



# Las Vegas Advisor

Mar 2026 Vol. 43 Issue 3

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2026

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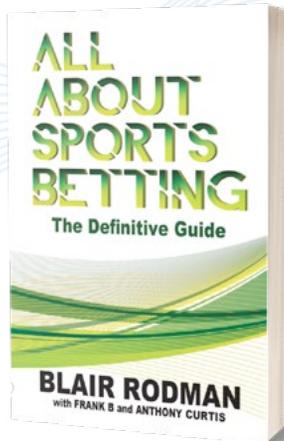
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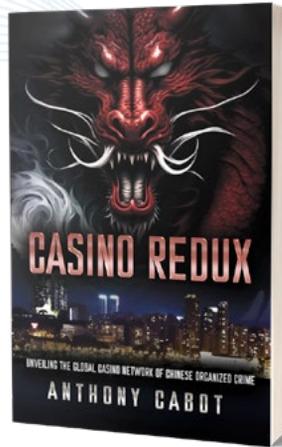
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# COUPONOMY

## Action

Who likes casino implosions?

Who likes casino openings?

If you raised your hand for either (or both), you're in luck. They're coming. Fast. Especially the former.

You're getting short notice on it: Las Vegas' next casino implosion, the first since the Trop, will take place ... now. That is if you're reading this before March 5. Otherwise, it's already happened. Boyd made the announcement in late February and is making it a low-key event with as little fanfare as possible, but it's not insignificant to me.

In the early '80s when I'd just arrived and was trying to figure this town out, I used to drive all the way from the far west side to hang out at Sam's Town and Nevada Palace. I liked them both, but I liked Nevada Palace better. Later, I liked Eastside Cannery, too. It had good restaurants, a quirky sports book, and an even quirkiest top-floor nightclub with big glass picture windows that provided a great view of the city.

There won't be a successor to ECan. Similar to the post-demolitions of the Fiestas, the land will be sold to a non-casino business. Yep, more memories are about to be imploded. Get a last look at Eastside Cannery on this issue's cover.

Next up is the sneak opening of Cadence Crossing just down the road on Boulder Highway. I say "sneak," because this one wasn't due until summer. It's Boyd again and this might be another low-key affair, given that it's happening in March—this is March and they haven't even announced the date yet.

Then in April, the former Poker Palace will reopen as the remade Club Fortune North. No date has been given for that one either.

No matter. We'll know the dates before the doors open and we'll post them at [LasVegasAdvisor.com](http://LasVegasAdvisor.com).

Get more details on all of these in NEWS.

## Hamburger Anniversary

A year ago, I wrote the strangest COUPONOMY headline ever: "[A Hamburger in Vegas](#)," which referenced a new Station Casinos burger & fries deal (it's still in the TOP TEN). We at LVA collectively looked at one another in amazement. Was the former local hero turned Strip-mentality opportunist after the pandemic really gonna offer a value like that? Something had to be wrong.

That article posited that the savvy operators at Red Rock Resorts saw a problem brewing and, with that burger deal, were making an early maneuver in response. Could that hamburger deal have been a warning of challenges to come for all of Las Vegas (say, 12 straight months of declining visitation)? We thought it was, and one year later, we're sure of it.

We don't always get it right. I pronounced to *USA Today* in an interview amidst the worldwide COVID closures that "Vegas will never shut down." Three days later, it closed up for 79 days.



That stung. But we were right about this one. Station was, too, and it's since added more good deals in dining and drinking, a strategy that helped get them where they are and that other casinos have been following recently.

In honor of the anniversary, we went back for that burger and to try a new deal: a \$2.99 shrimp cocktail. Check out the review in DINING.

## 2025 Numbers

Based on the numbers for the full-year 2025, I can see why some might take issue with my comments above. The bad news in the visitor count is getting the headlines, but the gambling win held up. The statewide casino win set a new record, taking in \$15.8 billion for a 1.2% increase over a record 2024. The Strip eked out a .11% increase, winning \$8.8 billion, and downtown posted a record high \$951.2 million, up 2.1%. That visitor count, though, has the industry worried. The total count for the year came in at 38.5 million, down from 41.7 million. It's a troubling 7.5% decline and the first drop since the pandemic's 19 million in 2020. Correlated with the visitation results was a 5.9% decline in airline passengers, with 55 million, compared to the record 58.4 million in 2024.

