider; Shortbread, Hawaiian style; Japanese chocolates; Our delicious Secret Dish. DRINKS: California red or white wine, or sparkling wine, Water*

7:00pm "Mystere" by Cirque du Soleil for 2 people, Section 204, Row BB, seats 5-6

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myst%C3%A8re\\_\(Cirque\\_du\\_Soleil\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myst%C3%A8re_(Cirque_du_Soleil))

### **Sun Jan 5**

6:15am Grand Canyon South Rim Tour to 10pm

Pick up departs nearby from the NY-NY Hotel outside of the main valet. Paid voucher in file – ref#59454622 – Tele: 888 363 8662 or 877 333 6556

From [https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/grand-canyon-south-rim-bus-tours-with-imax-tickets-6147\\_2/](https://graylinelasvegas.com/tours/las-vegas/grand-canyon-south-rim-bus-tours-with-imax-tickets-6147_2/) - Experience the Grand Canyon South Rim aboard a luxury bus tour from Las Vegas and Experience it in IMAX. This package includes a stop at the Grand Canyon Visitor's Center and IMAX movie theater complex.

### **Highlights**

- *Exclusive stop at Grand Canyon Visitor's Center and IMAX theater complex*
- *Visit the widest and deepest point at Grand Canyon South Rim (over 8400 ft. deep and 21 miles across)*
- *IMAX Theatre Tickets included*
- *Hoover Dam photo opportunity*

### **Includes**

- *Hotel Pick-up and Drop-off service for most major hotels on the Strip and Downtown*
- *Lunch served at the Grand Canyon Visitor's Center*
- *Grand Canyon and Visitor's Center admission*
- *Rest stops included in Kingman AZ*

### **Itinerary**

*After we pick you up in the morning, we will arrive at our check-in terminal for a brief orientation. You will then board one of our Deluxe Luxury Buses.*

*Experience the Mighty Hoover Dam with a breathtaking photo opportunity from the Mike O'Callaghan and Pat Tillman memorial bypass bridge. Travel past the extinct volcano Fortification Hill on your way through Black Canyon and rugged Western Arizona! Home of the Bighorn Sheep!*

*Onto the Grand Canyon, where you'll spend your day viewing one of "The Seven Wonders of the Natural World!" - the Grand Canyon. Enjoy the most spectacular views from the South Rim, spanning 18 miles across and over one mile deep! Upon arrival at the South Rim, your first stop will be at the Grand Canyon Visitors Center and IMAX Theater Complex. You will be provided with a lunch voucher good for your choice of Pizza Hut Pan Pizza, Deli Sandwiches, Hot Dog and Chips, Chicken-Rice bowl, and beverages.*

*Your IMAX movie tickets include access to a giant six-story movie screen and over 12,000 watts of digital surround sound which allow visitors to literally experience the Grand Canyon, throughout time, as if they were actually there. Fly like an Eagle – soar over the rim of the canyon and dive into the depths of the craggy canyons. Take a whitewater rafting trip down the Colorado River and sense the raging currents thundering around you. Experience the history of the Grand Canyon and marvel at the amazing scenery while sitting comfortably in the theater. The movie is visually stunning and delivered in a thrilling, non-stop, filmed adventure complete with realistic sounds and the sensation of motion only made possible by IMAX® technology.*

*Your tour of The National Park will include photo stops at both major lookout points, Mather Point and Bright Angel Lodge, with plenty of time to hike along the rim of the Canyon or just relax and enjoy this "Once of a Lifetime" experience! Don't forget your camera as you will have plenty of time to take those once in a life-time photos from the rim of the Canyon.*



*Our award-winning audio guide will enlighten you with the colorful history of the Grand Canyon and its amazing Native Americans inhabitants. Learn about the unique wildlife that you may encounter as you explore the Canyon! Sit back, relax and enjoy a movie on your ride back to Las Vegas! A stop in Kingman Arizona at a fast restaurant is included on the return about two hours from Las Vegas, the cost of the meal is not included in the tour price.*

### **Mon Jan 6**

Drive to Red Rock Canyon, visiting the 13-mile canyon drive, the visitors center, some walking if desired, and go into the huge Resort for the food court.

