

So you're ready to take on Vegas baby, but you don't break the bank on a room. Well, Harrah's Las Vegas Hotel & Casino might just be your spot. They're smack dab in the middle of the Strip where you'll find lots of shopping, entertainment and nightlife, just a short walk away. Great location!

Getting here is pretty easy. McCarran Airport is about a 10-minute ride. Harrah's Airport shuttle will run you about \$15 roundtrip, or Uber your way in. Once here you can jump on the monorail and go explore.

Room Rates range quite a bit from the reasonably priced \$35 for a basic room to \$200 for an executive suite to the high roller price tag of \$800 for a swanky presidential palace! Normal check-in is after 4pm and checkout is at noon.

Our Mardi Gras room was rather outdated, but was clean and spacious. I know all the Valley Tower rooms were updated in 2018. Would probably try to stay over there. No refrigerator or microwave here. WIFI access is included with your resort fee, but didn't work that well. Oh, and the walls are pretty thin and you can hear your neighbors.

Anyway, some of the amenities include an outdoor seasonal pool (they say it's olympic sized but seemed kinda small compared to others). You can take in a show, workout at the 24-hour Fitness Center, or relax with a massage at the Spa.

In the casino, there are games galore (about 1,200 slots and 80 table games), and the Sportsbook is nice and updated. It pays to be a Total Rewards member - you can use your points to get food comped. Speaking of eating, Harrah's restaurants include the upscale Ruth's Chris, and casual places like Toby Keith's (ok country joint), Oyster Bar (good seafood), Fullton St Food Hall and Flavors Buffett (bit pricey). If ya wanna grab a drink, check out The Piano Bar (we loved the free nightly entertainment), Carnival Court Bar or Breeze Daiquiri Bar (yum).

So, some of the positives of Harrahs? Well, by far, the proximity to everything on the strip and the ease of access to the mono rail is huge. Check out the Bellagio Fountains and Fashion Show Mall close by. Also, pretty good overall value.

Some of the negatives include the high resort and parking fees can add up. Def become a Total Rewards Member to get free parking. Oh, and keep in mind if you take the deal with breakfast included, it's only \$9 per person towards room service only, and they tack on an \$8 service fee.

So, in conclusion, Harrah's Las Vegas is great if you're on a budget. That being said there's no real "wow factor" - just a decent place to stay while in Vegas. And so I'd give Harrah's in the heart of Sin City a 3.9 outta 5. Happy travels!