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# NEWS

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**Eastside Cannery**—The Eastside Cannery will be imploded in the wee hours of March 5. The fate of the shuttered casino had been in limbo for years until owner Boyd Gaming declared in October that the building would be razed. A physical dismantling began and last month it was announced that the 16-story tower will be destroyed by the first implosion of a casino since the Tropicana dropped in October 2024. It will take place at 2 a.m. and, unlike several before it, will not be made into a public event, with no dedicated viewing areas. Boyd is in the process of selling the land to a residential developer.



**Cadence Crossing**—In more Boyd/Boulder news, the exact date hasn't been specified, but Cadence Crossing will open this month, three months earlier than originally projected. The casino will have 450 slot machines and no table games. After it opens, Boyd will raze neighboring Jokers Wild and consider adding hotel rooms.



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**Club Fortune North**—Putting to rest rumors that it would become a Dotty's, it's been announced that the former Poker Palace will reopen as Club Fortune North. New owner Truckee Gaming says it will rebrand it with the existing Club Fortune in Henderson, with the casino being rebuilt from the floor up and the reopening scheduled for no later than mid-April.

**Sunset Station**—Along with a renovation of Green Valley Ranch and an expansion of

Durango Casino, a \$140 million renovation of Sunset Station is also underway. The project includes a permanent bingo room, a high-limit room, upgraded movie theaters, a makeover of the Gaudi Bar, and a new steakhouse.

**Sahara Bridge**—A pedestrian bridge over Sahara and the Strip that was originally scheduled to be completed this year is gonna miss that mark. The new completion estimate is 2030, at the earliest.

**Bruno Boulevard**—Well, actually just a drive. The current Park Avenue that runs between T-Mobile Arena and Park MGM is being renamed Bruno Mars Drive. It will intersect with Frank Sinatra Drive.

**Illinois**—Bally's Corp. is pushing back the opening of its under-construction casino in Chicago to 2027. The company is seeking a one-year extension of its license to operate its current temporary casino at Medinah Temple.

**Louisiana**—Sam's Town Shreveport has been sold by Boyd Gaming to Bally's Corp. The property opened in 1994 as Harrah's Shreveport and was bought by Boyd and renamed in 1994.

**Oklahoma**—Coweta Casino Hotel has opened near Tulsa. It has a 46-room hotel and a 35,000-square-foot casino with 750 machines.

**Statistics**—Nevada's statewide gambling win was down 1.6% in December compared to the same month last year, taking in \$1.44 billion. The Strip win was down 6.1%, while the downtown win was up 4.7%. The Strip result was due mostly to a decline of 20.7% in baccarat win and 6.9% in slot win. The Laughlin win was up 9.8% at \$34.5 million.

Visitation was down 9.2% with 3.1 million coming to town in December. Every month in 2025 registered a decline in year-over-year visitation. Hotel occupancy was down compared to November at 76.1%, with 84.6% weekends and 73.2% weekdays.

Airline traffic was down 10.3%, with 4.4 million travelers. It was the biggest monthly decline of the year. Available airline seats into Las Vegas were down 3.5% in 2025, primarily due to cutbacks at low-cost carriers Spirit and Frontier.



**Coweta Casino Hotel**

## SPORTS BETTING SCORECARD

In a ranking by total sports betting handle in 2025, Nevada placed eighth at \$8.07 billion, barely a third of the handle of first-place New York at \$26.3 billion and half of Illinois at number two and \$15.7 billion. New Jersey came in third (\$12.2 billion), Ohio fourth (\$10.3 billion), and Pennsylvania fifth (\$8.9 billion). Even Massachusetts (\$8.5 billion) and Arizona (\$8.3 billion) bested Nevada. Of note is that all seven states with higher handles than Nevada's allow unfettered remote sports betting via mobile apps, unlike Nevada's hybrid model—mobile betting is available, but only after first appearing in person at a sports book location or partnered casino to complete account registration, ID verification, and initial funding/deposit.

Follow the progress of sports betting legalization across the country and track developments as they occur via our map at [LasVegasAdvisor.com](https://LasVegasAdvisor.com).

# TOP 10

<b>1</b>	Steak Dinner - Ellis Island Daily - \$9.99	<b>6</b>	Prime Rib - Ellis Island Daily - \$17.50
<b>2</b>	Cheeseburger & Fries - Station Casinos Daily - \$5.99	<b>7</b>	Breakfast - Emerald Island Daily - \$5.99
<b>3</b>	Hot Dog/Beer - Downtown Grand Daily - \$3	<b>8</b>	Jen Kramer - Westgate Fri-Sun - \$56.80 (for 2)
<b>4</b>	Beer - Stagedoor Daily - \$2	<b>9</b>	\$1 Blackjack - Downtown Grand Daily - \$1.20
<b>5</b>	Shrimp Cocktail - Slots A Fun Daily - \$2	<b>10</b>	Souvenir Photo - Binion's Daily - Free

