

**WALKING & HIKING ITINERARY
CASUAL INN TRIP**

BACKROADS
THE WORLD'S #1 ACTIVE TRAVEL COMPANY

Bryce & Zion

EXPLORING UTAH'S PHENOMENAL NATIONAL PARKS

**TO RESERVE YOUR
TRIP CALL
800-462-2848 OR
SIGN UP ONLINE [HERE](#)**



Important Facts
at a glance

6 DAYS, 5 NIGHTS

Click [here](#) for departure dates
and pricing details

ROUTE RATING

Levels 1-3

See [below](#) for details.

**IN BUSINESS FOR
29 YEARS,
BACKROADS IS
RECOGNIZED YEAR IN
AND YEAR OUT AS
ONE OF THE WORLD'S
TOP 10 TRAVEL
COMPANIES BY
TRAVEL+LEISURE**

In Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks, erosion has wrought extravagant rock formations and river-carved canyons, creating high-desert spectacles that defy description as much as gravity. Zion, laced with an extensive network of trails, offers vast valley overlooks and stunning sheer sandstone cliffs. Just to the east, bizarre outcrops and vermilion limestone amphitheaters have earned Bryce Canyon a reputation as “the most colorful of national parks.” On this Backroads adventure, hike to sweeping vistas and along spectacular plateaus, wander among sparse forests of juniper and pine, and at day’s end rest in comfortable Southwest lodges.

DAY 1

Meet your Backroads Trip Leaders (the folks wearing Backroads shirts) either at 11:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Crystal Inn or at 11:45 a.m. in the lobby of Americas Best Value Inn in St. George, Utah. Please arrive dressed in your hiking clothes with your daypack handy. See “Arriving & Departing” for additional logistics information.

SHUTTLE TO ZION NATIONAL PARK 1½ HOURS

WATCHMAN MESA TRAIL 3 MILES (450-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

Welcome to the Beehive State! After meeting in St. George, we shuttle to the beautiful Virgin River, just outside Zion National Park (4,048 feet), for a picnic lunch. From here it’s a quick drive to the start of our warm-up hike on the Watchman Mesa Trail, a moderate climb to a lookout with stunning canyon views of the Towers of the Virgin.

Following the hike, settle in at our home for the next three nights, the modern Desert Pearl Inn, located in nearby Springdale amid Zion’s towering cliffs. You’ll find plenty of time during your stay to enjoy the hotel’s steaming hot tub and sparkling swimming pool. Tonight’s dinner at the Switchback Grille is artfully prepared from the finest ingredients.

Lodging: Desert Pearl Inn

DAY 2

SCOUT LOOKOUT 4 MILES (1,000-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

LONGER OPTION: ANGELS LANDING 5 MILES (1,500-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

OPTIONAL EMERALD POOLS 2 MILES (500-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

The best way to discover Zion National Park is by hiking its network of trails with views that can’t be seen from the roads. The hike to Scout Lookout (and on to Angels Landing, if heights don’t bother you) begins with a steady, steep climb above the river to Refrigerator Canyon before a challenging ascent up Walter’s Wiggles, a series of switchbacks carved into the cliff. From Scout Lookout, you can continue to Angels Landing, a sheer wedge of rock looming 1,500 feet above the valley floor. The last half-mile to the landing runs along a steep, narrow ridge with a dizzying drop-off on either side. A chain bolted into the rock steadies you on the way up. It sounds scarier than it is, however, and you’ll see people of all ages making the ascent. Just take your time and relax. The view from the landing is a 360-degree panorama of soaring rock faces and the



Our Accommodations
Casual Inns

DESERT PEARL INN

(3 nights) Guest rooms at this welcoming riverside lodge have balconies overlooking the stunning cliffs of Zion. Springdale
phone: 888-828-0898
or 435-772-8888
www.desertpearl.com

BRYCE CANYON LODGE

(2 nights) This simple park lodge is on the National Historic Register and is just a stone's throw from the canyon rim. Bryce Canyon
phone: 435-834-5361
www.brycecanyonlodge.com

**EACH YEAR,
3 OUT OF 4 OF OUR
GUESTS HAVE
PREVIOUSLY
TRAVELED WITH US OR
BEEN REFERRED BY
SOMEONE WHO HAS**

yawning abyss of Zion Canyon. If you're looking for an easier option, follow the shaded trail to Emerald Pools, a natural spring with small cascades.

