

EXC-LUX-MBAY WALK VO
2/16-17/2026

00 INTRO - OUTRO

00a Intro Stuff

Dale VO:

Those 3 iconic resorts on the far south end of the Strip, between Tropicana and the Welcome sign: they've all got world-famous facades, but are they still relevant? Are the crowds still coming, and if so, why? We are going to take an epic walk through all three of them today, and remind you (and ourselves) why we love Excalibur, Luxor, and Mandalay Bay!

[Wiki photos to use here; also P813 of Excalibur]

Paula Live:

And just for fun, we'll add in a challenge: Can we traverse all three, without ever going outside? We sure can!

Dale Live:

So get ready...

00b Outro Stuff

[IMG_0021 holds 1 min on the MBay beach fountain - very pretty for a backdrop]

[IMG_0045 steps/miles]

[DJI_0830 drive south on LV Blvd - to speed up at end]

01 TRAVEL-ARRIVAL

01a Driving Footage

Good morning, a gray and overcast start to the day in Las Vegas. We're heading up the Boulevard to pay a visit to the three resorts closest to the Welcome sign...and according to Paula's excellent record keeping, we haven't been in any of them for at least a year!

[IMG_9930, 9931]

These are the beloved themed resorts that the town put up in the 1990s - or at least, they are still beloved by us. We'll start here, at Excalibur.

[IMG_9932]

01b Arrive Excalibur

[DJI_0732 or 0734 Paula intro - first one has helicopter noise]

[DJI_0735 walk to doors with audio]

You can definitely consider this the “back door” to Excalibur. Those who park in the garage or arrive via tour buses land here. ...It opens to an area at the back of the casino called the Rotunda. There’s a popular Starbucks location back here...and, there you have it, the glitz of Vegas. [DJI_0736]

02 EXCALIBUR WALK

02a Entrance-Lobby

OK, folks, we’re going to do all of these the same way - as if you were entering from the Strip. Excalibur’s ramp takes you up past columns and turrets straight out of Camelot...and right to the hotel lobby. Excalibur has nearly 4000 rooms, in four 28-story towers arranged in a square. [DJI_0741, 0742; Wiki pic of towers]

02b Theming

Here near the entrance is where the medieval castle theming is strongest. The resort’s design is inspired by castles in England and Germany. In fact, the designers visited those castles, and researched in libraries and film studios, to create this romanticized version. [DJI_0743 or IMG_9944; IMG_9942, 9935]

02c Excalibur Casino

As we take a stroll through the casino, I’ll give you a little overview. Excalibur was built by Circus-Circus Enterprises, and opened in June of 1990 - for a few years, the largest hotel in the world. It was of course named after King Arthur’s legendary sword. Since 2005, it has been an MGM property. [DJI_0745]

The casino is a modest size by Vegas standards - just over 92,000 square feet. BUT...you may remember, in 2003, that the largest Megabucks win happened - \$39.7 million dollars to a lucky visitor from Los Angeles! [DJI_0746, IMG_9941]

02d Sports Book

The sports area is rather extensive, for a resort aimed primarily at families. It spreads all along this wall, with the MGM-branded Tap sports bar...and a more traditional sports book in the corner. [DJI_0747, IMG_9953]

02e Tiki Bar

This is new since we were last here - a tiki bar! According to Excalibur's description, this bright and colorful lounge serves up the perfect blend of Vegas fun and tropical chill - a place to embrace the aloha spirit. We're seeing that sentiment a lot these days. Love the drinkware! [DJI_0749 and/or IMG_9955, 9958, 9957; web pics of drinks]

02f Dicks Last Resort

We can't leave the casino floor without mentioning one of the most fun dining experiences you'll have here: Dick's Last Resort. This place is huge - 11,000 square feet, and they're serving breakfast! Not sure we knew that. This location, which opened in 2007, is one of 13 across the country for a unique restaurant chain known for its deliberately obnoxious and insulting staff. It's a great time if you're with a crowd. [DJI_0744, IMG_9946, 9948; photos of signage]

02g Fun Dungeon-Kings

Now this is new too - an escalator next to the lobby, that takes us downstairs to the Fun Dungeon. In the past, there were only two sets of steps to get there, up near the main entrance. Thumbs up on the escalator.