The Ellis Island complete steak dinner remains in the #1 spot. Served 24/7 in the Café, get the \$9.99 price by playing at least \$5 in any machine with your club card inserted, then downloading the required discount coupon from an EI kiosk. If you don't want to play, you can get it for \$12.99 (\$3 off the listed price) just by downloading a coupon from the kiosk that's available to everyone with a club card. A cheeseburger & fries is \$5.99 all day at several Station Casinos locations (#2). It's available in the Brass Forks at Palace, Sunset, and Santa Fe Stations, the Lucky Pennys at Green Valley Ranch and Red Rock, and Game On at Boulder Station when you show a Boarding Pass players card. The \$3 hot dog and beer at Downtown Grand comes in at #3. The dog comes with kraut (there's also an excellent taco alternative) and the beer is PBR; it's served from the Lucky's snack bar daily from 11 am till about 10 pm, or later. The Stage Door on Flamingo just east of the Strip returns to the list at #4 after a month in the penalty box for a price increase that only partially happened (see ENTERTAINMENT); Heineken or Dos Equis in the bottle is \$2. Las Vegas' best-deal shrimp cocktail is at Slots A Fun (#5). It's available 24/7 at the bar, along with \$2 hot dogs, popcorn, and beer (park at Circus Circus and walk over). Ellis Island continues to serve the best prime rib dinner in town (#6). It's available from 11 am to 11 pm daily in the Café (listed price reflects LVA discount). The \$5.99 breakfast at Emerald Island (#7) is served in the Emerald Island Grille, daily from 11 pm to 3 pm and comes with two eggs; bacon, sausage, or hot link; hash browns or home fries; a slice of fruit; choice of toast, English muffin, or biscuits & gravy; add coffee for \$2.49. Westgate's *The Magic of Jen Kramer* checks all the boxes as the best show value (#8). Get two tickets for this excellent magic revue for \$57 with your Member Rewards discount. Downtown Grand's \$1-minimum blackjack game (#9) is dealt daily starting at 11 am until the pit closes at 2 am on weekdays and 5 am on Saturday and Sunday mornings; the \$1.20 listed cost is your expected loss for one hour of play at these stakes. The souvenir photo at Binion's (#10) is the best free souvenir in Sin City. Accessible 24/7, simply pose and press the button; the photo will be sent to your phone.

# DINING

## Buffet Update

Rampart has raised prices from \$1 to \$2 across the board. The range is now \$16.99 (lunch) to \$31.99 (weekend champagne brunch) with a club card. As expected, buffet-like offerings are showing up with more frequency. One is the Aria AYCE deal in its food hall that's detailed in "Dining Notes," along with the options in "Kinda Buffets."

The Gospel Brunch at House of Blues runs March 8 and 22.

We update our casino buffet listing with a call-around every month and input the changes. Check the listing for current prices [current prices](#) and see all of this month's changes [here](#).

Following is the list of the 11 operating buffets in order of overall pricing, from lowest to highest: South Point, Circus Circus, Main Street Station, Rampart, MGM Grand, Excalibur, Cosmopolitan, Palms, Bellagio, Wynn, Caesars Palace.

## Kinda Buffets

Las Vegas' buffet count has remained stagnant for a couple years, but the all-you-can-eat concept continues to show up in different places. We point to them as we find them and here are a few more from a *LV Review-Journal* article titled "8 Las Vegas Restaurants that are All-You-Can-Eat But Not Buffets."

One of them is Guy Fieri's Flavortown brunch that's referenced in "Dining Notes." The others are Guy Fieri's Kitchen and Bar at The LINQ, brunch Mon.-Fri. \$24.99; Hakkasan, dim sum brunch Sat. & Sun. \$58; A Different Beast (5420 Spring Mountain Rd.), Spanish Basque small plates \$39-\$59; 888 Sushi and Robata, sushi and grill items \$28-\$48; Master Kim's Korean BBQ ([three locations](#)), \$29.95-\$44.95; La Cave at the Wynn, weekend brunch \$54; Rollin Smoke Barbeque (3185 S. Highland Dr. and 4115 S. Grand Canyon Dr.) \$62.

Many AYCE sushi restaurants and hot pots also qualify, along with the Brazilian steakhouses, which also have salad bars.

## Solamente Pizza

This pizzeria in the west valley lives up to its award-winning status with a unique sourdough crust and imported ingredients.

Continue Reading

## Blue Orchid Thai

This third Las Vegas restaurant from the long-established Cheung family hits the mark with tom yum and tamarind ribs.

