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The "Suite" Life, Las Vegas-Style

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Vegas on a Silver Platter

New on the high-end skyline sits Wynn Las Vegas, **THEhotel at Mandalay Bay**, **Bellagio's Spa Tower**, **Skylofts at MGM Grand**, **Venezia Tower at The Venetian**, and the **Augustus Tower at Caesars Palace** (which opened in August). On the horizon is a new **Palms Tower** plus the hotel residences at **Palms Place**, **The Residences at MGM Grand**, **The Palazzo at The Venetian** and varied resort/condo projects that are sorting out their future definition of use.

And with the vexing new inventory of high-end rooms and suites comes a complement of famous, world-class restaurants to consider, a Pandora's box of choices for the palate.

"Vegas has become the wine capital of the country," says Amy Reiley, a wine expert whose website, www.lifeofreiley.com, profiles the intersection of fine varietals and good living. "There is no place on the planet where you can find as many of the world's greatest wine bottles and collections as you can get your hands on in Vegas. And this is thanks, in no small part, to the unparalleled congregation of stellar chefs Las Vegas has to offer."

Indeed, fine dining is becoming as much of a reason for visiting Las Vegas as the gaming and the glamour. A new burst of stellar eateries on the Strip includes Mix (Alain Ducasse) on the 64th floor of THEhotel; Alex (Alex Stratta of Renoir) at Wynn; Bradley Ogden at Caesars Palace; Bouchon (Thomas Keller) at The Venetian; and R-Bar (Rick Moonen) at Mandalay Bay.

"It's a challenge for anyone trying to arrange a luxury vacation to Las Vegas, especially for travel agents who have high-end clients bearing high expectations," says Steve Striker of **Striker VIP (702-895-8426 or www.strikervip.com)**, a very hands-on Las Vegas concierge service that works with travel agents and travel arrangers to create customized soup-to-nuts itineraries for hard-to-please customers and cater to their every concern.

"We conducted a study on what a travel agent does and what an agent wants when booking clients into Las Vegas. We have staff on board to arrange the flights, but our ex-

perience is in finding the right accommodations and actions for the ultimate weekend. We're limited to nothing—Leers to Lexuses to amazing limos; hand-rolled cigars from Cuba to caviar from the Caspian. Whatever a client wants, we can make it happen," says Striker, who notes Vegas has become so big it is easy to get lost in choice and harder still to get call backs once you've made your choices. It usually takes an insider to pave the way and make sure the client, whether a CEO, celebrity or celebrant of pre-nuptial freedoms, does not suffer the usual disconnects and does not spend a Vegas vacation in a line on the wrong side of the velvet rope.

When booking an upscale trip to Las Vegas qualifying the client is essential. While some clients like the understatement and privacy of a **Four Seasons** stay, others want to be right in the middle of the action. Some want the shows and the nightclubs while others want the sun and spas. Golf can be arranged at more than three dozen clubs as can flights over the Grand Canyon, helicopter trips over the Strip, and killer suites that pan the lights of Las Vegas.

Your client need not be a high rolling gambler to book a fantasy suite in the city of dreams. Whether it's the *Fairway Villas* suite at Wynn Las Vegas or the penthouse at the **Hard Rock Hotel**, you will certainly get a reaction from your clients, if not the booking of a lifetime. The following is a look at some of the uber-suites of luxe Las Vegas, should your upscale clients want to take it to the top.

The Wynn Identity

Wynn Las Vegas is the city's latest and greatest. The 2,716-room property boasts a Maserati showroom, a drippingly rich retail corridor, and an 18-hole championship golf course. It is easily the flavor of the month for visitors of all pocket sizes looking for an experience to take home with them—literally, as everything in this hotel, from sheets to shower curtains, is for sale.

The top suite here is the Fairway Villa offering extraordinary views of the exclusive golf course from a private lanai containing

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