

Las Vegas Sins and Scams - Appendix to Book 4 - Current Casinos

Paul Wallace Winquist

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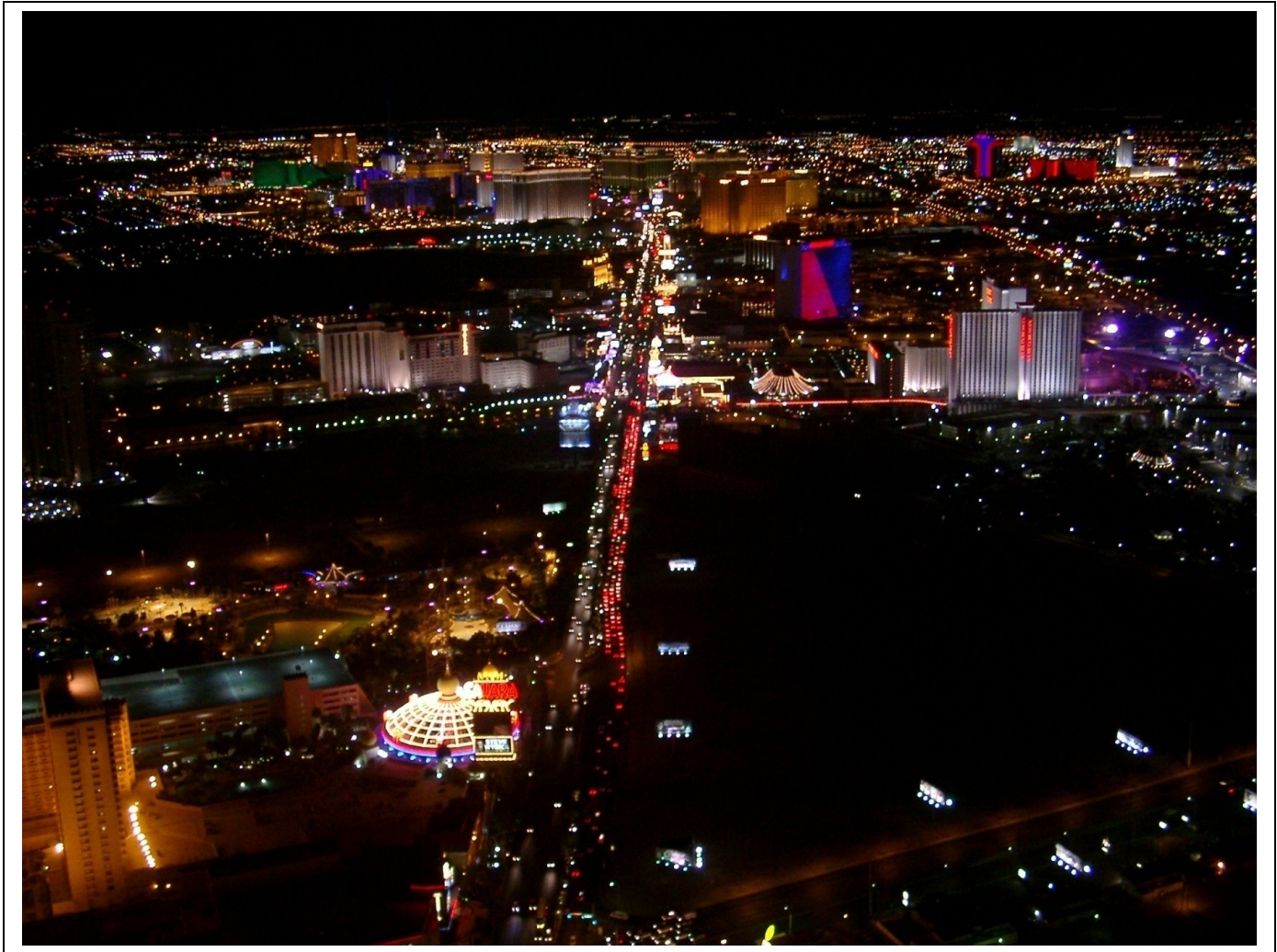
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Looking South from the Stratosphere Tower 2002

Photo by Paul Winquist



Las Vegas
Wikipedia



Photo taken May 21, 2010, a view of the Strip from the Renaissance Hotel.

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Las Vegas at Night

Wikipedia

The following information is mostly from Wikipedia. It is edited to only have the material of interest for the context of the books Las Vegas Sins and Scams by Paul Winquist. No references are given and the material has been somewhat edited; to get the full story on each character, casino, or organization see the Wikipedia listing, and then the reference material given.

All writing in green is by me.

Table of Contents

[Mandalay Bay – Las Vegas](#)

[Monte Carlo Resort and Casino – Las Vegas](#)

[MGM Grand - Las Vegas](#)

[The Venetian - Las Vegas](#)

[Paris Las Vegas](#)

[New York New York Hotel & Casino](#)

[CityCenter – Las Vegas](#)

[Aria Resort & Casino](#)

[The Crystals](#)

[The Harmon Hotel – Las Vegas](#)

[Mandarin Oriental - Las Vegas](#)

[Trump Ocean Club International Hotel and Tower - Panama City, Panama](#)

[Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas](#)

[Echelon Place – Las Vegas](#)

[Fontainebleau - Las Vegas](#)

[Hard Rock Hotel and Casino- Las Vegas](#)

[Marriott's Grand Chateau – Las Vegas](#)

[The D – Las Vegas](#)

[The Palazzo – Las Vegas](#)

[Vdara – Las Vegas](#)

Mandalay Bay - Las Vegas



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Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino is a 44-story luxury hotel casino on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada. It is owned by **MGM Resorts International**. Five floors (floors 35–39) of the main hotel building are occupied by the five-star and AAA Five-Diamond Four Seasons Hotel Las Vegas. The top 3 floors (numbered as floors 60-62) are penthouses, with a penthouse lounge on level 62 for guests staying in the penthouses. It is connected by the free Mandalay Bay Tram to its sister properties, Excalibur and Luxor.

Mandalay Bay has 3,309 hotel rooms, 24 elevators and a casino of 135,000 sq ft (12,500 m²). The adjacent Mandalay Bay Convention Center has almost 1,000,000 sq ft (93,000 m²) of space. In addition, the Mandalay Bay Events Center hosts events including boxing, the UFC's MMA fights, and concerts. It hosted the Latin Grammy Awards in 2007, 2009 and 2010. It will be hosting it up until 2012.

On December 31, 1996, the Hacienda was imploded to make way for Mandalay Bay.

The working title for the \$950 million resort and casino was "Project Paradise", officially replaced with Mandalay Bay in 1998.