Continue Reading

## Riverside Buffet (Laughlin)

The only buffet in Laughlin, the Riverside's spread is as good as some in Vegas—at half the price. And parking is free.

Continue Reading

## Vegas Unstripped 2026

In this month's Neon Feast contribution, Al Mancini turns you on to a unique opportunity to experience the work of some of Las Vegas' most acclaimed local chefs all in one place.

Continue Reading

## Quick-Reviews Blog

This month Quick Reviews checks out the latest shrimp cocktail special and an off-China-town noodle joint with an admirable work ethic.

Continue Reading

## Dining Notes

*Price Increase*—The price of the AYCE Brunch in Guy Fieri's Flavortown at Horseshoe Las Vegas has been raised by \$5 to \$24.95.

*Aria AYCE*—The Proper Eats food hall at Aria is bringing back the AYCE deal that it ran during football season for the March Madness tournament, albeit for \$75, up from the previous \$59. The deal grants access to all the food outlets (with a \$10 upcharge for sushi from Temaki Bar) for three hours. It will be offered over the tournament's opening weekend March 19-22 and for the semi-final (4/4) and championship (4/6) games.

*Silverton Instacomp*—Earn 400 points on Tuesdays or Wednesdays and get a comped half-rack of ribs dinner in Sundance Grill. That's \$1,600 coin-in, which generates an expected loss of about \$14 on Silverton's 8/5 Bonus Poker games (with perfect play). It's not an amazing deal, but it's not a bad bonus. You can do it once per week in March.

*Five Guys*—On the heels of Five Guys' opening at the Grand Canal Shoppes, the burger chain will open another casino outlet at the Plaza this summer. This one will include a hot dog cart that will operate in the vicinity of the outdoor Carousel Bar.

*Bagel Title*—Joey Chestnut defended his title at the Siegel's Bagelmania World Bagel Eating Championship. Chestnut downed 16-7/8 bagels with cream cheese in eight minutes, narrowly out-noshing the second-place finisher who ate 16-3/4 bagels.

*Bob Taylor's Bearded*—Bob Taylor's Ranch House has been named a recipient of this year's James Beard Foundation "America's Classics" awards. The award recognizes "locally owned restaurants with timeless appeal that serve quality food and are beloved by their communities." Bob Taylor's joins the Peppermill, which won in 2024. The restaurant opened in 1955, three years before Golden Steer, and is the oldest continuously operating eatery in Las Vegas. You can read all about it in our Question of the Day.

*USA Today Pick*—For the third year in a row, USA Today's "Restaurants of the Year" list has a single Nevada pick, but for the first time, it's in Las Vegas. The picks are selected by dining writers around the country (only 39 selected this year) and it's an elite list. The Las Vegas selection was Esther's Kitchen, the trendy Italian restaurant in downtown's Arts District and we're in complete agreement. A photo of Esther's pasta fritti and eggs is included in the story (and below). Top states were Arizona, New Jersey, and Tennessee with three selections each; New York had two and California only one.



*Outrageous Yelp List*—A Yelp list of the "10 Most Outrageous Restaurants" included Las Vegas' Blackout, a restaurant where you eat in total darkness. We've known about Blackout, but learned from the Yelp description that it serves a "plant-based" meal.

## Openings/Closings

Braseria by EDO, serving French/Spanish cuisine, has opened in The Collective at 3900 Paradise Road.

The latest casino-to-locals-restaurant move comes from the former executive chef at MGM Grand's Hakkasan, who has opened Amata Modern Thai on the west side of town (5597 S. Rainbow).

LPM Restaurant & Bar at Cosmopolitan will close March 31. No replacement has been named.

# Entertainment

## Stage Door Update

We had bad info about the price increase at Stage Door last month when we wrote "the lowest price is now \$3 for a bottle of Corona or Modelo." Not so. The lowest price for beer in the bottle is \$2 for Heineken or Dos Equis. We deemed the deal still good at \$3. At \$2, it remains a Las Vegas Top Tenner.

## Shows Discounted

As part of the effort to combat the gouge perception, Caesars has created the "3 for \$149 Caesars Show Package." Several major shows at the Horseshoe, Flamingo, and Harrah's are offered, including *Donny Osmond*, *Wayne Newton*, *Piff the Magic Dragon*, and *MJ Live*. Likewise, MGM has a "2-for-\$75" bundle with shows at Luxor and Excalibur that include *Fantasy*, *Carrot Top*, *Mac King*, *Tournament of Kings* (\$10 upcharge), and *Blue Man Group* (\$15 upcharge). Without counting whatever taxes and fees are added, that's \$49.67 per show at Caesars and \$37.50-\$50 per (depending on choices) at MGM. Go to the websites for complete lists and prices at [Caesars](#) and [MGM](#).