Red Rock Canyon Resort – From <https://redrock.sclv.com/Hotel>: *Inspired by the natural beauty of the neighboring mountains, Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa pays homage to the elegant mid-century modern resorts that made Las Vegas famous. The design is classic, cool Las Vegas, reinvented for the 21st century. A recipient of the AAA Four Diamond Award since opening and named one of the world's best new hotels by Conde Nast Traveler magazine, Red Rock redefines casino resort architecture by incorporating natural light, a convenient layout and the comforts of a modern lifestyle, making for the perfect Las Vegas hotel rooms & Las Vegas suites*

Red Rock Resort - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red\\_Rock\\_Casino,\\_Resort\\_%26\\_Spa](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_Rock_Casino,_Resort_%26_Spa)

Drive and walk part of the Red Rock Canyon 13-mile drive/loop  
[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red\\_Rock\\_Canyon\\_National\\_Conservation\\_Area](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_Rock_Canyon_National_Conservation_Area)

Optional if time as it's in the area - Bonnie Springs and Old Town Nevada – Oops – closed down and they are building condos there!

From <https://bonniesprings.com/> *Old Nevada at the Bonnie Springs Ranch is a replica of an old West town complete with cowboys, showgirls, saloon, gunfights in the street and a good old fashion town hanging. Just 35 minutes West of the Las Vegas Strip, Bonnie Springs Ranch is the best kept secret 5-minute drive beyond Red Rock Canyon. The Ranch is the only place to get food, drinks, gambling and lodging in Red Rock Canyon.*

### **Tue Jan 7**

Optional: Drive to Boulder City, Lake Mead area

Lunch at the old historic hotel in Boulder City? Needs checked out if there is a restaurant attached.

Lake Mead - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake\\_Mead](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Mead)

Boulder City - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boulder\\_City,\\_Nevada](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boulder_City,_Nevada)

Boulder Dam historic hotel - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boulder\\_Dam\\_Hotel](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boulder_Dam_Hotel) and <https://www.boulderdamhotel.com/en-us>

### **Wed Jan 8 – Tom and Diana**

Turn in rental car

1:45pm Depart Las Vegas LAS via UA#2271

9:33pm Arrive Newark EWR

Use Uber

- **Marie**

1:16pm Depart Las Vegas LAS via UA#1755

3:02pm Arrive San Francisco for plane change

4:45pm Depart Houston IAH via UA#5695  
10:18pm Arrive Kansas City MCI

**Ideas:**

Marie said she wanted to visit ruins – well, Las Vegas is “ruinous” but fortunately in the surrounding “historical” areas we’ll find plenty to do too.

From Marie’s list of ideas: Mob Museum; Neon Museum; Fremont Street; Atomic Testing Museum; Bellagio Gallery of Fine Arts, Hop on/Hop Off bus tour

All too far? Joshua tree state park; Death Valley? Palm Springs? Valley of Fire? Lovell Canyon?

Las Vegas History - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Las\\_Vegas](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Las_Vegas)

The Free Strip tour - <https://www.bigboytravel.com/nevada/lasvegas/thestripwalkingtour/>

More: Ferris Wheel called High Roller; “Real Bodies” still at Bally’s on the Strip? Musicals?

Dinner at Venetian Hotel at the Thomas Keller’s “Bouchon”. Keller is famous for his “French Laundry” restaurant in Napa (we have eaten at the Vegas Bouchon twice before) - <https://www.thomaskeller.com/bouchonlasvegas>

Eataly at Park MGM - [https://www.eataly.com/us\\_en/stores/las-vegas/](https://www.eataly.com/us_en/stores/las-vegas/) at 3770 S Las Vegas Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89109 – can reserve a table on line

**Distances:**

Lake Mead 30 miles or 50 minutes from Vegas  
Hoover Dam 40 miles or 45 minutes from Vegas  
Red Rock 10 miles west or 20 minutes from airport  
Las Vegas Strip to Grand Canyon South Rim 280 miles or 4 hours

**Emergencies**

**Point of Contact** - Carl Greeson, central point of contact if emergency: 573 999 2119

**Emergency Assistance Plus Program** – 24/7 – card in file and in Diana’s wallet

United Mileage Plus member #0186014 – ID#04-7500132793 - family  
Tele: [866 816 2073](tel:8668162073) or [603 328 1752](tel:6033281752) collect or questions 877 815 5567

Sue Ann Martinez	732 236 7651	Has Pandora
Randy Fritts	732 671 5510	Neighbor to the west – has key
Adam Basile	732 673 2582	Helper – knows house and pond
Kathy/Gary Kestler	732 671 5311	Neighbor to the east – has key

More numbers on kitchen counter.

**Packing**

Washcloth and bar soap if needed  
Powdered laundry detergent if needed  
Kleenex Tissues – rarely provided in apartments  
Jammies, robe, slippers and something warm for apartment  
Heating pad  
Face mask for airplane



Phone battery back-up and electrics

Grocery bag

Zip bags, plastics

Note – no laundry facilities in apartment; yes a pool and a health club

**Reminders**

Download Google Offline maps of Las Vegas and surrounding area