During construction engineers discovered vertical movements and particularly differential movements ('dishing') between the tower core and the wings. The tower core was sinking at a rate of 1/2 to 3/4 inch (13 to 19 mm) per week and the wings were sinking at a slower rate causing differential distortion between the column bays. If these movements were not stopped structural damage would occur. Construction was halted while a solution was developed and implemented. The solution proved to be the installation of micro-piles (formerly marketed as 'Pin Piles') filled with grout 200 feet (61 m) deep (It is rumored to be 4000 truckloads of concrete to fill in the underground lake) below the structure each capped with a hydraulic jack to stabilize the structure at the desired vertical height to carry the weight. Since then, there have not been any reports of this problem recurring.



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The gold coloring of the hotel is a result of gold leaf used on the windows.

The resort **opened on March 2, 1999** with actors Dan Aykroyd, James Belushi, and John Goodman headlining a parade of Harley-Davidson motorcycles through Mandalay Bay's front doors to celebrate the grand opening.

The convention center was added in January 2003; when it opened, it was ranked as the fifth largest in the United States; it also offered the largest unobstructed ballroom in the country, at 100,000 square feet (9,300 m²).

In 2003, a new 43-story tower was opened with 1,120 suites, called **THEhotel at Mandalay Bay**. The hotel contains 1,117 one-bedroom suites, each at least 750 square feet (70 m²). The top floor of THEhotel is a restaurant and bar called Mix. The bar has an age restriction of 21+.

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Monte Carlo Resort and Casino - Las Vegas



Exterior view of Monte Carlo Resort and Casino

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The Monte Carlo Resort and Casino is a megaresort hotel and casino located on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada, USA. The hotel is 32 stories, featuring a 90,000-square-foot (8,400 m²) casino floor with over 2,200 slot and video poker machines, and 95 table games. It is operated by **MGM Resorts International**. The hotel offers 2,992 guest rooms, including 259 luxury suites.

The hotel, named to invoke the Place du Casino in Monte Carlo, features chandelier domes, marble floors, neoclassical arches, ornate fountains and gas-lit promenades. As of 2010, Monte Carlo has an AAA-Four-Diamond rating.



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MGM Grand - Las Vegas



The Marina Hotel, was located at 3805 Las Vegas Boulevard, opened in 1975 as a 714-room hotel and casino. In 1989, **Kirk Kerkorian** bought the Marina Hotel and the **Tropicana Country Club** to obtain the site that would become the home of the MGM Grand. During that time, the Marina was known as the MGM-Marina Hotel.

Ground was broken on October 7, 1991, for the new casino hotel complex. The Marina closed on November 30, 1991. The Marina hotel building still exists as the western end of the main hotel building.

The MGM Grand Las Vegas is a hotel casino located on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada. The MGM Grand is the second largest hotel in the world and largest hotel resort complex in the United States. The MGM Grand was the largest hotel in the world when it opened in 1993.

Owned and operated by MGM Resorts International, the 30-floor main building is 293 ft (89 m) high. The property includes five outdoor pools, rivers, and waterfalls that cover 6.6 acres (2.7 ha), a 380,000 sq ft (35,000 m²) convention center, the MGM Grand Garden Arena, CBS Television City, and the Grand Spa. It also houses numerous shops and nightclubs, 19 restaurants, and the largest casino in Clark County, which occupies 171,500 sq ft (15,930 m²).

(I built the original satellite TV system for the race and sports book and did a lot of work for the sound systems in the defunct theme park. There were 57 elevators including the theme park that was torn down. PWW)

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The Venetian - Las Vegas



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The **Venetian Resort Hotel Casino** is a luxury hotel and casino resort situated between Harrah's and The Palazzo, on the east side of the Las Vegas Strip, in Paradise, NV, United States, on the site of the old Sands Hotel. The hotel tower contains 40 stories and rises 475 feet (145 m). The Venetian is owned and operated by the **Las Vegas Sands Corporation**. (Sheldon Adelson: a Super Scammer and complete %\$@*%\$, and 8th richest American; he got that way by @& %#\$@* a lot of people and contractors. PWW) The Venetian also serves as the seat of the corporate headquarters for its parent company. This hotel features a life-like replica tower of St Mark's Campanile in Venice, Italy.



This grand gallery connects the reception area to the casino and shops.

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This small, but striking Venezia reception area is located on the 10th floor of the Venetian/Palazzo complex.

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The Venetian hotel/casino outside viewed from the right of the balcony.

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The Venetian is (along with the adjacent **Sands Expo Convention Center** and The Palazzo Hotel and Casino Resort) part of the largest five-diamond hotel and resort complex in the world with 4,049 suites, 4,059 hotel rooms, and a 120,000-square-foot (11,000 m²) casino.

On November 26, 1996, eight years after it was bought by **Sheldon Adelson**, the **Sands Hotel** was imploded to make way for The Venetian Resort Hotel Casino. Ground was broken April 14, 1997.

The resort opened on May 3, 1999 with flutter of white doves, sounding trumpets and singing gondoliers, with actress Sophia Loren joining The Venetian Chairman and Owner, Sheldon G. Adelson, in christening the first motorized gondola. **Built at a cost of \$1.5 billion, it was one of the most expensive resorts of its kind when it opened.**

March 19, 2004 — "The **Nevada Gaming Commission** Thursday imposed an agreed-upon **\$1 million fine** on The Venetian for rigging contests and violating state gaming regulations, but only after chastising other state agencies for not pursuing the case more vigorously. Chairman Peter Bernhard and Commissioner Art Marshall, who called the violations the "most serious" they have dealt with during their tenures on the commission, criticized the state attorney general's office and the Gaming Control Board for taking a year to bring the eight-count complaint before the commission. ... "This is the most serious complaint I've seen since I've been on the commission. The issues go to the heart of the integrity of the industry," Bernhard said. ... The Asian high roller at the center of the case was preselected to win a Mercedes-Benz. The complaint said a Venetian executive who rigged the drawing with a cohort hid the winning ticket in his shirtsleeve and pretended to draw it randomly from a batch of entries before announcing the "winning" ticket."

(Sheldon Adelson is considered by construction contractors as one of the most crooked, that my contractor friends have ever dealt with; essentially all contractors have had lawsuits against him or his corporations. See articles in the RJ and Sun newspapers PWW)

