LINQ STAYCATION 9/24-25/2025

00 INTRO - OUTRO

00a Intro Stuff

Dale VO:

Coming to Vegas, and looking to stay at center Strip? How about the Linq? Who's stayed here...dined here...gambled here...soaked up the sun...and enjoyed all the ambiance of that fabulous Promenade next door? We're doing all that and more, in our Linq staycation!

Paula Live:

Why? Because Caesars has a locals offer we can't resist: discounted dining and FREE parking, at all their resorts!

Dale Live:

So get ready...

00b Outro Stuff

[Tell the story of the parking charge, and what they did to fix it - Caesars Entertainment, and the phone call from the Ling.

01 LINQ EXTERIOR

01ab Video-Photos-Ext

Good morning, friends, from Center Strip. We are on the sidewalk in front of Caesars, with the camera pointed at our subject today, the Linq...or, as the company dubs it, The Linq Hotel + Experience. We checked in last night for an overnight staycation, and we're about to share it all with you.

[IMG 5583]

[Tuesday September 23, 2025. 8:23 AM Sunny, Hi 94, Lo 71]

There's been a motel and more on this site since 1959...a lot of history. [IMG 5585]

But what we think made it one of the most desirable destinations on Las Vegas Boulevard was the addition of this, adjacent to it on its south side: the Linq Promenade. [IMG_5589 and/or 5590]

02 ARRIVAL-ROOM TOUR

02a Arrival-Front Desk

All right, let's back up to Monday afternoon. The garage is at the far back of the property, so you have to make the long trek through the District 3, 2, and 1 hallways, to get to the front desk. [DJI_0187]

The Linq has about 2250 rooms, in this unusual arrangement that makes the most of its real estate. [Wiki overhead pic]

We checked in earlier, via the Caesars app, so all we had to do here was get our keys. This place is bustling, and in fact, we learned later that the Linq has had a very busy last couple of weeks. [IMG 5455, 5456]

02b Video-Photos-Main Room I

Here we are in the hallway on the 17th floor of District One...heading to our room. [IMG_6787; turn up audio as Paula opens door]

Since the price was right, we decided to go for a LINQ King Suite, equipped with a separate living room...a wet bar...and even a pot for Paula to brew tea! And down below, a mini fridge. [rest of IMG_6787; photo IMG_5443 in **02b Photos** is fridge]

There's a wraparound sectional couch in a sober gray - but this fun pop of red lips lightens the mood. [IMG 6792]

02b Video-Photos-Main Room II

The couch faces a nice big 55-inch TV on the wall. I was looking for name on that screen - it wasn't there when we first arrived, but later on, there I am! [IMG_6789; pic IMG_5503 in **02b Photos**]

There are more pops of color in the art on this side of the room...and we love the high-top table separating it from the wet bar. [IMG_6788]

Plus...check this out! A nice little half bath tucked behind here. [IMG 6793]

02c Video-Photos-Bath-Closet

The whole suite is 690 square feet...so let's keep going. Tucked behind here is what serves as a closet and chest of drawers - and can we just say, we like this setup? It's equipped with a safe, and ironing supplies.

[IMG_6795, 6796]

The full bath is through here, adjacent to the bedroom. On the left, a vanity with single sink, a makeup mirror...and the necessary.

[IMG_6798]

The shower is a walk-in, nice and roomy, and that rain shower head had some power! The toiletries are Gilchrist & Soames. [IMG 6799]

02d Video-Photos-Bedroom

And finally, the bedroom. It's done in peaceful hues, with blue highlights and light laminate woods. [IMG_6802]

On this side, a bench to hold your stuff...a 47-inch flat screen...and even a little workspace. [IMG 6803]

The bed is king-size, and the USB charging ports are right where you need them. [IMG_6805; also pics in **02d Photos** if needed]

02e Video-Photos-Window View

And...here's our view. As promised, it's the Strip, directly across from the Forum Shops at Caesars. [IMG_6807]

Off to the right, we can just see the construction progressing on the guitar over at the Hard Rock. [IMG_6809]

We are situated directly above Carnaval Court, and we will be enjoying the live music, a little muted up here, all evening long! [IMG_5454]

[end with P1004572 room talk]

03 CARNAVAL COURT

03a Video-Carnaval Court

Lucky for us, our elevator bank just happens to be close to the doors that lead out to Carnaval Court...so, let's go see what's happening outside. We have always really liked this in-between

space, providing pedestrian access between the Linq and Harrah's. This is the big draw: one of the Strip's great outdoor bars for live music.

