

AUTUMN TRADITIONS IN LAS VEGAS VO
9/24-29/2026

00 INTRO - OUTRO

00a Intro Stuff

Dale VO:

It's October, and a whole lot of us would say, fall is our favorite time of year. But...do we get a proper autumn in the Desert Southwest, with all its warm folksy traditions? Yes, we do - but here, it's got that unmistakeable Vegas flair thrown in!

Dale Live:

So get ready.... [\[two options for this on 00a folder\]](#)

00b Outro Stuff

[\[About Gilcrease: It was the Gilcrease brothers' dream that this orchard be a place where families could bring their children, and be able to sample the kind of life they knew growing up in the early 20th century.\]](#)

01 GILCREASE ORCHARD PART 1

01a Travel Footage-Gilcrease

Welcome to fall in the desert! Lately a lot of you are expressing interest in "real life" in Las Vegas, what it's like to live here...so today we're going to a local treasure that Paula has been wanting to show you for a long time. In fact, she's literally traveling from the far south end to the far north end of the valley to get there!

[\[snippets of IMG_6899 - 6901 - 6903 - 6905\]](#)

Gilcrease Orchard is where we're headed, and just for a frame of reference, it's about 20 miles or so from Bellagio...where we'll be a little later in the video. [\[IMG_6906, web logo\]](#)

01b Gilcrease Arrival

Welcome to a true hidden gem for Las Vegas locals, Gilcrease Orchard. This isn't a traditional farmer's market, nor does it supply the restaurants on the Strip - although, it used to. Gilcrease is a century-old historic landmark in Las Vegas, where the people who live here can hand-pick fresh seasonal produce, right from the field. This month is their popular annual Fall Harvest event - in fact, it just kicked off last weekend.

[\[IMG_6908; last part of VID_040, the entrance; first part of VID_041\]](#)

01c About Fall Harvest

[start with VID_043, Paula talk; pic 6993 is admission ticket]

There is a lot to see here, starting with this fun picture spot. As we go along, we'll share some of the history of this unique farm.

[IMG_6910 or VID_045]

01d Farm Stand

[No VO]

[VID_054 with audio]

02 GILCREASE ORCHARD PART 2

02ab Video-Photos-Pumpkin Patch I

We will take things from right to left - and what's on the far right of the property is the pumpkin patch! ...They've definitely picked the right color for these helpful wheelbarrows - pumpkin orange. [VID_046]

The arch leading into the pumpkin patch is a welcoming touch - Paula gives them big thumbs up on the decorating. [IMG_6925]

02ab Video-Photos-Pumpkin Patch II

In here you are welcome to go fetch yourself the perfect pumpkin. They are 75 cents a pound, and there are some fun varieties to choose from.

[VID_048; halfway through I talk; you can use the audio til the end]

[VID_049 - the beginning with audio, where I mention photo ops; then VID_050, which goes with pic IMG_6933 in **02b Photos**]

FYI, if you're local and want in on this, Fall Harvest runs through October 31st - on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. It's about as far removed from the Las Vegas Strip as you can imagine!

[VID_052]

Gilcrease Fall Harvest:

September 26 - October 31

Tues, Thurs, Sat, Sun

7 AM - 2 PM

Admission:

\$4 weekday, \$6 weekend (plus fees)

Children 5 and under - free

02c Orchard-Veggies-History I

Let me put on my history hat for a few minutes, and tell you how this precious local resource came to be. It started in 1920, when the Gilcrease family arrived from Reno, and purchased more than 900 acres in the Las Vegas Valley - a parcel which just happened to include natural artesian springs.

[[IMG_6290](#), [VID_053](#) as background; web pic of the history and map]

02c Orchard-Veggies-History II

The family raised chickens and turkeys, and planted alfalfa and produce - all of which they sold to the town, as well as the military base close by. Eldest son Ted took over management, and in the 1970s, pivoted to fruit and vegetables. He devoted 100 acres to what he called his "pick and pay" orchard.