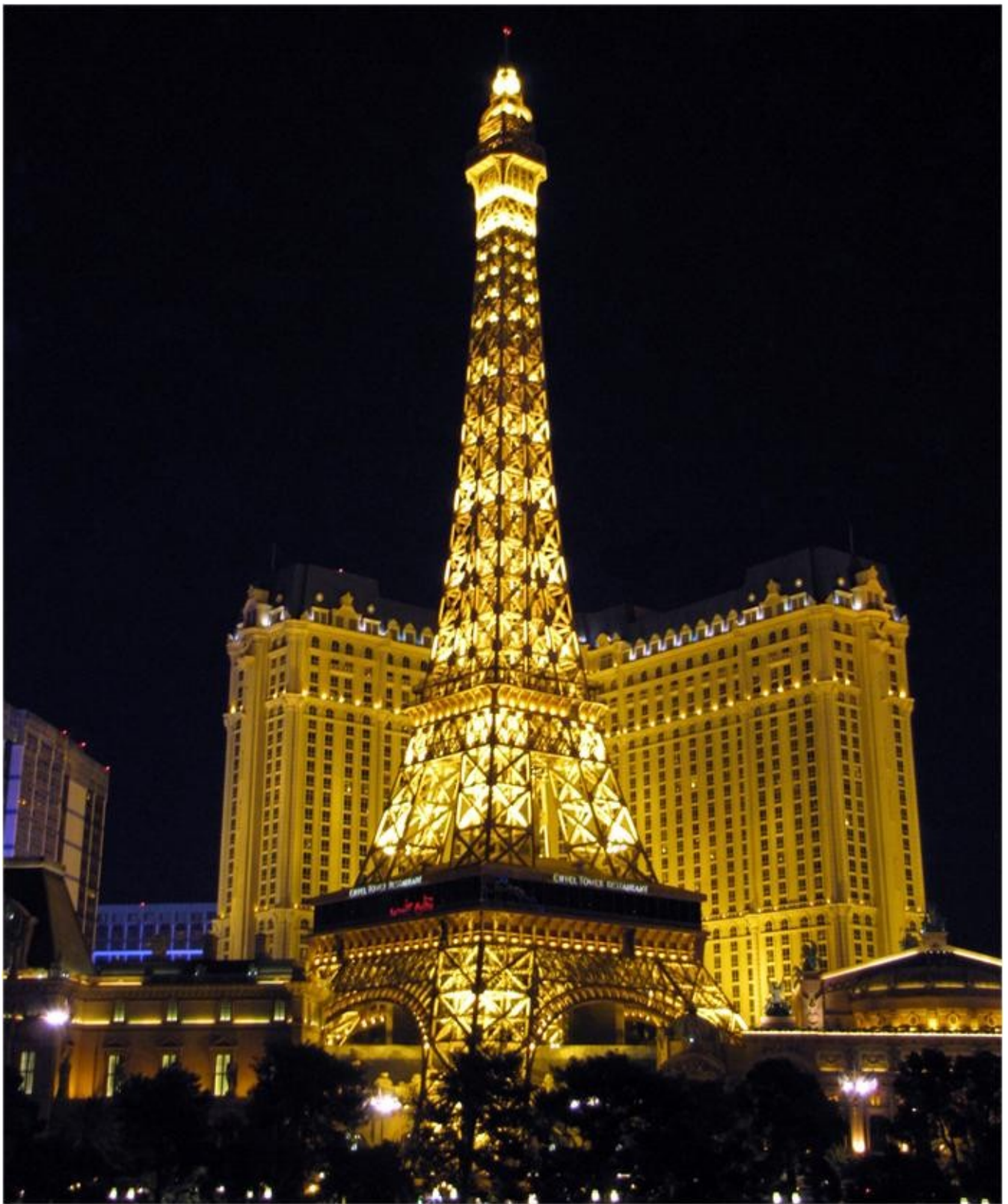
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Paris Las Vegas



Image of the hotel 'Paris Las Vegas' as seen from the hotel 'The Bellagio' on a sunny afternoon in May; both hotels are at the strip in Las Vegas.

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Paris Las Vegas in 2009 at night.

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Paris Las Vegas from the Bellagio, taken during the early evening during November 2003.

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Paris Las Vegas is a hotel and casino located on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada, USA, that is owned and operated by **Caesars Entertainment Corp.** As its name suggests, its theme is the city of Paris in France; it includes a half scale, **541-foot (165 m) tall replica of the Eiffel Tower**, a sign in the shape of the Montgolfier balloon, a two-thirds size Arc de Triomphe, a replica of La Fontaine des Mers, and a 1,200-seat theatre called Le Théâtre des Arts. The front of the hotel suggests the Paris Opera House and the Louvre.

History:

The project was originally announced by Bally's Entertainment, owner of the adjacent Bally's Las Vegas. It was designed by architectural companies Leidenfrost/Horowitz & Assoc., Bergman, Walls & Assoc., and MBH Architects. Its architect was Bergman Walls Associates.

Ground was broken for the Paris on April 17, 1997. It opened September 1, 1999 with fireworks being shot from the Eiffel Tower. French actress Catherine Deneuve flipped a switch, turning on all of the Paris' lights, including the various crystal chandeliers in the main lobby.

Building began under Hilton Hotels, which purchased Bally Entertainment in 1996; Hilton's casinos were subsequently spun off into Park Place Entertainment, which purchased Caesars World in 2000 and changed its name to Caesars Entertainment Inc in 2004.

When the scale model of the Eiffel Tower was built, it was planned to be full scale, but the airport was too close and the tower had to be shrunk. The scale is approximately 1:2.

Paris cost USD \$785 million to build, and occupies 24 acres (9.7 ha).

A unique architectural aspect of Paris Las Vegas is that the back legs of its Eiffel Tower actually come down through the ceiling into the casino floor.

To counter the 2008-2009 economic downturn, Harrah's focused on marketing its properties to specific segments of the population; as a result Paris is being marketed heavily towards gay and lesbian travelers.

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New York New York Hotel & Casino



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New York-New York Hotel & Casino is a hotel and casino located on the Las Vegas Strip at 3790 Las Vegas Boulevard South, in Paradise, Nevada. It is **owned and operated by MGM Resorts International**.

New York-New York uses the New York City influence of its name in several ways. Its architecture is meant to evoke the New York City skyline; the hotel includes several towers configured to resemble New York City towers such as the Empire State Building and the Chrysler Building. In front of the property is a lake representing New York Harbor, with a 150-foot-tall (46 m) replica of the Statue of Liberty, and replicas of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Main Immigration Building on Ellis Island, and Grand Central Terminal.

Within the resort, particular gambling areas, lounges, restaurants, and meeting rooms are named after New York City neighborhoods or landmarks. The main casino area, for example, is named after Central Park, while the shops are modeled after Greenwich Village.

The resort is located on the northwest corner of the Tropicana - Las Vegas Boulevard intersection. At street level, pedestrians are blocked from crossing by concrete barriers. Instead, New York-New York is linked by overhead pedestrian bridges to its neighboring casinos to the south (the Excalibur, across Tropicana Avenue) and to the east (the MGM Grand, across the Strip).



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The property opened on January 3, 1997. The project, which was first announced in 1994, was a joint venture of MGM Grand Inc. and Primadonna Resorts.

After the September 11, 2001 attacks, people spontaneously sent various tributes to New York-New York, especially t-shirts from police, fire, and rescue departments around the country. These are displayed along the fence in front of the "Lady Liberty" replica. Eventually, they added a permanent memorial. The twin towers of the World Trade Center have never been included in the skyscrapers depicted in the resort's facade; it is claimed[5] the facade is meant to represent New York City as it was in the 1940s. The Roller Coaster, formerly Manhattan Express, at New York-New York travels through the property's interior and exterior, and replaced the trains to resemble a traditional Checker Cab; the coaster is 203 ft (62 m), has a maximum drop of 144 ft (44 m), and reaches speeds up to 67 mph (108 km/h). The ride has undergone a variety of enhancements including the introduction of a magnetic braking system and new trains.