## Entertainment Digest

We cover Las Vegas happenings daily in "Vegas News" on the LasVegasAdvisor.com home page. Following are links to entertainment-related stories that ran in February.

["Strip Law" Debuts on Netflix](#)

[Cole Hauser To Star as Benny Binion](#)

[Tommy Carmichael -- Greatest Slot Cheat in History](#)

["EPIC," the Elvis Concert Movie, Debuts](#)

## Bars and Happy Hours

Tao Asian Bistro at the Venetian has a happy hour Sun.-Wed. from 8:30 to 10 pm and Thurs.-Sat. from 9:30 to 11 pm, with \$10 cocktails and appetizers.

Taste of Asia at Suncoast has a happy hour Tues.-Sun. from 3 to 6 pm, with beer, wine, cocktails, and appetizers for \$5.

Beso has a happy hour Mon.-Fri. from noon to 5 pm, with 50%-off wine and cocktails.

Weera Thai in the Shanghai Plaza has a happy hour Mon.-Thurs. from 4 to 10 pm, with buy-2-get-1 cocktails.

In its monthly contribution for LVA, Happy Hour Vegas identifies "[Happy Hour Hidden Gems](#)," with a few that even we didn't know about.

Arizona Charlie's Decatur and Boulder are the latest to get on the cheap-drinks train: draft beer is \$2.50, bottled beer \$4, and an add-on shot \$1 at the bars.

A third Scoundrels has opened at 6945 S. Rainbow.

Ada's was the Nevada selection in a Mashed.com list of the "Best Wine Bars" in every state. Ada's recently moved from Tivoli Village to the Arts District.

The ultra-exclusive, and expensive, club Zero Bond opens this month at Wynn Las Vegas. There are two membership options: General is a \$1,000 initiation fee and \$2,750 annually; Founding is a \$50,000 initiation and \$7,500 annually (but it comes with one round of golf).

For those for whom it matters, at the Sahara it's "no Pepsi, Coke." The casino has entered into an exclusive non-alcoholic-beverage partnership with Reyes Coca-Cola Bottling products.

Champagnes Café on Maryland Pkwy., one of Las Vegas' iconic yesteryear bars, has closed. Prior to its long run as Champagnes, it was an in-place hangout called Huey's Saloon.

After operating for 15 years at two downtown locations, the piano bar Don't Tell Mama has closed.

Downtown's Berlin Bar has closed.

## Entertainment Notes

*Metallica to Sphere*—After a year of buildup, Metallica's "Life Burns Faster" residency has been booked at Sphere. Metallica will play eight shows (so far): October 1, 3, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, and 31 and feature "no repeat weekends," in which no songs are repeated during the Thursday and Saturday dates.



*Afternoon Awakening*—Wynn Las Vegas has added a Sunday afternoon (4 pm) performance of its production spectacular, *Awakening*. Good move for a show that's open to ages 5 and up.

*Club Honey*—The space at The LINQ that formerly housed *DiscoShow* now hosts Club Honey, a Saturday-night-only dance party. It's free, but you have to get on the guest list, which you can do [here](#).

*Conservatory Pause*—Bellagio's Conservatory and Botanical Gardens is closed for maintenance. It will reopen at 6 pm on March 13.

*March Madness*—The big opening weekend of the NCAA Basketball National Championship Tournament runs Thurs.-Sun. March 19-22. Viewing parties are being promoted throughout the city, but most have charges

for attending (South Point and Rio excepted). To watch for free with every bit of the excitement intact, hit any sports book.

*Dress & Dance*—The Fremont Street Experience will hold its annual St. Paddy's Day Bash March 15-17. New this year is a "Jig & Costume" contest on March 17 at 6 pm, in which costumed contestants will apparently dance for prizes. First place is \$3,170 (March 17), with \$1,500 each to second and third.



*Infinity Museum*—The Infinity Museum opened in the Boulevard Mall in August, touting the world's largest walk-in kaleidoscope; tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for children.