This evening a local naturalist joins us to share his insight on the region's geology and human history and answer your questions. Dinner tonight is at the Bit & Spur, a restaurant and saloon. *Lodging: Desert Pearl Inn*

DAY 3

OBSERVATION POINT TRAIL 8 MILES (2,200-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

SHORTER OPTION: ECHO CANYON 4 MILES (1,000-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

OPTIONAL WEEPING ROCK TRAIL 0.5 MILE (100-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

OPTIONAL HIDDEN CANYON TRAIL 1 MILE

NARROWS HIKE 5 MILES (250-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

Fuel up with a hearty breakfast this morning to prepare for today's challenging hikes. With more than a 2,000-foot climb in just over 4 miles, the trail to Observation Point is the most strenuous of the trip—but the sweeping canyon vistas are worth the effort. Along the way, an optional detour on Weeping Rock Trail leads to hanging gardens and a series of cliffside springs. If you're feeling adventurous, hike to Hidden Canyon, an off-trail excursion through a gorge so narrow you can touch both sides at once.

This afternoon, if the weather cooperates, you can hike through the Narrows, another Zion classic. You'll wade into the inner gorge of the Virgin River as it forges through rock. Small waterfalls and hanging gardens cascade down the canyon walls, which rise 1,000 feet. (Note: You *will* get wet on this hike, so wear shoes that you don't mind getting soaked; shoes with sufficient tread and toe protection, such as hiking boots or running shoes, are the best choice.)

Instead of hiking, you can join Zion Adventure Company on a full-day introduction to technical canyoneering (no experience required). This optional activity is not included in the trip price.

The Desert Pearl swimming pool will be a welcomed sight after today's workout. For a more leisurely day, spend time in the charming town of Springdale, where you can shop or indulge in an afternoon spa treatment. However you decide to spend the day, you'll find amazing natural beauty at every turn. Tonight, head into Springdale for dinner on your own. *Lodging: Desert Pearl Inn*

DAY 4

SHUTTLE TO BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK 2½ HOURS

FAIRYLAND LOOP 6.3 MILES

You'll know we've reached Bryce Canyon when the earth seems to gape, revealing a vast bowl of rock filled with geologic oddities, including stone spires, minarets and soaring natural bridges in brilliant hues of orange, pink and red. A morning shuttle brings us to this bizarre wonderland, which Ebenezer Bryce once referred to as "a hell of a place to lose a cow!" The park visitor center is worth a visit, with exhibits illustrating the formation of the Bryce Amphitheater, displays providing insight into the Paiute Indians and early explorers and settlers, slide shows and naturalist programs. Following a picnic lunch on the rim, descend into the canyon via Fairyland Loop, a seldom-visited section of the park filled with fantastical hoodoos, the totem pole-shaped rock spires that characterize Bryce.



Top Reasons Why *you should take this trip*

We provide a variety of route options so you can do as much or as little activity as you like each day.

■ You don't have to sweat the details! Backroads takes care of everything—from making sure your luggage is waiting for you in your room to appearing with a cool drink or a lift when you need it the most—allowing you to enjoy a carefree vacation full of fun and relaxation.

■ Traveling with Backroads is about making connections: with places and people, history and culture, fellow travelers--perhaps you'll even discover something new about yourself!

■ Our Trip Leaders have undergone hundreds of hours of training and are the best in the industry.

WHEN YOU SIGN UP FOR A TRIP, YOU'LL RECEIVE A COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL PLANNER WITH ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO PLAN AND PREPARE

Tonight we settle in at a higher elevation (7,978 feet), enjoying the cooler air and tall stands of ponderosa pine. Our home, the rustic Bryce Canyon Lodge, is a short walk from the canyon rim. *Lodging: Bryce Canyon Lodge*

DAY 5

QUEEN'S GARDEN/NAVAJO LOOP HIKE 3.9 MILES (580-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

LONGER OPTION: PEEK-A-BOO LOOP 8.2 MILES (800-FOOT ELEVATION GAIN)

FREE TIME IN BRYCE

After a hearty breakfast, explore Bryce Canyon National Park's most famous formations. Hike down into the canyon, where whimsically shaped rocks huddle beneath Queen Victoria hoodoo. At times, you'll feel as if you're walking through a petrified forest—or even on another planet. Look for a ridge covered with bristlecone pine, some of the oldest living organisms on earth, which thrive in this barren environment. From Queen's Garden, you'll join the Navajo Loop Trail and hike through a narrow canyon punctuated by two stone bridges. Prepare for a steep climb to the rim at Sunset Point—or take a detour on Peek-A-Boo Loop, a strenuous trail with plenty of ups and downs as well as views of Fairy Castle, Alligator, Silent City and Wall of Windows.