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CityCenter - Las Vegas



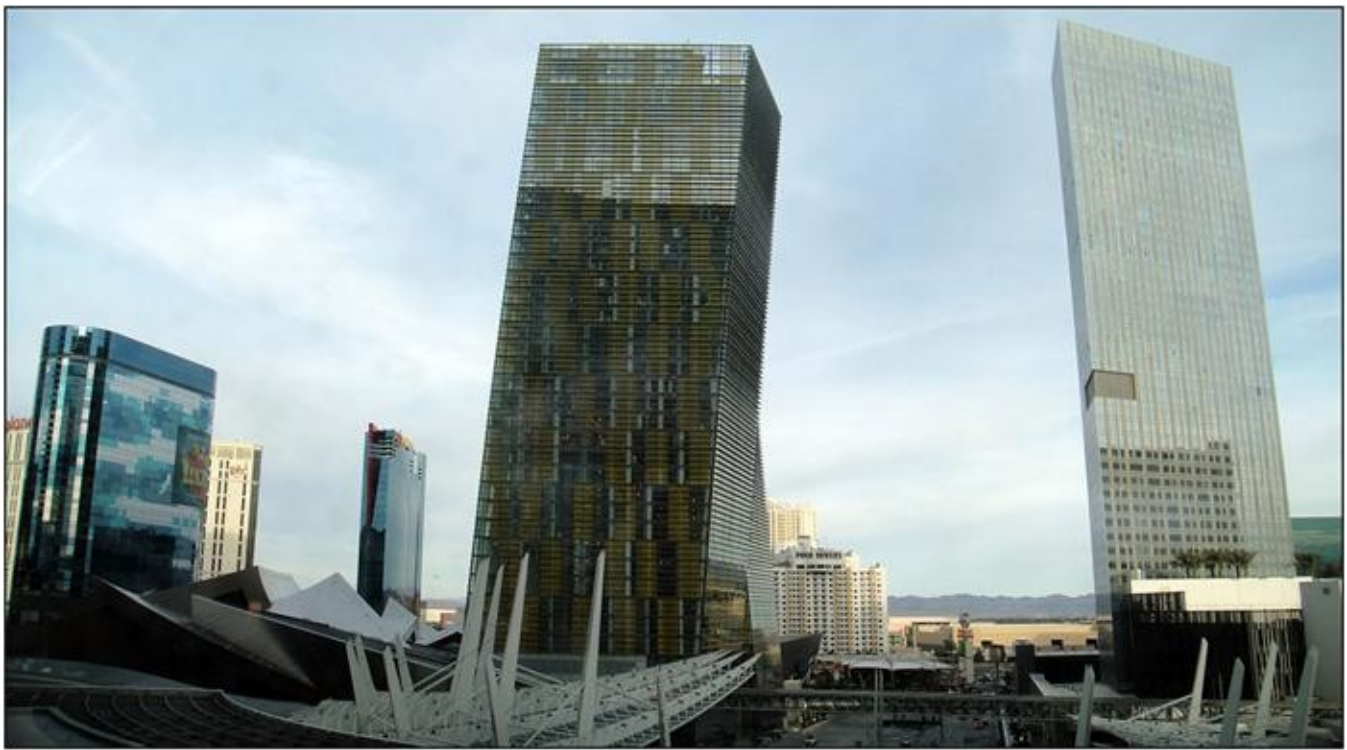
Early design model of CityCenter, September 2005

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CityCenter is a 16,797,000-square-foot (1,560,500 m²) mixed-use, urban complex on 76 acres (31 ha) located on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada. The project was started by **MGM Resorts International**; **Dubai World** became a joint partner during the project's construction phase. It is the largest privately funded construction project in the history of the United States. The project is connected by a people mover system to adjacent MGM properties Monte Carlo Las Vegas and Bellagio Las Vegas.

General design:

The project straddles Harmon Avenue and is bordered by (listed clockwise, starting on the east side): Las Vegas Boulevard, the Monte Carlo Resort, I-15, the Bellagio, and The Cosmopolitan Resort & Casino. The site was formerly occupied by the Boardwalk Hotel and Casino, the Bellagio employee parking lot, and several standalone commercial structures.



Buildings of CityCenter as viewed from the Aria. From left to right The Harmon, Crystals, Veer Towers and the Mandarin Oriental.

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The conceptual master plan for Project City Center was designed by Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut, & Kuhn Architects, laying out the project with approximately 2,400 condominium and condo-hotel units and approximately 4,800 hotel rooms, distributed within several high-rise towers around The Crystals, an ultra high-end retail and entertainment district. It is designed to have all commodities for daily life, featuring a **4,000-room hotel and casino (Aria)**, **two 400-room boutique hotels (The Residences at Mandarin Oriental, with 227 residential condo units, and the Harmon Hotel and Spa)**, **a purely residential offering (Veer Towers)**, a **condo-hotel (Vdara Condo-hotel)** and a **500,000 sq ft (46,000 m²) retail and entertainment district** which was intended to house the first grocery store directly on the Strip (though as of July 2011, there is no grocery on the property). The multi-use project makes extensive use of green technologies, such as using reclaimed water and an on-site power plant. The Mandarin Oriental, Aria, and Vdara all received LEED certification in November 2009.

With a total cost of approximately \$9.2 billion,[5] CityCenter is the largest privately financed development in the United States. The original cost estimate was \$4 billion, but it was pushed up by rising construction costs and design changes. CityCenter opened with approximately 12,000 employees across the different projects. Vdara, Aria, Mandarin Oriental, and The Crystals opened in December 2009. The Veer Towers opened in July 2010.

CityCenter features 5 amazing works of water and ice; made by WET Design the company responsible for the Bellagio fountain and the Mirage volcano. The 5 features carry distinct characteristic that you don't see every day. There are 3 features located at Aria Resort & Casino Lumina, Focus, and Latisse. Two located in The Crystals (Las Vegas) Halo, and Glacia.

Construction:

The **Perini Building Company** is lead contractor on the project, with Tishman Construction Corporation serving as the executive construction manager. Gensler is the executive architect overseeing the project. The project is being built in three blocks. Block A consists of the CityCenter Casino & Resort and surrounding facilities (HKS, Inc. is architect of record); Block B (Leo A. Daly - AOR) holds the Vdara; and Block C (Adamson Associates - AOR) the Mandarin, Veer, Crystals and Harmon structures.