[DJI_0823; cut in with DJI_0828 and/or 0829 to show original steps; then back to DJI_0823]

Fun Dungeon is Excalibur's famous arcade, home to more than 200 games of skill and fun, spread across and around a huge open space. ...There are newer entries like King Kranes...as well as all the classic arcade and carnival favorites. [DJI_0824]

There's a conveniently located DQ down here for snacks and sweets...and of course, this level is also where you find the Tournament of Kings, the enduring dinner-and-a-show extravaganza that opened along with the resort. [DJI_0825, 0826, 0827]

03 EXCALIBUR MEZZANINE

03ab Mezzanine Walk-n-Talk/Extras

[No VO]

[DJI_0751; clip IMG_9963 & pic 9962 in **03b** if needed]

[DJI_0754 - stop after I say Cinnabon;
go to DJI_0755; clip IMG_9965 & pic 9964 in **03b** if needed;
2 pics marked X2025 of KK conveyor]

[DJI_0756; clip IMG_9969 and clip from Buffet in 2025 in **03b**, if you want to use a bit - don't forget to flip]

[DJI_0757; clip IMG_9971 & pic 9970 in **03b** if needed]

03c Excalibur to Luxor

[DJI_0759 with audio]

As you walk the hallway between resorts, you may catch a glimpse of the tram going by. Remember that, we'll be on it later. [IMG_9975]

The hallway to Luxor gets you there before you know it. There are still some remaining moving walkways, but honestly they were down more than they were up, and some have been removed. [DJI_0760]

04 LUXOR WALK

04a Egyptian Theming

The actual connection point, where you know you're at Luxor, is kind of a time capsule, of how deeply immersed it was in Egyptian theming. [DJI_0761, IMG_9977]

Whenever we see any remaining artwork depicting ancient Egypt, you can guarantee we're going to capture a photo and show you - just for old time's sake. [pics 9982, 9983, 9986]

And, here we are: welcome to Luxor! [DJI_0762]

04b Luxor Lobby Area I

Again, let's approach it as if we arrived via the Strip. Step inside, and you're in the expansive lobby of Luxor. This property has just over 4400 rooms - in the pyramid, as well as in two adjacent 22-story towers.

[DJI_0763; Wiki pic of towers, overhead view]

Although much of the theming was eliminated from the casino areas, it still stands tall here in the lobby. [DJI_0764]

04b Luxor Lobby Area II

Also of note here in this area is the scale model of the Titanic, promoting the exhibit upstairs on the mezzanine level. It's an exquisite model.

[IMG_9988, 9985]

Beyond that is what MGM calls its Fan District, anchored by the Public House bar and restaurant.

This is your ultimate sports-watching destination here at Luxor. [DJI_0765, 0767, and/or IMG_9987]

04c Luxor Casino Walk

Let's head into the casino, where not a whisper of Cleopatra or the Nile River remain! Luxor too was developed by Circus-Circus Enterprises - which by the way was later rebranded as Mandalay Resort Group. It opened in October 1993, and along with its neighbors, was acquired by MGM in 2005. [DJI_0768]

The casino is smaller than Excalibur's, at just over 65,000 square feet. As Las Vegas casinos go, we find this one fairly unremarkable in design or aesthetics, but if you play and win here, that's what matters, right?

[DJI_0769; IMG_9981 if you want]

Here too you will find a sports book, powered by BetMGM, and with a traditional sports book vibe. [DJI_0770]

05 LUXOR MEZZANINE

05a Food Court-Attractions

Dale VO:

Back near the rear entrance from the parking deck is a narrow, steep escalator, that takes you up to Luxor's mezzanine level. I have it on good authority, Paula likes this one too!