You can also opt to explore the canyon on horseback (this activity is not included in the trip price, and reservations should be made in advance). There's plenty of time this afternoon to take in the views, walk along the canyon rim or just relax at the lodge. *Lodging: Bryce Canyon Lodge*

DAY 6

MORNING HIKE 1 OR 1.5 MILES

SHUTTLE TO ST. GEORGE 3 HOURS

On our final day, your leaders will choose the most appropriate route based on weather conditions. We may do a morning walk along the rim of Bryce Canyon or visit the forests and subalpine meadows near Cedar Breaks National Monument. Afterward, we enjoy a picnic lunch before returning to St. George, where the trip ends. Please see “Arriving & Departing” for end-of-trip logistics.

ARRIVING & DEPARTING

Please note that meeting and departing times provided here were current at the time of printing, but are subject to change. **PLEASE DO NOT BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS UNTIL YOU ARE CONFIRMED ON YOUR VACATION AND HAVE VERIFIED THE DETAILS OF ARRIVING & DEPARTING WITH YOUR TRIP CONSULTANT.**

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

On the first day of the trip, meet your Backroads Trip Leaders either at 11:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Crystal Inn **or** at 11:45 a.m. in the lobby of Americas Best Value Inn in St. George, Utah. (See “Where to Stay Before & After Your Trip” for more information on these hotels.) From here we shuttle to Springdale, just outside Zion National Park. **Please arrive dressed in your hiking clothes with your daypack handy.**



Route Rating to map your activity level

Backroads' route rating system is the most comprehensive and accurate in the travel industry. To find out how these ratings translate into varying levels of physical challenge and activity, please visit our Web site www.backroads.com and select the route rating button for the trip of your choice.

LEVEL 1
2-5 miles/day
2-3 hours/day

LEVEL 2
5-7 miles/day
2-4 hours/day

LEVEL 3
7-9 miles/day
3-5 hours/day

**ASK FOR REFERENCES
FROM PAST GUESTS
WHO HAVE TAKEN THE
TRIP THAT INTERESTS
YOU**

CONCLUSION OF THE TRIP

The trip ends in St. George at Americas Best Value Inn between 1:30 and 1:45 p.m. (Mountain time). From here you can catch the 2 p.m. St. George Shuttle to the Las Vegas airport, arriving between 3 and 3:30 p.m. (Pacific time). (Remember to make round-trip reservations when booking with the St. George Shuttle.) The Backroads van will also stop at the Crystal Inn, arriving between 1:45 and 2 p.m. If you're flying out of Las Vegas on the last day of the trip, please schedule your return flight for after 4:30 p.m.

Note that in Las Vegas, the St. George Shuttle only serves McCarran International Airport. If you'd like to extend your stay in the area, taxis and shuttles are available from the airport.

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

We recommend either flying into McCarran International Airport (airport code: LAS; www.mccarran.com) in Las Vegas, Nevada, and arranging ground transportation to St. George (see next page) or flying directly into St. George.

Delta Airlines (800-221-1212; www.delta.com) offers several daily flights to St. George Municipal Airport (SGU; www.sgcity.org/airport) from Salt Lake City (SLC). The trip takes about 1½ hours. United Airlines (800-241-6522; www.united.com) offers daily flights from Los Angeles (LAX) to St. George; the flight lasts 1½ hours.

For help arranging air transport to and from your Backroads trip, please work with your own travel agent, the airline directly or an online travel site. For assistance locating a travel agent, please visit www.backroads.com/gettingthere. (Note that most travel agents and online travel sites charge a fee for their consulting services.)

GROUND TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN LAS VEGAS AND ST. GEORGE

St. George Shuttle (800-933-8320 or 435-628-8320; www.stgshuttle.com) runs between the Las Vegas airport and St. George and costs \$30 per person each way. Reservations, which can be made by phone only, are required but not available more than three weeks prior to the trip start. Remember to schedule the 2 p.m. return shuttle back to Las Vegas at the end of the trip.

If you're traveling from Las Vegas to St. George on Day 1, please take the 7:45 a.m. (Pacific time) shuttle, which picks up at the Las Vegas airport on Level 0 (zero) and arrives at Americas Best Value Inn at 10:55 a.m. (Mountain time). When you make your reservation, please tell St. George Shuttle that you're on a Backroads trip. If you have a hard time locating the shuttle or it appears to be running late, call the shuttle office at 800-933-8320 for an update on the status of your pickup. Gratuities for your St. George Shuttle driver are not included in the price.