The last remaining permanent building on the project site, the Boardwalk Casino's mid-rise hotel tower, was imploded May 9, 2006. After most of the design process was complete, construction began without an official groundbreaking ceremony in June 2006. Most renderings of the project were released in September 2006 and some delayed until February 2007. Construction started taking shape on June 26, 2006, when the first concrete was poured. Prior to this all of the work was site preparation, including utilities and other infrastructure. A number of construction discrepancies have been found in the project. Construction of various parts of the site were covered by the TV show Build It Bigger in the episode titled CityCenter, Las Vegas.

Accidents:

Six deaths have occurred since construction began. On February 6, 2007, a 3,000 lb (1,400 kg) steel wall used as a concrete mold fell from a crane, hitting another wall which struck four workers, killing two. On August 10, 2007, a worker died when the counterweight for a construction elevator came down on him as he oiled the machine. On October 5, 2007, a worker fell approximately 50 ft (15 m) while working on the main resort tower. On April 26, 2008, a worker fell approximately 20 ft (6 m) in the south tower of the Aria Hotel & Casino. On May 31, 2008, a worker was crushed and killed when caught between the counter-weight system and the track of a crane.

Walk off:

At midnight on June 3, 2008, construction workers shut down construction (which had been continuous 24-hours-a-day) by walking off the job to protest safety conditions at the project. The Southern Nevada Building and Construction Trades Council demanded that the general contractor take three steps before they would begin working again: agree to pay for additional safety training for workers, allow national union researchers to examine root causes of safety problems on the site, and allow union leaders full access to the work site.

On the afternoon of June 4, 2008, Perini Building Co. agreed to all of the Southern Nevada Building and Construction Trades Council's demands and workers resumed work several hours later at midnight, June 4, 2008.

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Aria Resort & Casino

Part of the City Center Project - Las Vegas



Outside, front view, of Aria hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Aria Resort & Casino is a luxury resort and casino located within the **CityCenter complex** on the Las Vegas Strip. Aria consists of two curved glass and steel highrise towers adjoined at the center. It opened on December 16, 2009 as a joint venture between MGM Resorts International and Infinity World Development. At 4,000,000 sq ft (370,000 m²) and 600 ft (180 m) in height, it is the largest and tallest structure at CityCenter.

The resort's 61 and 51-story towers contain a AAA five diamond hotel with **4,004 guest rooms and suites**, **16 restaurants**, **10 bars and nightclubs**, and a **casino with 150,000 sq ft** (14,000 m²) of gaming space. It also has a 215,000 sq ft (20,000 m²) pool area with 50 cabanas, an 80,000 sq ft (7,400 m²) salon and spa, a 300,000 sq ft (28,000 m²) convention center and a 1,800-seat theater that currently hosts Viva Elvis by Cirque du Soleil.

Among the most notable aspects of Aria is its incorporation of technology in the exterior and interior design of the hotel, specifically for the reduction of energy consumption. It is the largest hotel in the world to have earned LEED Gold certification. On account of its smart rooms which automatically adjust curtains, turn off unused lights and electronics, and regulate the temperature when a guest enters or leaves a room, **Aria was described in Popular Mechanics as possibly "the most technologically advanced hotel ever built".**



Construction progress as of 2007

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History:

Aria was conceived by MGM Mirage (now **MGM Resorts International**) as part of the broader **CityCenter development project**, which was announced on November 10, 2004. The Architectural design of Aria was conducted by Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, and construction began in early 2006 on a plot of land located between the Bellagio and Monte Carlo. This site was previously occupied by the former Boardwalk Hotel and Casino, retail stores and a large parking lot - all of which were excavated beginning in April 2006. Following excavation, Aria's foundation was poured in June 2006. Vertical progression commenced in September 2007, at which point construction workers built upwards at a rate of one floor every seven days until reaching the final height of 61 floors



Construction completed in 2009

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Amid ongoing construction in 2007, Infinity World Development, a subsidiary of Dubai World, invested about \$2.7 billion to acquire a 50-percent stake in the CityCenter project. From this point on, Aria was jointly owned by MGM Resorts International and Infinity World Development; though the structure of the joint venture maintained that MGM Resorts International would be solely in charge of Aria's operations and management. The economic downturn and its ripple effects - including litigation - threatened to halt construction of Aria at one point in early 2009; however an additional funding arrangement was made allowing construction to continue on schedule. The resort opened on December 16, 2009, in the same month as several other CityCenter properties such as The Crystals, an attached retail shopping complex.

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The Crystals - Las Vegas

Part of the CityCenter Project



Crystal District at CityCenter in Las Vegas, NV

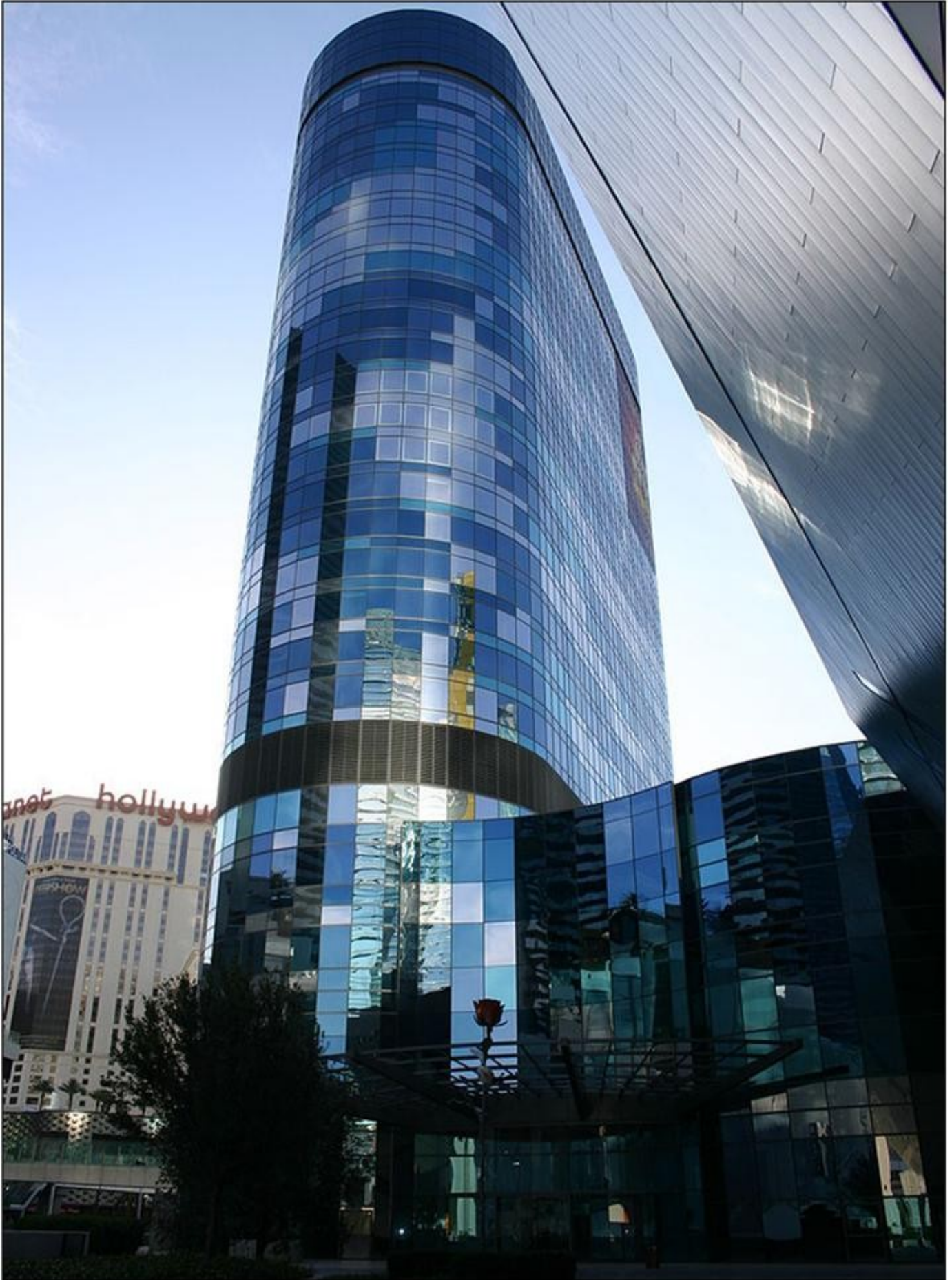
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The Crystals, also known as **Crystals at CityCenter** and **Crystals Retail District**, is CityCenter's 500,000 sq ft (46,000 m²) shopping mall and entertainment district that features fashionable clubs, gourmet restaurants, retailers, galleries, incidental offices and support areas. Located on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada, the neighborhood of retail shops, dining and entertainment venues forms the core of the CityCenter complex.