[[VID_056](#) (start past the sign); [IMG_6942](#) and/or [6917](#)]

By the 1990s, the Gilcrease brothers, Ted and Bill, were getting up there in age. They established a nonprofit foundation that would preserve the orchard in perpetuity, and so it has been.

[[VID_055](#) walk orchard, but stop before the truck; web pic of Bill]

02d Old Truck-Education

So here in the orchard is another charming photo spot, this one featuring a vintage truck. Bill and Ted probably drove this thing in times past!

[[IMG_6937](#)]

One more thing worth mentioning about Gilcrease: they are devoted to educating our youngest residents about the food they eat and where it comes from. Loving these informative signs all over the property.

[[VID_059](#); also photos [6923](#), [6967](#), [6969](#)]

02e Cashier-Cottage

Once you've selected your produce - or I should say, picked it yourself - here's the checkout area. ...One tasty item they're known for here is their homemade kettle corn - they pop up to 800 bags per day! ...Take a look at the honey too. [[VID_057](#)]

Still working our way right to left, this cottage ...and the direction signs add a bit of artistic whimsy to the orchard. [[IMG_6945](#)]

03 GILCREASE ORCHARD PART 3

03a Walk to Other End

The closer you get to this end of the farm, the hungrier you'll be - we're heading to where the donuts and the popcorn are made. [\[VID_060\]](#)

Now, in case you weren't convinced yet that this is a working farm...back here are what you might call some tools of the trade. [\[VID_061\]](#)

We also caught sight of some ripe pomegranates just begging to be picked over to this side. [\[VID_074\]](#)

03b Straw Maze

In this area are most of the autumn-themed attractions, and - sure, Paula is game to try them! First up, the straw maze.

[\[VID_062, 063; 064 with audio\]](#)

03cd Video-Photos-Hay Wagon I

Now this is good timing - the hay wagon is just boarding. During Fall Harvest, it pretty much runs continuously, taking passengers on a narrated tour through the orchard.

[\[VID_065; could use VID_066 with audio\]](#)

The first thing you pass is the chicken coop, home to the farm's show hens - no boys allowed! These ladies are about a year old.

[\[VID_068 as it passes the coop; IMG_6959, 6963\]](#)

Past the hens is the desert tortoise habitat...although it was too cool today for them to come out and be seen.

[\[continue VID_068; IMG_6970\]](#)

03cd Video-Photos-Hay Wagon II

And now, we're in Ted's orchard, which still occupies about 70 acres. To our right...apple trees...and across the lane, more apple trees.

[\[last part of VID_068; VID_069\]](#)

These are peach trees, both white and yellow varieties...

[\[VID_070\]](#)

...and they're experimenting with figs and prickly pears in this area.
[\[VID_071\]](#)

03e Corn Maze

[\[No VO\]](#)
[\[VID_072, 073 with audio\]](#)

03f Donuts & Cider

All right, friends, we are reaching the end of things here. ...We'll grab a cider...and a half dozen donuts. [\[VID_075; pic of prices IMG_6983\]](#)

Gilcrease has a huge covered picnic area...and for Fall Harvest, they're featuring live music throughout the day. [\[VID_076\]](#)

There's a concession area with a special harvest menu. Since their open hours are 7 AM to 2 PM, they offer both breakfast and lunch items.
[\[VID_077; pic IMG_6987 is menu\]](#)

[\[VID_078 donut & cider tasting with audio\]](#)

03g Exit Gilcrease

We've been here about an hour a half...just ready to leave, and there's the blue sky - too late!
[\[IMG_6991\]](#)

And that's Gilcrease Orchard. Hope you enjoyed this little bit of local autumn color, right here in the Las Vegas Valley. [\[VID_080\]](#)

04 CONSERVATORY TRAVEL-ARRIVAL

04a Up the Strip

All right, different day, different destination - but still capturing the autumn traditions in Las Vegas. Now for this one, we need to travel the Strip. Yep, you knew it, the Formula One setup is underway, and we're faced with construction blocks and lane closures for the next 3 months! In spite of that, this stretch of road is still like no other, am I right?
[\[IMG_6736, 6737, 6738\]](#)

By the way, if you thought you were going to get out front of the Bellagio fountains for a photo op...umm, fuh-get-a-bahdit!
[\[last part of IMG_6738, IMG_6739\]](#)

04b The Lobby

In Bellagio's lobby though, all is serene, and draped in the colors of fall. Not only the statement vases, taller than ever...but also the alcove behind the hotel's front desk.

