

EXTRA VALUE! 46 DEALS JUST FOR YOU

# TRAVEL + LEISURE

SPECIAL

JUNE 2009

## HOTELS ISSUE

WIN A LUXURY  
CRUISE FOR 2!

See page 24 for the  
T+L sweepstakes

OUR  
2009

IT  
LIST

THE 45  
BEST  
NEW  
HOTELS  
OF THE  
YEAR

THE HOTEL  
HANDBOOK

GET A BETTER  
ROOM RATE  
AVOID HIDDEN FEES  
TIPPING ADVICE  
AND MORE

TRAVELANDLEISURE.COM | PICK YOUR SUMMER WEEKEND ESCAPE NOW





## REDEFINING **LAS VEGAS**

If there's one place with a zest for the dolce vita, it's Las Vegas. With an amazing knack for reinventing itself, it's a destination where the proverbial dust never settles: **the hotels are always stylish, the bars are super-sleek, and the restaurants are manned by some of the hottest names in the food world.** There's always something fresh and new to discover in Las Vegas.

From left to right:  
**PRIME**, main dining room, Bellagio;  
**"O™"** by *Cirque du Soleil*®, Bellagio;  
dining at MGM Grand; Studio 54, MGM Grand.  
Below: Bellagio at dusk.

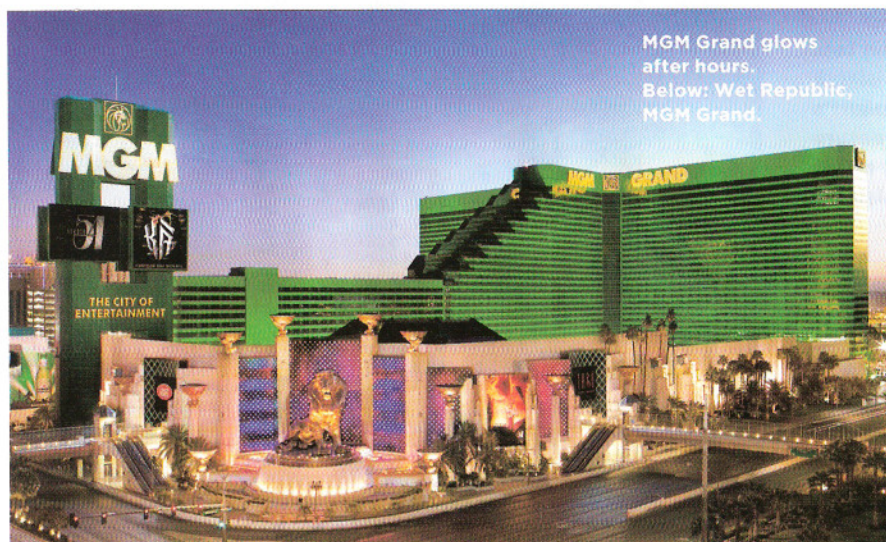


### **BELLAGIO**

Inspired by the idyllic villages and towns of Europe, the AAA Five Diamond Bellagio overlooks a Mediterranean-blue, eight-acre lake that features a magnificent ballet of dancing fountains. Nature is always in full bloom inside Bellagio's Conservatory & Botanical Gardens. The exhibit, filled with lush plants, vibrant flowers, and towering trees, changes five times per year to celebrate each of the four seasons and Chinese New Year.

During the day, shop for designer must-haves at upscale retailers, including Fendi, Gucci, and Prada, or unwind by the Mediterranean-style swimming pools, featuring whirlpools and private cabanas. For a peaceful escape, the 65,000-square-foot Spa & Salon Bellagio's design is Zen-influenced, balancing the natural elements of earth, water, fire and wind. Water also inspires the standout production of **"O™"** by *Cirque du Soleil*®, weaving an aquatic tapestry of acrobatics, synchronized swimming, and theatrical romance.

Bellagio is the only resort in North America to house two AAA Five Diamond restaurants under one roof, and fittingly, all of Bellagio's 19 restaurants offer a jet-set experience, from fresh seafood and fine steaks to northern Italian specialties and Asian cuisine. You'll also find Bellagio's fusion of classic elegance with modern fashion in the sexy, yet refined, nightlife at The Bank.  
***bellagio.com* 866-986-7111**

REDEFINING **LAS VEGAS**

MGM Grand glows after hours.  
Below: Wet Republic,  
MGM Grand.

**MGM GRAND**

The Las Vegas skyline buzzes with a round-the-clock energy, making it one of the most exciting places you'll ever visit. Experience maximum Vegas<sup>SM</sup> at MGM Grand by kicking off your stay with a thrilling performance of KÀ<sup>TM</sup> by Cirque du Soleil®, an unprecedented theatrical event which combines gravity-defying acrobatics and martial arts.

For pre- or post-show dinners, taste the culinary mastery of celebrity chefs, such as Joël Robuchon and Michael Mina, at cutting-edge eateries. From Craftsteak to FiAMMA, innovative menus capture exactly what makes Las Vegas so trend-setting and vibrant. For stylish drinks, start by feeling the nightlife pulse at Tabú Ultra Lounge or the red-hot Rouge, before heading to the dance floor at Studio 54.