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The Harmon Hotel - Las Vegas

Condemned building



West side of the Harmon Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada

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The Harmon is a highrise building in the **CityCenter Las Vegas development** in Paradise, Nevada. The tower was designed by Foster + Partners as a non-gaming boutique hotel, and **was** to be operated by Andrew Sasson's The Light Group upon completion. The building features an elliptical layout and highly reflective exterior located on the northeast corner of the project at the intersection of Las Vegas Boulevard and Harmon Avenue. **Serious construction defects to the building were discovered in 2008, and the project was halted indefinitely. On August 15, 2011 MGM announced plans to implode the building.**

With litigation pending due to the defects, construction was halted, and **MGM Resorts International**, the owner of CityCenter, has targeted the building for a **complete demolition by 2012.**

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Mandarin Oriental - Las Vegas



Mandarin Oriental hotel along the Strip in Las Vegas, Nevada

[Wikipedia](#)

Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas is a luxury five-star hotel located **within CityCenter** and is operated by **Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group**. Living spaces are characterized by an Eastern approach to design. The hotel's lobby is located on the 23rd floor.

The Residences at Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas features approximately 225 condominium residences situated on the upper floors of the 392-room hotel tower, with a private owner's lobby and clubroom. Parking for this area is provided by

an 8-level parking structure located south of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel and a one-level subterranean parking structure underneath Crystals. The Residences at Mandarin Oriental were released for purchase in February 2007.



Pool Area at Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas

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Trump Ocean Club International Hotel and Tower - Panama City, Panama



Trump Ocean Club, Panama

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Trump Ocean Club is a mixed-use, 70 floor, sail shaped development in Panama City, Panama of Real estate developer **Donald J. Trump** of the Trump Organization and **Mr. Roger Khafif**, President of the K Group (a Panama resort developer) projected to cost \$400 million. As planned, it will be a 2,900,000 sq ft (270,000 m²) waterfront condominium tower development. The project is scheduled to include 369 hotel condominium units, 700 condominium units, 1500-1700 parking spaces, retail shops, casino, use of a private beach club on Pearl Island, yacht club and pier, wellness spa, gym, pool deck, meeting and event spaces, and a business center. This is the Trump Organization's first real estate investment in Central America.

The Trump Ocean Club, Panama, is being built on a beachfront lot with views of the Pacific Ocean and the Panama Bay, in the district of Panama on the area of Punta Pacifica. Punta Pacifica is a developing area on a peninsula that extends into the Pacific Ocean, bordering the financial center and the residential area of Punta Paitilla, on land that was reclaimed from the sea. It is linked directly to the rest of the city by the new highway called Corredor Sur that guarantees accessibility to any area, including the airport, in less than 15 minutes, although heavy traffic on the Corredor can sometimes mean longer journey times.

The hotel opened July 6, 2011.

On September 21, 2011, it was indicated by Bloomberg.com that Fitch Ratings downgraded \$220 million in bonds that Newland International Properties, Corp. is using to finance construction of the Trump Ocean Club in Panama.

Fitch downgraded the debt to CCsf from B-sf, citing “continued uncertainty over the willingness and ability” of buyers to take possession of apartment units, Fitch said in the report.

