

YOUR GUIDE TO EVERYTHING LAS VEGAS

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MAGAZINE ✦ SHOWBIZ WEEKLY

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Michael Jackson THE IMMORTAL

Cirque du Soleil Celebrates
the King of Pop



Legends in Concert
Creating a Celebrity Buzz

Miracle Mile Shops
Gift Central for the Holiday Season

Carrot Top
A Different Type of Trunk Show



Haunting and Thrilling

A majestic chandelier hangs from the ceiling of an opulent Paris opera house. Rich, dark, red velvet curtains provide the backdrop for **Phantom—The Las Vegas Spectacular**, a show featuring thrilling music, magnificent sets and the haunting tale of love and longing between Christine, her childhood sweetheart Raoul and the reprehensible yet ultimately relatable Phantom.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's masterpiece made its way to Vegas in 2006 and after five years, its brilliance has not diminished. The 95-minute production—pared down from the Broadway version but missing none of its key elements—features heart-pounding music from a live orchestra that seems to envelop the theater with each perfect note. The themes of passion, desire, envy and revenge are expertly woven together, and the culmination of the production is enough to take your breath away.

The re-imagined Las Vegas *Phantom*, just like the Tony-winning original, has whisked audiences away to a time and place that can only exist in the deepest part of ourselves—our hearts. —*Shaké Ajamian*

The Venetian, 7 p.m. Tues.–Fri., 7 & 9:30 p.m. Mon. & Sat. (dark Dec. 11 & 18), \$72–\$160 plus tax and fee. VIP package available. 702.414.7469

Try Your Luck, Make a Buck

Even if your name isn't called to "Come on down!" during the Las Vegas production of **The Price is Right Live!**, there's plenty of fun to be had while sitting in the audience. Everyone is free to shout out their bids and give unsolicited advice on a variety of prizes. How much for the camcorder? Is that refrigerator really stainless steel?



Shouts of "Stop!" and "Go!" fill the showroom during It's in the Bag. Should the woman from Mission, Texas, take the money and run when the audience thinks the mouthwash is less expensive than the antacid? Good thing she didn't; she's \$300 richer as a result.

For the lucky few who get to go onstage and spin The Big Wheel or drop some hopeful chips during Plinko, the opportunity to live out their game-show dreams is priceless. (Although I'm sure a few of those people would actually pay for the opportunity to win that Nissan Versa in the Showcase Showdown.) The announcer, host, attractive models and all the pricing games you've come to know and love are all part of the live action. Everything is just as you've seen it on TV, right down to the appeal to have your pets spayed and neutered that ends each fun-filled show. —*Jack Houston*

Bally's, 2:30 p.m. Wed.–Sun., \$49.50 plus tax and fee. 702.967.4567



Legendary Taste

It's been a New York landmark for more than a century, but **Rao's** didn't expand beyond its 10 coveted tables until 2006, when they opened a larger, more reservation-friendly restaurant in Las Vegas.

In came the crowds and out went some of the key components of the original, which eschewed menus in favor of course after course of whatever the kitchen decided to serve. When guests reserved a table at the original Rao's, it was theirs for the night; if they left, it was not re-set. At Caesars, the rules may be different (you can order whatever you want, but when you leave, someone else will sit at your table), but the commitment to food remains the same.

Among the time-tested favorites under new chef de cuisine Nicole Grimes are Uncle Vincent's Famous Lemon Chicken, imposing meatballs and veal Parmesan so large that it takes up the entire plate. —*JH*

Caesars Palace, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Wed.–Sun., 5–10:30 p.m. daily. 702.731.7267