## Cool Concerts

Nine Inch Nails at **MGM** March 7 • Cheap Trick at **Venetian** April 17 & 18 • Smokey Robinson/Gladys Knight at **Palms** April 25 • Nora Jones at **Venetian** May 9 • Lady A at **Planet Hollywood** May 15 • Christopher Cross at **Cosmo** June 3 • Don McLean at **Westgate** June 6 • Pablo Cruise/Pure Prairie League at **Westgate** June 20 • Firefall/Atlanta Rhythm Section/Orleans at **Westgate** July 4 • Pat Benatar at **Palms** Aug. 21

# GAMBLING

## Super Bowl

The Super Bowl line opened Seattle Seahawks -4.5 over the New England Patriots, quickly moved to -5 and touched -5.5 before settling back at Seahawks -4.5, where it closed. The total opened at 46 and went to 46.5, then dropped to 45 at game time. When Seattle won 29-13, Seahawks and under bettors got the money.

*Nevada Win*—Nevada sports books won \$9.9 million; however, it was a big drop from last year's record \$22.1 million. The decline was primarily the result of a betting handle of just \$133.8 million, the lowest since 2016.

*U.S. Handle*—The American Gaming Association estimated before the game that \$1.76 billion would be bet legally in the U.S., a 27% increase over last year. We haven't seen a number reported, but that sounds unlikely given the Nevada result, unless the rise of the prediction markets had an effect.

*Prediction Markets*—Last year we called them exchanges. Now they're the apparently more palatable prediction markets. Regardless, as we predicted in last year's Super Bowl summary, market-based wagering was much more prominent this year. The major players were Kalshi and Polymarket, with some reports indicating that Kalshi had more than \$1 billion in trading volume the day of the game, a 2,700% increase over last year. Some of Las Vegas' traditional bookmakers cited the prediction markets as prime culprits in the decline of Nevada's numbers.

*Reduced Juice*—South Point and Boomer's dealt -105 for bets on the side only.

*Props*—The proposition bets again took center stage, with the different sports books and prediction platforms battling it out to be first and most compelling. Even the Westgate SuperBook moved up its prop reveal by a day to Wednesday the week before the game, though it didn't matter, as multiple online platforms had already put up their numbers. Bettors backing the QBs to win the MVP were disappointed, as it went to Kenneth Walker III at 8-1, the first running back to win MVP since Terrell Davis in 1998. A.J. Barner scored the first touchdown at 14-1. The Pats' Drake Maye looked dead in the water for reaching his passing-yards total of 224.5 when he threw for just 48 yards in the first half, then went wild in catch-up mode for an easy over of 295. Despite five field goals being kicked, all by the Seahawks' Jason Myers, the longest was only 41 yards, which was a loser by 1 vs. total points scored in the game. There were no overtime and no safety, which were lined at -1100 and -1000, respectively. "Will the final score match a previous Super Bowl" was a No, cashing at -375. We saw the coin toss lined at -101 on both sides at a couple of books. In cross-sports props, the Knicks' Karl Anthony Towns, averaging 19.9 points per game, scored only 11 vs. the Celtics to lose to the Patriots total points; Scottie Scheffler's 4<sup>th</sup>-round score in the Phoenix open crushed Jaxon Smith-Njigba's receiving yards straight up, 64 to 27 (and JSN was -23.5); and Real Madrid scored two goals vs. Valencia to beat Sam Darnold's one TD pass, bumming out those who bet the tie at +350 on a 3-way line. Among the crazy offshore props, there were no "doinks" on kicks (-800); Bad Bunny's first song during the halftime show was "Titi Me Pregunto" (-250); he didn't come out in a hat (+150); Dave Portnoy was not removed from the stadium (this was a Yes only prop at +1000 and +2000 if he was dragged or handcuffed); replacing the Kelce/Swift proposal prop, Stefan Diggs did not propose to Cardi B after the game (another Yes only prop at +1000); and the Gatorade poured over Seahawks coach Mike Macdonald's head was yellow/green, paying +275. This year's controversy was over the appearance of Cardi B, who was a dancer behind Bad Bunny. But did dancing and not singing qualify her as a "performer"? Some pointed out that she was mouthing the songs. Oy! It came down to semantics and interpretation of the rules and reportedly resulted in at least

one complaint being filed against Kalshi with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). A supposed leak of Charlie Puth's rehearsal of the National Anthem resulted in the over/under prop plummeting from 1:59.5 to 1:56, but all the unders still won easily thanks to a quick-moving rendition that came in at 1:51.

*Viewership*—The game had an average of 124.9 million viewers, down 2% from last year's record, but still the second highest ever. Data from Nielson indicates that the audience peaked at 137.8 million in the second quarter, .1 million more than last year.

*Room Rates*—The *LV Review-Journal* reported that Las Vegas' average room rate over Super Bowl weekend was \$138.88, about 25% below last year. The survey didn't factor in resort fees.