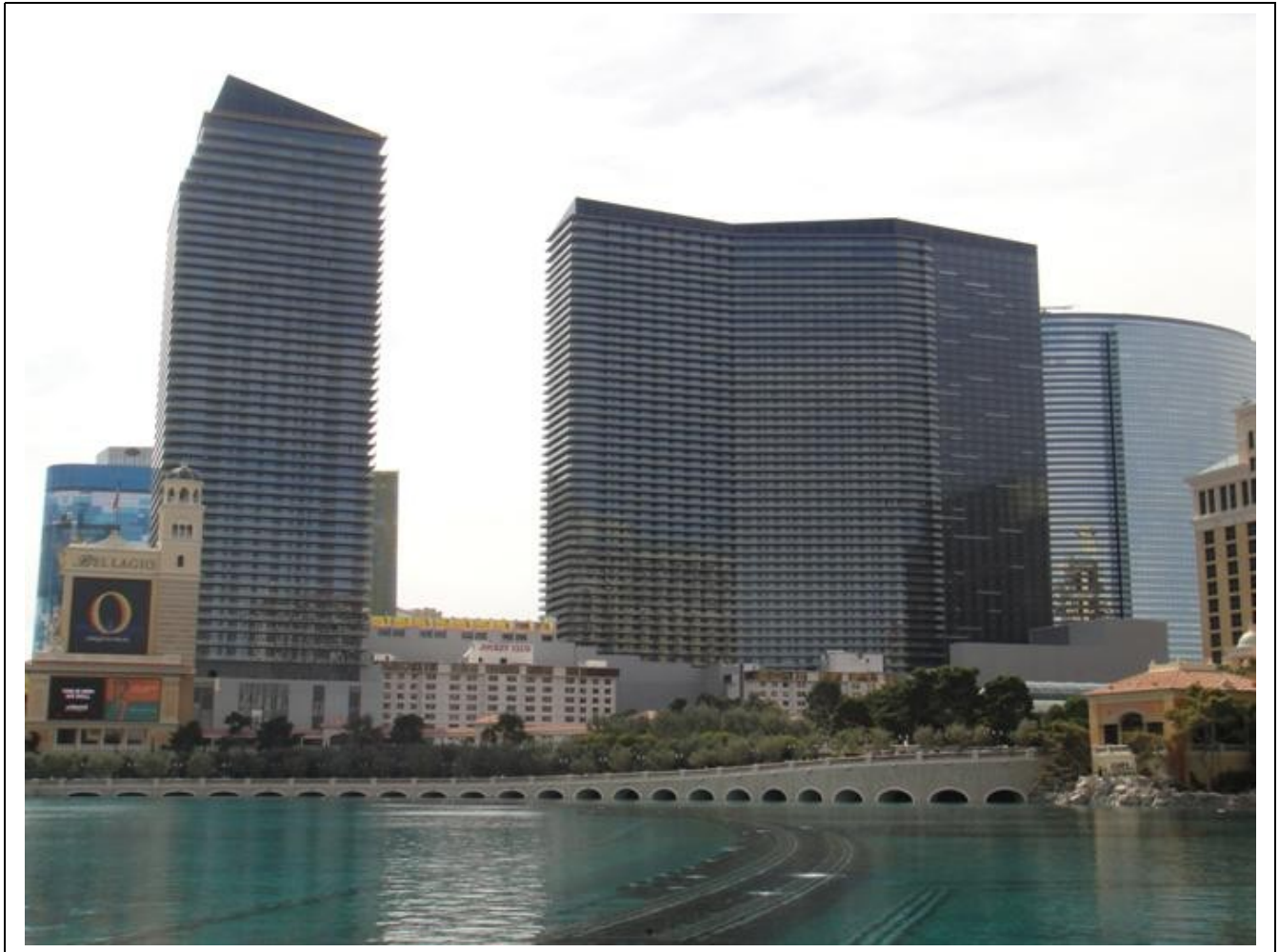


View of Panama city From Cerro Ancón

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Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas





The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, (commonly referred to simply as **The Cosmopolitan** or **The Cosmo**) is a luxury [resort casino](#) and [hotel](#) on the [Las Vegas Strip](#). The resort opened on December 15, 2010, and is located just south of the [Bellagio](#) on the west side of [Las Vegas Boulevard](#), and consists of two [highrise towers](#). Construction on the Cosmopolitan initially began in October 2005. The construction was undertaken by the project's financier [Deutsche Bank](#) after developer Bruce Eichner entered into financial difficulties. The hotel casino failed to make a profit from the time of its opening until its sale in May 2014. The \$3.9 billion project features 2,995 rooms, a 110,000 sq ft (10,000 m²) casino, 300,000 sq ft (28,000 m²) of [retail](#) and [restaurant](#) space, a 40,000 sq ft (3,700 m²) spa and fitness facility, a 1,800 seat theater, and 150,000 sq ft (14,000 m²) of meeting/convention space. In 2013, Gogobot rated the hotel “[The Best Hotel in the World](#)”. On May 15 2014, The Cosmopolitan was sold by sole owner Deutsche Bank to Blackstone Group for \$1.73 billion

Echelon Place - Las Vegas



Echelon Place was an unfinished hotel, casino, shopping, and convention complex on the [Las Vegas Strip](#), developed by [Boyd Gaming](#). It was to be a multi-use project on 87 acres (35 ha) with a 140,000 sq ft (13,000 m²) casino, 4 hotels providing 5,300 rooms, 25 restaurants and bars, and the 650,000 sq ft (60,000 m²) **Las Vegas ExpoCenter**. The Echelon Resort would have been a 3,300 room hotel owned and operated by Boyd; other hotels were expected to be a [Shangri-La Hotel](#), a [Delano Hotel](#), a [Mondrian Hotel](#), and the Echelon Tower.

Construction of the project was suspended on August 1, 2008 due to the effects of the [Great Recession](#). In March 2013, the [Genting Group](#) bought the site, with plans to develop it as a 3,500-room hotel and casino named [Resorts World Las Vegas](#).

Fontainebleau - Las Vegas



Wikipedia

Fontainebleau Las Vegas is a US\$2.9 billion, 3,889-room, 68-story unfinished [hotel/condo-hotel/casino](#) development near the north end of the [Las Vegas Strip](#) on the 24.5-acre (9.9 ha) site previously occupied by the [El Rancho](#) and [Algiers](#) hotels in [Paradise, Nevada](#). It was intended to be a sister property to the well-known 1950s-era [Fontainebleau Miami](#)

[Beach](#). The building is currently the second tallest in the [Las Vegas Valley](#).

The project, upon completion was expected to include: a 95,000 sq ft (8,800 m²) casino, a 60,000 sq ft (5,600 m²) spa, 3,300-seat performing arts theater, 1,018 condo-hotel units, 180,000 sq ft (17,000 m²) of retail space, 400,000 sq ft (37,000 m²) of indoor and outdoor conference space, nightclubs, and 24 restaurants and lounges.^[6]

Carlos Zapata Studio with Bergman Walls Associates as the architect of record designed the building.

Groundbreaking was officially announced to have begun on April 30, 2007. Gaming revenue on the Las Vegas Strip peaked at the end of October 2007. The tower was topped out on November 2008.

Hard Rock Hotel and Casino- Las Vegas





The **Hard Rock Hotel and Casino** in [Paradise, Nevada](#), is an entertainment resort owned and operated by Brookfield Asset Management and Warner Gaming, LLC.. The property is located on 16.7 acres (6.8 ha) on the corner of Harmon and Paradise Road, inside the Paradise Corridor.

Features of the property include the hotel tower, a 30,000-square-foot (2,800 m²) casino, Tahitian-style beach and swimming pool, a nightclub, six restaurants, three cocktail lounges, several retail stores, a spa, a poker room, and "The Joint", a music venue. Hard Rock earns only about 30% of its revenue from gaming.

Ibiza Gran Hotel



Wikipedia

Ibiza Gran Hotel is a luxury five-star hotel in [Ibiza](#) Situated in [Ibiza Town](#), [Ibiza](#), [Balearic Islands](#), [Spain](#). it overlooks the harbour and is surrounded by gardens.^[3] The hotel as a five-star restaurant which serves Mediterranean and international cuisine and contains the Casino of Ibiza, a gambling venue.^[4] The hotel also has a spa and wellness center, with steam baths, jacuzzi, climatized pool, sauna, and Hammam and suites for private treatments. The hotel regularly hosts conferences and events and has 7 meeting rooms and exposition salons. The [Belfast Telegraph](#) notes the grandeur of the lobby, saying that "you could be forgiven for thinking you have stumbled into a modern art museum."