TRANSPORTATION IN AND AROUND ST. GEORGE

- We suggest *Quality Cab* (435-656-5222). Most point-to-point fares within St. George are \$10 or less.
- Car rental companies with offices at the St. George airport include *Avis* (800-230-4898; www.avis.com) and *Hertz* (800-654-3131; www.hertz.com).



Note

While the information presented here details this trip's planned routes, activities, accommodations, meeting and departing times, we are constantly seeking new opportunities to enhance this itinerary and your experience. Naturally, we will keep you up to date on any changes that may affect your arrival, departure or lodging.

**ORGANIZE A
BACKROADS PRIVATE
TRIP FOR YOUR
FAMILY, FRIENDS OR
COLLEAGUES FOR THE
TRIP OF A LIFETIME**

DRIVING TO ST. GEORGE

St. George, Utah, is located 120 miles northeast of Las Vegas off Interstate 15. The drive takes approximately 2 hours. **Please note that you'll lose 1 hour between Las Vegas (Pacific time) and St. George (Mountain time).** From Interstate 15, take Exit #6 to Bluff Street and turn left at the end of the ramp. Continue over the interstate and take a left on Hilton Drive, then immediately bear to the left. The Crystal Inn is on the right. If you're coming from Salt Lake City (approximately 6 hours), turn right at the end of the ramp, take the first left on Hilton Drive and follow the road as it immediately bears to the left. The Crystal Inn is on the right (1450 South Hilton Drive; 435-688-7477).

You can park your car at the Crystal Inn for the duration of the trip. Please identify yourself at the front desk as a Backroads guest, and they'll let you know where to park.

TRANSPORTATION IN LAS VEGAS

The following transportation services are available between McCarran International Airport and hotels on the Strip and in downtown Las Vegas. For additional options, visit the airport's Web site at www.mccarran.com.

Bell Trans Limos (800-274-7433 or 702-739-7990; www.bell-trans.com) offers shared shuttle service from the airport to the Strip for \$5.50 per person one-way; \$10.50 per person round-trip. Service to downtown is \$7 per person one-way; \$13 round-trip. You can buy tickets outside Door #11 in the baggage claim area. Reservations are required for shuttle service from hotels back to the airport. The shuttle runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Gray Line Shuttle Bus (702-739-5700; www.graylinelasvegas.com) is located outside of Doors #9 and #10 in the baggage claim area of the airport. (If you're arriving in Terminal 2, you'll find Gray Line outside of Door #3.) The bus leaves the airport about every 20 minutes, 24 hours a day. The cost per person is \$5.75 one-way, \$10.50 round-trip to the Strip and \$7.75 one-way, \$14.50 round-trip to downtown. For departures from hotels back to the airport, you must call and make reservations 24 hours before your flight. The bus picks up and drops off at all downtown and Strip hotels.

Citizens Area Transit (CAT) System (702-228-7433; www.catride.com) can also be a reliable way to navigate Las Vegas. Buses depart the airport below the baggage claim area at Level 0 (zero). The fare is \$2 to the Strip and \$1.25 to all other downtown destinations.

WHERE TO STAY BEFORE & AFTER YOUR TRIP

For help arranging pre- or post-trip hotels in conjunction with your Backroads trip, please work with your travel agent or the hotels directly. For assistance locating a travel agent please visit www.backroads.com/gettingthere. (Note that most travel agents charge a fee for their consulting services.)

Of course, we also recommend extending your stay at either of the hotels that we visit on this trip; see the sidebar above for details.

Please refer to the Hotel Room Rate Guide in the sidebar for starting double-occupancy rates. Note that the chart reflects the Internet and/or Best Available rates, which were accurate at the time of printing, but **hotel rates are always subject to change.**

Hotel Room Rate Guide	
(U.S. dollars per night)	
Up to \$100	◆
\$101–200	◆◆
\$201–300	◆◆◆
\$301–500	◆◆◆◆
\$501 and up	◆◆◆◆◆

ST. GEORGE

CRYSTAL INN (A MEETING LOCATION ON DAY 1 AND A DROP-OFF LOCATION ON DAY 6)