*YouTube Special*—Our second annual [Super Bowl special](#) featuring Frank B. and Steve Fezzik on the LVA YouTube channel scored big for those that watched and followed, as the guys got just about everything right. We're gonna try to get them together again this month before the NCAA Basketball Tournament.

*Next Year*—The futures line for next year's Super Bowl has the Seahawks favored at 7.5-1, followed by the Rams at 8-1, the Bills at 11-1, and the Ravens at 13.5-1. The long shots are the Jets, Cardinals, and Dolphins, all at 250-1.

## Reader Leader

*Looking at the long-term figures [for slot hold], Reno's 5.21% compares with double-zero roulette (5.26%) and the Strip's 7.57% compares with triple-zero roulette (7.69%). Coincidentally, triple-zero roulette is becoming the roulette game of choice on the Strip.*

*LVA: That's an interesting comparison that once again illustrates why seeking alternatives to the Strip is the frugal way to go. This comment, by the way, comes from top gambling mathematician Stewart Ethier, who's teaming up with Blackjack Hall of Famer Don Schlesinger to translate a classic baccarat book from the 1800s that Huntington Press will publish this year.*

## Gambling Notes

*Jackpots*—A player at the Venetian made the \$5 side bet and was dealt a royal flush in spades on the Three Card Poker Millionaire Progressive to win \$1,661,451. It was the 17<sup>th</sup> million+ jackpot since the progressive was introduced in 2018. A player at The Rose casino in Virginia won \$1,014,879 on a 25¢ historical horse racing machine. It's being touted as the largest ever HHR jackpot.

*Circus Slots*—In conjunction with the opening of its bingo room, the only bingo on the Strip, Circus Circus has installed coin-operated slots on the casino floor, joining Slots A Fun as the only casinos on the Strip to offer the vintage games.

*Rio Keno*—Along the same lines, the Rio has added live keno. When the room closes at 8 pm, you can continue to play on EZ Keno kiosks on the floor.

*Plaza Livestream*—The ever-creative Plaza has partnered with Vegas Live Casino Network (VLCN) to debut a live-dealer streaming channel where you can watch customers gamble, or gamble there yourself so others can watch you. The livestreams run Sun.-Thurs. from 1 to 7 pm and Fri. & Sat. from 6 pm to midnight. During off hours, you can watch archived videos. Check it out [here](#).

*Sports Books*—A Caesars sports book has opened at the Resort at Summerlin (formerly Rampart). A Boomer's Sportsbook is expected to open this month at the Bonanza in Reno. It will be the sixth of

12 planned. As an aside, in LVA and in our books, we've always used "sports book," as in a "race and sports book." However, "Boomer's Sportsbook" is the official name of the company; hence, we use the single word Sportsbook in Boomer's references.

WSOP 2026— The 57<sup>th</sup> annual World Series of Poker has released its schedule for this year's meet. The 100 live bracelet events will be contested May 26-July 15, with the Main Event played July 2-13. The playing of the final table will be delayed for an as-yet unspecified period. The tournament will again be held center Strip, with events at both Horseshoe and Paris.



## Video Poker Lost and Found

Tuscany has removed its 9/7/5 Double Bonus games, making the new best game in the casino 9/6 Double Double Bonus (98.98%) from 25¢ to \$1. If you're at the bar, you'll have to settle for 6/5 Bonus Poker (96.87%).

If you want to play for ribs at Silverton (see DINING), the good options are drying up. According to the online database vpFREE2.com, the best game remains 8/5 BP (99.17%) from 25¢ to \$5, but the 8/5 BP progressives have been removed. The 7/5 BP progressives remain at 25¢ (breakeven \$1,900), \$1 (BE \$7,525), and \$5 (BE \$37,600). All machines have been removed from the Mi Casa bar.

Also from vpFREE2, Green Valley Ranch has added \$5 8/5 BP progressives at the bars in both high-limit rooms. The breakeven is \$27,950.

There's been a big change in the "Young @ Heart" promotion at Eureka. It's no longer \$25 in free-play for ages 55 and up. Now you have to earn 300 points to get into a drawing of one name once per hour to win \$100 FP if you're 55 and \$50 FP if younger. The 300 points also earns a \$10 food comp. You might back into it if you find a good progressive and want to play a while. If you're 55, be sure to use the MRB offer for \$10 in FP, and if you're a new member, there's also a play-\$25-get-\$25 bonus.

In addition to the play-\$100-get-\$20 deal that runs from 10 am to 4 pm at El Dorado Cantina Sunset and Cantina Sky Pointe, both also run a \$500/\$50 on Tuesdays from midnight to 8 am.