Marriott's Grand Chateau - Las Vegas



Wikipedia

Marriott's Grand Chateau, a [Marriott Vacation Club](#) resort, is located just off the [Las Vegas Strip](#) and sits between the [Planet Hollywood](#) and [MGM Grand](#) hotels. Marriott's Grand Chateau consists of four 38-story towers, consisting of 256 one-bedroom, 511 two-bedroom and 128 three-bedroom villas, totaling 895 two- and three-bedroom villas.^[1] It is currently tied as the 35th tallest building in Las Vegas with [Panorama Towers](#).

The D - Las Vegas



Wikipedia

The D Las Vegas Casino Hotel is a 34-story, 638-room hotel and casino in [Downtown Las Vegas Nevada](#), owned and operated by Derek and Greg Stevens. The hotel is affiliated with [Lexington by Vantage](#).

The D is located at the eastern end of the [Fremont Street Experience](#). It has a 42,000-square-foot (3,900 m²) casino, several restaurants, a business center, a pool and spa, and a [race and sports book](#), operated by Lucky's Race & Sports Book. The casino now has more than 1,000 slot machines and 22 table games located on two floors.

As Fitzgerald's, it had a "luck of the Irish" theme, with [shamrocks](#) and a [leprechaun](#). In Fall 2012, The D completed a property-wide renovation and rebranding to replace the Irish theme with a more modern feel.

History

The **Sundance Hotel** opened in 1980 on land owned by [Moe Dalitz](#). Dalitz, an organized crime figure tied to the [Chicago Outfit](#), faced difficulty from the [Gaming Commission](#), so the casino was nominally run by his associates, Al Sachs and Herb Tobman, who also owned the [Stardust](#) and [Fremont](#) casinos.

In 1983, Sachs and Tobman faced suspension of their gaming licenses due to charges of [skimming](#). Dalitz applied to manage the Sundance himself, but the Gaming Commission stalled on his application, until July 1984, when he agreed to surrender management to [Jackie Gaughan](#) until the casino could be sold. Finally, in 1987, the Sundance was sold to [Lincoln Management Group](#) (later Fitzgerald's Gaming) and renamed as Fitzgerald's Las Vegas.

In December 2001, with Fitzgeralds Gaming in bankruptcy, [The Majestic Star Casino, LLC](#), owned by [Don Barden](#), bought the property, along with two other Fitzgerald's casinos in Colorado and Mississippi, for a total of \$149 million. At that point, Barden became the first [African American](#) casino owner in Las Vegas. Barden separated Fitzgeralds Las Vegas from the Majestic Star umbrella two years later, to free it from restrictions imposed by the company's lenders.

In May 2008, it was reported that Barden was pledging the property to generate a \$35-million equity stake in a slots-only casino in Pittsburgh, making a sale likely for Fitzgeralds Las Vegas. It was subsequently reported, however, that Barden had no need to sell Fitzgeralds to maintain a stake in the slots-only casino in Pittsburgh and that it would remain an asset which he could use to generate cash for his struggling gambling portfolio.^[12]

In October 2011, several months after Barden's death, his estate sold Fitzgeralds to brothers Derek and Greg Stevens,

majority owners of the [Golden Gate](#) casino. Derek took a 78% ownership share, with 22% for Greg.

The new owners completed a \$22 million renovation and rebranding to become the D Las Vegas in Fall 2012. The D Las Vegas Casino Hotel stands for "downtown", and also refers to Derek Stevens' nickname, and the Stevens' hometown of [Detroit](#). The remodel gave the property a more modern feel, except for the second-floor casino, which has a "vintage Vegas" theme with retro coin-operated games including one of the only operational [Sigma Derby](#) games in Las Vegas.

The multi-million dollar renovation upgraded all of the guest rooms and created luxury suites. The D also added a fine Italian Steakhouse, [Joe Vicari's Andiamo Italian Grill](#), and opened the first [American Coney Island](#) outside of Michigan on the building's Fremont Street frontage. The property also features three distinct bars: LONGBAR, the longest bar in Nevada; D Bar – a permanent outdoor bar on Fremont Street Experience featuring flair bartenders; and Vue Bar inside the second floor casino. The property's Fremont Street façade was enhanced with the addition of an exterior escalator and interactive video exhibition created by former Cirque du Soleil producer Roger Parent, which together feature more than 40 giant flat-screen monitors combined with hundreds of feet of LED signage. Parent is also responsible for the casino's interior escalator which uses LED technology and music depicting vintage imagery to transport guests to the vintage second-floor casino.

In 2013, the D expanded into hosting [martial arts](#) events as the venue will be hosting [Lion Fight 11](#), a [Muay Thai](#) Tournament. The main event will feature a match between [Tetsuya Yamato](#), former [WBC Muay Thai](#) Japan Champion, and [Kevin Ross](#), an American Muay Thai boxer. In addition, Lion Fight 11 will be featured on [AXS TV](#), a company founded by [Mark Cuban](#).

The Palazzo - Las Vegas





The Palazzo is a [luxury hotel](#) and [casino resort](#) situated between [Wynn](#) and [The Venetian](#) on the [Las Vegas Strip](#) in [Paradise, Nevada](#). It is the tallest completed building in Nevada (although the [Fontainebleau Resort Las Vegas](#), whose construction is currently abandoned due to financial problems, would have been taller). Designed by the [Dallas](#) based [HKS, Inc.](#), the property's design is marketed as being reflective of a modern European ambiance and luxury living. The hotel and casino are part of a larger complex (operated as one hotel) comprising the adjoining Venetian Hotel and Casino and the [Sands Convention Center](#), all of which are owned and operated by the [Las Vegas Sands Corporation](#).

This all-suite hotel offers the largest standard accommodations on the Las Vegas Strip at 720 square feet (67 m²) per guest room. The hotel complex has been named the largest hotel in the world by Guinness Book of World Records.

In its first year of eligibility, The Palazzo was awarded the [AAA Five Diamond Award](#) for 2009, and has been awarded the honor every year since.

Vdara - Las Vegas



Vdara Hotel & Spa, commonly known as Vdara, is a 1,600,000 sq ft (150,000 m²) [condo-hotel](#) and [spa](#) located within the [CityCenter](#) complex across from [Aria Resort & Casino](#) on the [Las Vegas Strip](#). Vdara opened on December 1, 2009 as a joint venture between [MGM Resorts International](#) and [Infinity World Development](#).

Vdara's 57-story, 578-foot (176 m) tower houses 1,495 suites; an 18,000 sq ft (1,700 m²), two-story spa, salon and fitness center; a market and a bar. It also has a 40,000 sq ft (3,700 m²) pool and deck area. Vdara does not contain casino space and, along with [Mandarin Oriental](#), is one of two non-gaming, non-smoking hotels within [CityCenter](#). In 2011, Vdara received its first AAA Four Diamond Award. The "V" in Vdara stands for "Vegas" and "ara" is meant to evoke established high-end boutique hotels, such as the Aviara or Vicara.