While you'll feel a surge of energy in Las Vegas, there are also plenty of ways to recharge. Unwind at the Grand Spa & Health Club, swim in the Grand Pool Complex, or experience Daylife born at Wet Republic, the ultimate Las Vegas pool party. Relax as you take in the spectacular view from the top of MGM Grand at the two-story SKYLOFT Penthouse Suites, which are outfitted to be the ultimate in luxury. For a lavish retreat, the all-suite towers of The Signature offer exclusive amenities and an intimate set-apart feel in the middle of it all. From relaxation to excitement and entertainment, MGM Grand takes everything to a new level.

[mgmgrand.com](http://mgmgrand.com) • 800-929-1111

**ADRENALINE RUSHES**

Take a breather with these adventurous day trips just outside of Las Vegas.

**Red Rock Canyon**

Rock climb and mountain bike amid dramatic red-rock formations just 15 miles west of Las Vegas.

([redrockcanyonlv.org](http://redrockcanyonlv.org))

**Mojave National Preserve**

In this wildflower-dotted parkland only 60 miles southwest from the city, explore sand dunes, volcanic cinder cones, and Joshua tree forests.

([nps.gov](http://nps.gov))

**Mt. Charleston Wilderness**

A half-hour from the Strip, enjoy summertime pleasures like hiking, horseback riding, and picnics.

(Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest; [fs.fed.us](http://fs.fed.us))

&gt;&gt;

**ESCAPE PACKAGES  
FROM \$89 PER NIGHT**

**ENTERTAINMENT CREDITS  
PREFERRED SHOW SEATING  
FINE DINING CREDITS  
GRAND SPA DISCOUNTS**

[mgmgrand.com/escape](http://mgmgrand.com/escape)



maximumVegas. MGM GRAND

**CHECK OUT WHAT'S  
EXCITING AT MGM GRAND**

**KÀ BY CIRQUE DU SOLEIL**

**DAVID COPPERFIELD**

**TOM COLICCHIO'S CRAFTSTEAK**

**MISS VIETNAM**

**Clockwise from top:**  
**Treasure Island;**  
**Cirque du Soleil®'s**  
**Mystère™, Treasure**  
**Island; pool at night,**  
**Treasure Island.**

## TREASURE ISLAND

Inside the large guest rooms of the AAA Four Diamond Award-winning Treasure Island, you'll discover rich dark wood, light brown, and beige interiors accented by vibrant gemstone-like splashes of red, green, yellow, and orange. With 400 square feet of stylish space all to yourself, each room feels like a private island escape nestled in the resort's stellar restaurants, hip nightlife, high-energy pool, indulgent spa, and world-class entertainment, including the Sirens of TI® show.

A recent makeover to the deluxe accommodations has added standout new comforts and conveniences, such as the Elite Sensational™ Pillowtop Bed, LCD flat-screen televisions, and high-speed Internet. Make your room feel even more like a personal sanctuary by listening to your own playlist on the MP3/iPod-compatible clock radios. In your shower and bath, sample the resort's signature WET – The Spa & Salon at TI™ bath products—after a refreshing soak in your room, you'll be inspired to check out the full menu of pampering therapies and beauty treatments at WET – The Spa & Salon at TI.

From plush comforts to amazing resort amenities, Treasure Island is a mesmerizing escape. Right now, take advantage of the TI Alluring Offer, which includes up to a \$50 resort credit, \$20 to spend at WET – The Spa & Salon at TI, and other dining and shopping discounts on getaways booked by August 31, 2009. [treasureisland.com](http://treasureisland.com) • 800-288-7206

WRITER: CEMILE KAVOUNTZIS. DESIGN: INGRID BUUCK. WWW.IBDSTUDIO.COM.  
 ISSUE: JUNE 2009. PHOTOGRAPHY: BELLAGIO; COURTESY OF MGM MIRAGE;  
 TREASURE ISLAND.

*This special editorial/advertising supplement was created by the T+L MAGAZINE Special Sections department and did not involve the magazine's editorial staff. The names of companies and products mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners. Reference to such third party companies and/or products herein is for informational purposes only and is not intended to indicate or imply any affiliation, association, sponsorship or endorsement. ©2009 American Express Publishing Corporation, all rights reserved.*



## SIX THINGS TO DO AFTER SIX IN LAS VEGAS

- 1. Float on** at Caesars Palace by hopping on Cleopatra's Barge, a luxurious floating lounge channeling opulence fit for a pharaoh.
- 2. Party poolside** and enjoy cocktails on a summer night at the chic new XS club at Encore Wynn.
- 3. Sip margaritas** at the two-tiered Diablo's Cantina at Monte Carlo and nosh on fresh Mexican fare with a new American edge.
- 4. Meet your date in Paris** by dining at the Eiffel Tower Restaurant, which brings both the spirit of France and its delectable cuisine.
- 5. Fall in LOVE™** with this *Cirque du Soleil®* smash at Mirage, which celebrates the most beloved Beatles songs.
- 6. Dine with the stars** at Koi, known as a celebrity hot spot.