Up here you will find another food court, with walkup counters featuring popular names...but for some reason it's never very busy. I guess it's maybe just out of the way.

...OK, friends, back to Paula.

[No VO]

[DJI_0773 up to food court; could use IMG_9989 if needed]

[DJI_0775 attractions; pics 9990-9993]

[DJI_0776; Wiki pic of Luxor beam]

[Fun Facts to display:

The Pyramid is 30 stories tall. It is the world's largest atrium by volume - 29 million cubic feet. Luxor's light beam is the most powerful man-made light in the world.]

05b Showrooms

[No VO]

[DJI_0777 Blue Man; cut to 0781 and/or 0782 when appropriate]

[DJI_0779 showroom]

05c Diablos Cantina

[No VO]

[DJI_0780 Diablos]

[decide if we want to include the dinner - it's in folder **99**]

05de Play Playground / Web Pics

[No VO]

[DJI_0783, 0784, 0785 with audio]

[IMG_0002 is promo video; 9997 is a pan of Duck Duck;

Folder **05e** contains web photos of the play areas]

DUCK DUCK BOOM INFO:

Duck Duck Boom: An inflatable arena where up to 8 players jump and duck to avoid two spinning boom arms. The goal is to be the last person standing. It's definitely for agile adults and teens!

06 MANDALAY PLACE

06a MPlace Walk-n-Talk

[No VO]

[DJI_0787 walkthrough; there are few moments where I'm not talking, feel free to cut or speed up]

[DJI_0789 Cardvault; also clips IMG_0006, 0007, 0012, photos]

06b Flanker-Stadium

[DJI_0790 walk towards MBay, talk sports]

[DJI_0791; use DJI_0792 and/or IMG_0015 if needed;
3 web pics of Flanker inside]

We've now arrived at Mandalay Bay...the third in our triple-threat walking tour. This is one spacious casino, isn't it? Lots of what in Las Vegas might be considered wasted space! Personally, I like the breathing room.

[DJI_0793]

07 MANDALAY WALK

07a MBay Lobby Area

Welcome to your South Seas oasis right here on the Strip. We're now in Mandalay's lobby. The resort features more than 3200 rooms in a 43-story tower. [DJI_0799, Wiki pic of tower]

Among other things, this place is renowned for its spectacular 11-acre pool area, Mandalay Bay Beach. We've shown you that more than once on our channel. [DJI_0800]

But...there aren't quite as many tropical water features as there once were. This is the stairway down to the beach, which used to be a fountain...and now, it's...not. It's blue rocks. Well...we do live in the desert.

[IMG_0018; X2022 clip of fountain w water]

07b MBay Casino Walk

Mandalay Bay is yet another gorgeous themed resort from the Circus-Circus folks, opening in March 1999. 27 years, can it be that long? As with the others, it came under MGM's banner in 2005. [DJI_0801]

Hey...let me take a minute to give well-deserved kudos to the thousands of Las Vegas locals that keep these resorts functioning and looking great day after day, year after year! [IMG_0042]

Where was I? OK so the casino is the largest of the three, nearly 148,000 square feet. The tables area is generous...and you have the electronic versions to choose from as well.

[DJI_0802, 0803]

07c Hope Road

Over here is Rhythm and Riffs, the bar that marks the entry into Restaurant Row. But first...what is this? [DJI_0805]

Hope Road is a new live show that's getting rave reviews. It celebrates the music, the message, and the history of Bob Marley, with talented performers and stunning visuals. Plus, Marley's remixed tracks drive the energy of the performance. Sounds like a great night out!
[IMG_0027 entrance, 0024 & 0025 promo boards]

07d Restaurant Row I

Mandalay Bay's restaurant row is another feature that makes this resort stand out. Without leaving the building, you have more than 20 distinct dining options...so many diverse cultures and culinary experiences, and they are often changing it up and adding new ones. ...Now, I can't help but point out the endless parade of people in this hallway today, heading to and fro. Vegas ain't dead yet! ...You'll note some of these travelers are headed to the 2.1 million square foot Convention Center - the fifth largest in the country! [DJI_0806]