A stay at the Crystal Inn—a spot where our trip starts and ends—couldn’t be more convenient. The inn offers all the comforts and amenities of a full-service resort: well-appointed rooms, complimentary breakfast buffet, an on-site restaurant and spa and fitness facilities. 1450 South Hilton Drive; Phone: 877-462-7978 or 435-688-7477; www.crystalinns.com; 101 rooms. **Special Backroads Rate: From \$65; Let the reservationist know that you are a Backroads guest and mention rate code “BAC” when booking, or, if booking online, enter “BAC” in the “office or company code” field.**

The Crystal Inn provides a complimentary shuttle from Americas Best Value Inn (the St. George Shuttle drop-off spot). Please call the Crystal Inn upon arriving at Americas Best Value to request a pickup.

AMERICAS BEST VALUE INN (A MEETING LOCATION ON DAY 1 AND A DROP-OFF LOCATION ON DAY 6)

As the pick-up and drop-off point for the St. George Shuttle, Americas Best Value is a convenient place to start your Backroads adventure. Featuring newly remodeled guest rooms, a heated outdoor pool, free Wi-Fi access and a continental breakfast. 915 South Bluff Street; Phone: 877-688-8383 or 435-688-8383; www.shuttlelodgeinn.com; 76 rooms. **Special Backroads Rate: From \$59; Let the reservationist know that you are a Backroads guest when booking.**

GREENE GATE VILLAGE BED-AND-BREAKFAST

Comprised of nine meticulously restored homes and cottages, each with its own unique layout and decor, this enchanting “village” is full of the same historic character and charm that you’d have found in the late 1800s. Be sure to visit the Green Gate’s Web site to see photos of the houses, rooms and grounds. Breakfast is included. 76 West Tabernacle Street; Phone: 800-350-6999; www.greenegate.com; 9 homes with 1–4 private rooms. Rates: ◆

AVA HOUSE INN & SPA

This Victorian bed-and-breakfast has been recently transformed into a modern spa retreat. Innkeeper Jill and her staff have made every effort to create a relaxing, pampering experience for guests, and it shows. The inn’s four rooms, each named after one of the original homeowners, are individually decorated and outfitted with plush bedding. Be sure to make time for a spa treatment, massage or yoga class. After a delicious hot breakfast, included in your stay, you can leisurely explore Main Street and the Brigham Young Winter Home, just two blocks away. 278 North 100 West; Phone: 435-673-7755; www.avahousespa.com; 4 rooms. Rates: ◆◆

GREEN VALLEY SPA AND RESORT

With a multitude of rejuvenating beauty treatments and activities ranging from tennis and yoga to boxing and dance classes, this renowned spa offers a relaxing as well as invigorating haven in St. George. The attention to detail—from the daily personal notes left in your room to the freshly arranged flower bouquets that appear each morning—will make you feel pampered every moment of your stay. Be sure to venture out on the morning hikes to experience the inspiring beauty of the red-rock canyons and petroglyphs up close. 1871 West Canyon View Drive; Phone: 800-237-1068 or 435-628-8060; www.greenvalleyspa.com; 45 rooms. Rates: ◆◆◆

Hotel Room Rate Guide	
(U.S. dollars per night)	
Up to \$100	◆
\$101–200	◆◆
\$201–300	◆◆◆
\$301–500	◆◆◆◆
\$501 and up	◆◆◆◆◆

IVINS: NEAR ST. GEORGE

RED MOUNTAIN SPA

The Red Mountain Spa is surrounded by an inspiring landscape of canyons and dramatic rock formations. Classes, lectures, a host of activities for the outdoor and fitness enthusiast and three healthful gourmet meals daily are part of the all-inclusive package. Spacious guest rooms are tastefully furnished, and a full-service spa and fitness center are also on site. 1275 East Red Mountain Circle; Phone: 800-407-3002 or 435-673-4905; www.redmountainspa.com; 82 rooms, 12 suites. Rates: ◆◆◆◆◆

LAS VEGAS

DESERT ROSE RESORT

The Desert Rose Resort is an ideal place to relax between visits to the 24/7-excitement on the Vegas Strip, located just a block away. The hotel offers spacious one- and two-bedroom suites with balconies, a sun-soaked pool and hot tub, exercise facility and a breakfast buffet. 5051 Duke Ellington Way; Phone: 702-739-7000; www.desertroseresort.com; 284 suites. Rates: ◆◆

