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Frommer's Las Vegas 2011 (Frommer's Complete Guides)



Synopsis

Hundreds of color photos Exact prices, directions, opening hours, and other practical information
Candid reviews of hotels and restaurants, plus sights, shopping, and nightlife Itineraries, walking tours, and trip-planning ideas Insider tips from local expert authors

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Customer Reviews

Hundreds of color photos Free pocket map inside, plus easy-to-read maps throughout Exact prices, directions, opening hours, and other practical information Candid reviews of hotels and restaurants, plus sights, shopping, and nightlife Itineraries, walking tours, and trip-planning ideas Insider tips from local expert authors

Rick Garman began visiting Las Vegas as soon as he was not barred from doing so by pesky things like laws. He started writing about the city in 1997 when he and his best friend Mary Herczog were invited to write Frommer's Las Vegas. He went on to create Vegas4Visitors.com, one of the most respected Las Vegas travel resources on the Web and has appeared in various outlets as a self-proclaimed Vegas expert, although most of that expertise has been gained sitting at a slot machine with a glazed look in his eye while mumbling incoherently to himself. When not gambling away his life savings, Rick lives in Los Angeles and works in the entertainment industry.

I bought the book because my fiancée and I are going to Vegas for our honeymoon and neither of us

had been; Frommer's Guide to Las Vegas 2011 is a great book and I found it immensely helpful. Having only driven through Vegas, and never stopped, I was shocked by how much there really is to do in Vegas besides just gambling. The book is very helpful and provides information on just about every single thing there is to do in Las Vegas. The chapter divisions are very helpful as well as the key to the book at the beginning. The book divides up into chapters such as what hotel to pick, what to do after dark in Vegas, what to do during the day, and what to eat, etc. Also particularly helpful about this book was the prices listed and "Vegas freebies" section, but I will say after visiting Vegas, some of the prices he lists in the book are WAY OFF, so be aware. I was a bit disappointed to find that there wasn't more free stuff to do in Vegas, but Frommer's does give helpful money saving tips and all the freebies in Vegas. Another section that was particularly helpful was the Dining section. My fiancé and I loved to try new places to eat and Frommer's does a fine job of listing every single place worth eating in Vegas, prices and the different kinds of cuisines. Not to mention the review of the barrage of buffets offered at all hotels. However, we visited 2 buffets in Vegas, one being the Rio World Carnival buffet and it was fantastic as advertised in the book. We were led astray by another recommendation he gave in the book: the Main Street Station Garden Court buffet. He gave it 3 stars (the highest rating) and stated it was the best buffet in Vegas. It was the WORST buffet in Vegas, worse than a country buffet even! We were so disappointed and felt so ripped off we left without even finishing one whole plate. The book also gives you ideas of things to do around the Las Vegas area; some aren't worth it (a 40 min, \$15 both-ways shuttle drive to some factory outlets on the border of Cali.) But still others seem to be great value (Hoover Dam trip; \$30 for a full guided and partially unguided tour.) I was a little bit disappointed that the book didn't offer any review of the Polo Towers where my fiancé and I are staying. But with it being a timeshare type hotel, I'm not surprised. Frommer's also gives good reviews of how to properly find a hotel and what questions to ask. Overall the book is a must have for Vegas trips, especially for first timers.

The information in this book was accurate. It had a lot of good tips and things I wouldn't necessarily think of on my own about better travel. I like how there were colored pictures. I also bought Fodor's Vegas travel book of the same year. This one was the one I liked better. The layout is better organized and has less filler information. I felt like this index and table of contents made it easier to find what I needed. The only thing I did not like were the Restaurant recommendations. I found that section to be inaccurate. However, I am a foodie though. My standards for what I consider quality dining are a bit extreme. For more accurate food recommendations, I would go online and try YELP. The restaurant reviews were a bit dated or may have only come from a single person reviewing.

I regularly use Frommer's guides when I travel. This particular one was of a much lower quality than the other ones I have seen. It did not appear to be well researched. The information was already badly outdated. I cannot recommend this particular Frommer's publication.

For anyone who has been to Vegas even once, this book lacks anything of real value. The star's that are given the attractions/hotels etc. are not well described - for example you see a one star review for something and the text describes it as great and then you see a 3 star review and the author is picking it apart or just provides a high level overview with no reasoning at all for the ranking. The author's have a constant sarcastic tone about Vegas and I was so put off by the book that I'm returning it. Did not find any inside tips and the reviews were scant at best. The Web has more to offer with even casual searches than this book.

This book is a must-have for being in the Las Vegas region. Whether you plan to stay on the Strip or venture abroad to the Hoover Dam or the Canyons (there are more than just the Grand one!) this book will give you the information you need to enjoy your adventures (or winnings). Frommer has always done a spectacular job of letting me know what I want and need to know for any location, and the Vegas book is no exception. Don't leave home without it!

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