07d Restaurant Row II - Optional

[Optional - can skip this whole section]

We always love to peek at the pool deck when we're in this hall, but today it's covered with advertising for the veterinary convention going on. This is all we can see. [IMG_0033, 0030]

Note: If you haven't had quite enough walking yet, this hall goes all the way to Shark Reef. We did that with a certain little miss last January...maybe you saw that video. [two X2025 clips]

07ef Carama-Swingers / Web Pics

[No VO]

[DJI_0808 is talking;
DJI_0809 or IMG_0037 pans Swingers front;
IMG_0035 is promo board; various pics;
Folder **07f** has 5 pics of Carama and 9 pics of Swingers from websites]

08 RETURN TO EXCALIBUR

08a To the Tram

[No VO]

[start with DJI_0811 check-in]

[DJI_0812 tram escalator]

[DJI_0813 arrive station]

08b Tram Ride-Construction

If you weren't aware of this tram - that runs all day between Excalibur, Luxor, and Mandalay Bay for free - Consider yourself informed!

[DJI_0815, 0816, first part of 0817 maybe]

The tram is on a raised track, roughly parallel to the Strip, and makes a fast trip from Mandalay Bay to Luxor.

...As we travel north and approach Tropicana, let's see if we can catch a glimpse of the construction site for the new Oakland A's baseball stadium. Work started last year, and the crews are already on to vertical construction, with decks poured for lower and second-level concourses. It's going to cost \$2 billion, and is scheduled to open for the 2028 season. It will seat 33,000, under a partially retractable roof.

[DJI_0817, 0818, renderings from web]

08c Paula Wrapup

[No VO]

[use middle-end of DJI_0819 exiting the tram (no talking)]

[DJI_0821 or 0822 Paula recap - 0822 may work better]

[IMG_0043 & 0044 are exiting driveway to Blvd - if you need them anywhere]

99 DINNER AT DIABLOS

99a Arrival-Seating

[Look at the footage and decide whether to use or not. **If NOT**, say this and throw in a little bit of footage/pics]

We did have dinner at Diablo's recently, to kick off that Mexican fiesta topic. But, we ended up seated right under a glaring red light and the footage looks positively scary - like we were at Universal Horror Unleashed! The food was excellent though, and maybe sometime we will go back and try again for the vlog.

[If you decide to go ahead with it, say this instead]

As Paula said, we went to Diablo's Cantina recently to kick off that Mexican fiesta theme. We have dined here before, and we know the menu is excellent. But yikes! Look at this lighting!
[DJI_0406, 0407; OR IMG_7552]

[IMG_7134 Paula intro]

99b Diablos Interior

In a pyramid themed for Ancient Egypt, a south-of-the-border cantina with extravagant El Diablo theming may be a strange mix! But, it works - and there is definitely a party atmosphere in here that keeps people coming back. Plus, that overlook to Luxor's lobby is kind of a nice perk - I'd like to be seated there. [DJI_0408, 0409; could also use IMG_7543 for lobby]

The bar offers both premium tequilas and a selection of signature cocktails.... [DJI_0410 or IMG_7544 or 7545]

...and the artwork, the wall murals, are stunning.
[any of IMG_7547, 7549, 7550, 7541]

99cd Dinner-Tasting / Photos

[No VO]

[IMG_7141, 7142, 7145 in order; food pics in 99d folder]

CHICKEN FAJITAS

Adobo-marinated chicken

onions, peppers,

pico, guacamole,

squash, zucchini,

crema fresca,

flour tortillas

\$28

3-COURSE TASTING MENU

Southwest Baja Caesar Salad

Adobo Grilled Chicken

Chocolate Fudge Churros

\$29.99

99e Dessert

[No VO]

[IMG_7148 churros; pics and bill]