Though not confirmed at press time, every year the 6500 Tavern at Sammy's Woodfired Pizza (6500 W. Sahara) runs a March Madness promo where everyone gets to pick a team in the tournament. It's not first-come first-served to get the best teams; you simply pick the team you think will go furthest and get free-play every time it advances, up to about \$150 for winning the championship. It's an excellent freeroll and you can parlay with an instacomp for 50%-off food when you load a machine with \$60 and play. If you're not already a club member, there's a \$20/\$20 sign-up bonus. These deals are also available at Sammy's Tavern (1501 N. Green Valley Parkway).

Check out Bob Dancer's Tuesday blog at [LasVegasAdvisor.com](http://LasVegasAdvisor.com).

**These promotions change frequently, check for updated information here.**

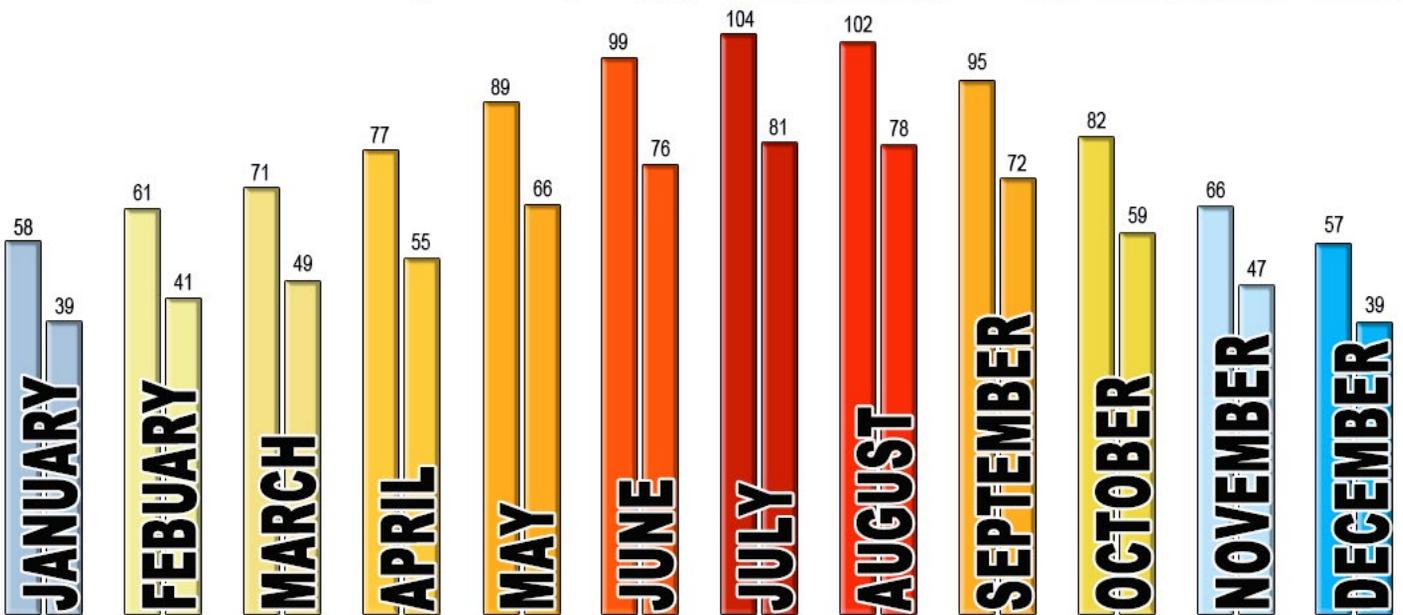
# Question of the Day

How is Big Elvis doing and where is he performing now?

This QOD ran on February 17, 2025. [Read the answer here.](#)

## AVERAGE

# HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES IN LAS VEGAS



MARCH	APRIL	MAY
<p>Mean 56° Avg. Max. 71° Avg. Min. 49°</p> <p>A fickle month for weather. Occasional rain and high winds, warm days.</p> <p><b>Pools:</b> Open</p> <p><b>Attire:</b> Light jacket or sweater for evenings.</p>	<p>Mean 63° Avg. Max. 81° Avg. Min. 45°</p> <p>Daily highs reach into the 80s with regularity. Winds subside.</p> <p><b>Pools:</b> Open</p> <p><b>Attire:</b> Spring wardrobe for days. Bring a warm jacket just in case.</p>	<p>Mean 71° Avg. Max. 90° Avg. Min. 52°</p> <p>The most pleasant month of the year. Las Vegas at its best. Summer heat begins at the end of the month</p> <p><b>Pools:</b> Open</p> <p><b>Attire:</b> Spring wardrobe.</p>