MANDALAY BAY

Offering a “Pacific South Seas” experience, Mandalay Bay shows off its Southeast Asian style with Balinese carvings, lush foliage, tropical-themed lounges and most importantly, an 11-acre sand beach with 6-foot ocean waves to transport you from the desert to a tropical paradise. Make time to get up close and personal with some of the world’s most dangerous underwater creatures at the Shark Reef aquarium. Plenty of entertainment and great cuisine are available at this exotic resort, including the House of Blues, many Tony award-winning Broadway shows, and Charlie Palmer’s Aureole restaurant. 3950 Las Vegas Boulevard South; Phone: 877-632-7800 or 702-632-7777; www.mandalaybay.com; 3,309 rooms. Rates: ◆◆

PARIS

A woman wearing a navy beret and riding an antique bike decked out with a basket full of baguettes and fresh flowers passes you with a cheerful “Bonjour!” You might momentarily forget that you’re not really in France but rather, the Paris of Las Vegas. Displaying half-scale replicas of the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe and Paris Opera House as well as quaint Parisian streets lined with boulangeries and cafés, Paris gives you a worthy facsimile of this magnificent European city close to home. 3655 Las Vegas Boulevard South; Phone: 877-796-2096 or 877-603-4386; www.parislv.com; 2,916 rooms, including 295 suites. Rates: ◆◆

THE PALMS

A 21st-century addition to The Strip, the Palms ups the ante on hotel extravagance, where a three-story spa overlooks jungle gardens and a swimming pool painted luscious lavender. Simulated thunderstorms threaten at the sultry dance club Rain, while the Ghost Bar—set 50 stories atop the glass-paned hotel—guarantees glittering city views. Things tone down in most guest rooms, where walls are washed in earth tones and the plush bedding is imported from Europe. 4321 West Flamingo Road; Phone 866-942-7777 or 702-942-7777; www.palms.com; 455 rooms and suites. Rates: ◆◆

Hotel Room Rate Guide	
(U.S. dollars per night)	
Up to \$100	◆
\$101–200	◆◆
\$201–300	◆◆◆
\$301–500	◆◆◆◆
\$501 and up	◆◆◆◆◆

THE VENETIAN

Recreating Venice under one enormous roof, the Venetian offers a world of piazzas, arched bridges, a faux sky that changes depending upon the time of day, exclusive Italian boutiques, frescoed corridors, gold ceilings and a recreation of St. Mark’s Square along the Grand Canal. Upon entering, you immediately encounter a life-size canal filled with gondoliers and flanked by pink and terracotta Venetian-style townhouses. You’ll also find the exclusive Canyon Ranch Spa Club, a 69,000-square-foot fitness oasis that includes a rock-climbing wall. And the food? The Venetian features some of the world’s most celebrated restaurants, including Lutece and Postrio. 3355 Las Vegas Boulevard South; Phone: 877-857-1861 (for reservations) or 702-414-1000; www.venetian.com; 4,049 suites. Rates: ◆◆

BELLAGIO

The epitome of glamour and decadence, the Bellagio invites you into an extravagant world unlike any other. If the 8-acre lake with 1,200 jets shooting water 240 feet into the air—all timed to musical scores—doesn’t impress you, then perhaps Cirque du Soleil’s “O”—choreographed within a giant pool—will. Complementing these spectacular shows and attractions are the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art, showcasing works by Monet and Degas, the Botanical Garden, European boutiques and an incredible selection of restaurants, including New York’s Le Cirque. 3600 Las Vegas Boulevard South; Phone: 888-987-6667 or 702-693-7111; www.bellagiolasvegas.com; 3,933 rooms, including 512 suites. Rates: ◆◆◆

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

While the following hotels are more basic than the above recommendations, we’ve included them for their comfortable accommodations and convenient locations.

BEST WESTERN McCARRAN INN (LAS VEGAS AIRPORT)

4970 Paradise Road; Phone: 800-626-7575 or 702-798-5530; www.bestwestern.com; 99 rooms. Rates: ◆

COMFORT INN (LAS VEGAS AIRPORT)

4350 Paradise Road; Phone: 702-938-2000; www.comfortinn.com; 106 rooms. Rates: ◆

THE ORLEANS HOTEL AND CASINO (OFF THE STRIP)

4500 West Tropicana Avenue; Phone: 702-365-7111 or 800-675-3267; www.orleanscasino.com; 1,886 rooms. Rates: ◆

We hope you've found this information useful, but nothing substitutes for speaking with one of our experienced Trip Consultants. Please call 800-462-2848 Monday-Sunday, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pacific time.