[\[IMG_6881, IMG_6875; then IMG_6878 or 6879\]](#)

The fountain outside the Conservatory entrance is also dressed for the occasion, so to speak.

[\[IMG_6869\]](#)

04c Conservatory General I

The Conservatory theme for the fall season officially made its debut on September 19th. Let's take a quick overall look at this autumn retreat before we dive into details. Ahead of us...a coastal cabin and a smoking campfire. [\[VID_018\]](#)

Entering from the other side, we're heading straight toward what is clearly the inspiration for this design - appropriately called "Casting Tranquility". That's Billy, doing some fishing this morning. [\[VID_017\]](#)

04c Conservatory General II

As always, the design comes to us from Ed Libby and Company - he's been working his magic in here for more than ten years. It was brought to life by Bellagio's expert Horticulture and Engineering teams, who repurpose not only some of the constructed figures, but the living plant materials as well. Let's take a look at the beds, one by one.

[\[VID_019\]](#)

05 WEST BED

05ab Video-Photos-West Bed I

We need to start here, because we were instantly charmed by Billy and his dog, out fishing on an autumn morning. [\[VID_031\]](#)

This is the West Bed, the largest of the four, and the one that tends to best represent the theme. Since "casting" is in the title of this display, it's a cinch that Billy is our focal point.

[\[VID_030\]](#)

05ab Video-Photos-West Bed II

You have to appreciate the detail of this scene. If you step to the left, you see the pair of rabbits in the woodland...you notice that Billy and his trusty pup are actually perched on a hollow log...and there's the tackle box! They thought of everything! [\[IMG_6790, IMG_6798\]](#)

To the right side of the bed is a coastal cabin inspired by Cape Cod - and we love it! Out front of the cabin is a crackling campfire, all set for some ghost stories and s'mores on a cool night. [\[IMG_6774, IMG_6776\]](#)

05c The Garden Table

Now, if we swing around to right of the cabin...and peek in...here's the surprise. [\[IMG_6822\]](#)

This is in fact the autumn 2026 version of the Garden Table! If you approach it from the back, there it is, all set for your Sadelle's brunch, or Michael Mina dinner. This might be one of our favorite versions of this Bellagio tradition!

[\[IMG_6813; pic 6817 of info; pic 6814 of the table\]](#)

[\[Optional - if you want to show the info yourself\]](#)

Brunch by Sadelle's

- 8:00am | 10:00am | 12:00pm | 2:00pm
- \$135 per person

Dinner by Michael Mina

- 5:00pm | 8:30pm
- \$210 per person

05d West Bed Rear

Speaking of going around back...you know we always do that on our channel, show you the rear of the West Bed. So, here you go.

[\[VID_039\]](#)

I cannot say enough about the selection of plants in this display... [\[IMG_6810\]](#)

...and something we read on one of the placards was perfect: Leaves are nature's confetti, celebrating the change of seasons with their vibrant colors! [\[IMG_6804\]](#)

06 EAST BED

06ab Video-Photos-East Bed I

The East Bed is another one that has to look great from all sides, because it's flanked by walkways all around. [\[VID_038\]](#)

This scene depicts a woodland pond, with all manner of fun inhabitants. Did you know that, in many cultures, the frog represents new beginnings - in any season? [\[VID_027; IMG_6746 \(stop at middle frog\)\]](#)

This little guy suns himself on a lily pad...while the older one is caught in mid-leap. [\[IMG_6762\]](#)

06ab Video-Photos-East Bed II

Speaking of lily pads, you can think of them as the original floating garden. They symbolize a steady mind, staying centered regardless of what's under the surface. [\[IMG_6836 and/or IMG_6744\]](#)

Other residents of the pond include the lovely lotus flower... [\[IMG_6839\]](#)
The papyrus stalks anchoring either end... [\[IMG_6770\]](#)
And dragonflies dancing above the waters, as they have for all time. [\[IMG_6831, 6832\]](#)

07 SOUTH BED

07ab Video-Photos-South Bed I

The South Bed is the one that has all those peek-through views to Bellagio's hallway behind it. [\[VID_022\]](#)

The focal point here is this pair of herons, with a backdrop of fall foliage. [\[IMG_6845\]](#)

The left end of the bed shows off the plants - cattails, fall florals, and pumpkins. [\[IMG_6850\]](#)

07ab Video-Photos-South Bed II

On the other end, a life-sized buck. Fun fact: 8300 pounds of Manzanita and driftwood were used to create the all wood-sculpted animals in the display. [\[IMG_6851; 3 pics of other "animals" in 07b\]](#)

This is perhaps the least "busy" of all the beds, and in that, it's a restful scene. [\[either VID_023 or 024 - I like 024, going right to left\]](#)

08 NORTH BED

08ab Video-Photos-North Bed I

Across the room in the North Bed, we find yet another woodland pond, with some fun wildlife. Looks like that bass is going to be dinner!

[\[VID_037\]](#)

The mother bear is standing by, giving her young cub space to learn...

[\[IMG_6751\]](#)

...that patience will yield a reward: a tasty meal. [\[IMG_6752\]](#)

08ab Video-Photos-North Bed II

Anchoring the left end is the second of our pair of bucks.

[\[IMG_6759\]](#)

And of course, this bed always has the added allure of that big LED screen behind it all, extending the illusion of being out in the woods.

[\[VID_036\]](#)

09 THE ELEMENTS

09ab Video-Photos-Plants I

No matter what creatures sit among them, we'd be missing the point if we didn't call out the absolutely gorgeous plantings, and how artfully they are placed. This is never more true than with the vibrant colors of autumn.

[\[IMG_6766\]](#)

Mums are the classic fall flower, of course - and they're here in abundance. But the huge variety of green plants balances out and highlights all that color. Plus, there are some really inspired taller plant choices. [\[IMG_6794, 6741, 6825\]](#)

09ab Video-Photos-Plants II

By the numbers, there are 37,800 flowers and plants in here.

[\[IMG_6754\]](#)

And that doesn't even count the trees - Bellagio tells us there are 500,000 autumn-colored leaves, creating a blazing canopy celebrating fall at its peak. [\[IMG_6804, 6846\]](#)

As always, there's a companion scent to go with the theme. "Tranquility" is a blend of cranberry, orange, clove, cinnamon, sandalwood, and fir balsam. Buy it at the Giardini Store, or online. [\[web pic in 09b\]](#)

09c The Pumpkins

You'll find dozens, if not hundreds, of heirloom pumpkins nestled among the greenery. Pumpkins have always been icons of the autumn harvest, signifying gratitude and abundance. The largest one here weighs 687 pounds.

[\[montage of pics - IMG_6740, 6764, 6787, 6833; 6848 is largest\]](#)

Have you ever seen one shaped like this? Now there's some serious hybridizing, right?

[\[IMG_6767, 6834\]](#)

09d The Water

Another design element worth a mention is the use of water features - in every one of the four beds. Here in the East Bed, we have dancing fountains...and a little water spout. [\[VID_033\]](#)

Over in the North Bed, there's a lovely grotto waterfall.

[\[first part of VID_035\]](#)

Water in motion has long symbolized the harmonious flow of life, letting the rhythm carry us through its stages, and finding joy in the journey. That's a nice sentiment. [\[IMG_6847, 6780\]](#)

09e The Team

As we always do, we wrap up our visit with an ode to the talent and dedication of Bellagio's horticulture team. They'll keep this vibrant garden alive, all the way until November 7th - so come on over. [\[IMG_6799\]](#)

Paula just happened to be in the right place at the right time to capture a rare photo of the team - big kudos to you all!

[\[IMG_6865 is the latest, most complete one; or could use the wave, IMG_6862\]](#)