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[DJI_0171; IMG_6812 or DJI_0172]
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It's just after 4 PM, and the Whip-Its are onstage. This popular and talented local band has had a residency on this stage for many years - and deservedly so. They're a lot of fun to listen to, pumping out classic 80s hits. [DJI_0173, IMG_6813]

03bc Video-Photos-Big Elvis

Just a few steps away, inside Harrah's, Big Elvis is doing his Monday afternoon show in the Piano Bar. This is another beloved and long-lived Las Vegas lounge act - on the Strip since the 1990s, and always packing in the crowds. Big Elvis performs 3 shows a day, 3 days a week here at the Piano Bar, and is a many times Best of Las Vegas winner.

[IMG 6818, 6816, 6815, 5458, 5459]

04 DINNER AT GUY FIERI

04a GF Exterior-Entry

We love us an outdoor patio...and after spying this one, as we were heading back over to the Linq, we went right around the bend and inside...Guy Fieri's Vegas Kitchen & Bar. This was the very first restaurant on the Strip to be brought to us by the mayor of Flavortown. It opened here in 2014. [IMG 5499 and/or 5500; DJI 0174]

[IMG 6821 Paula talk; IMG 6822 Dale talk]

STRAWBERRY MOJITO \$24.99

HEINEKEN 0.0 \$13.99

04bc Video-Photos-Guy Fieri I

[Dale says in IMG 6822, that they'll see the food right now...]

Well, not quite yet - let's take a look around first. Just near the entrance is a great photo collage, including a poster autographed by the big guy himself. [IMG 5496]

You will also find the requisite branded merchandise, in case you want to pick up a souvenir of your visit. [IMG 5481]

And here's that huge 6500-square-foot patio, overlooking the Strip and Carnaval Court. [IMG 5478]

04bc Video-Photos-Guy Fieri II

Inside the restaurant, there's a nice U-shaped bar... [first part of IMG 5477; then 5476]

...and a variety of seating options, tables and booths. [IMG 5475; second half of IMG 5477]

And here's where those big bold flavors and tasty twists on comfort food are prepared...the kitchen. [IMG 5480 and/or 5494]

Check out these celebrity autographs - on plates! There's a unique idea. [IMG 5487; also pics in **04c Photos** - IMG 5488-5489]

04de Video-Photos-Dinner Tasting

[No VO]
[IMG_6825, 6826, 6827, 6830 in order; photos food in **04e Photos** folder]
[pic 5501 is menu for 3-course meal]

THE VEGAS STRIP STEAK
Blackened 10 oz
house-cut NY Strip
plancha asparagus
herb-roasted purple potatoes
Santo salsa verde
\$52.99

3-COURSE DINNER
Big Bite Caesar Salad
The OG Ringer Burger
Marble Cheesecake
\$39.99

05 CASINO WALK

05a Casino General I

Ok, after a nice big dinner, we're in need of a walk. Starting out here at the Strip, let's head in the front doors, and visit the Ling's casino. You old-timers will surely remember that back in

the 1970s, it was the Imperial Palace, the Strip's first Asian-themed resort. ... Under Caesars ownership, it was briefly the Quad...but in 2014, it was rebranded as the Linq, to tie in with the new Linq Promenade next door.

[DJI_0175, IMG_5518, 5519 video; Overlay Wiki pics of Imperial Palace, Quad, Ling]

05a Casino General II

Coinciding with the name change, the Linq underwent a \$223 million renovation that included brightening and opening up the casino, and modernizing it to attract millennials. [DJI 0178]

The casino floor isn't huge - just under 34,000 square feet - but there's room for more than 700 slot machines...and over 35 table games.

[DJI 0179, 0184 are slots; DJI 0180 tables]

05b Sports Book

It's a Monday evening in September, and that means Monday Night Football is on every screen in the sports book - we're talking 50 screens! This area is just steps from the main entry doors. It spreads across 11,000 square feet, a reimagined version of the sports book concept that opened 7 years ago. It is clearly a great place to watch the game.

[DJI 0176, IMG 5520 if needed]

Plus, it's infused with the latest technology in sports betting, both at the kiosk and at the counter. [IMG 5521]

Personally, we loved this - a cozy and secluded VIP lounge that you can reserve for your party to enjoy the game in exclusive comfort.

[IMG_5528 and/or 5529]

05c Catalyst Bar

There was a party atmosphere all through the casino - this was the crowd at the Catalyst Bar. Check out that screen - it's almost movie theatre dimensions! [IMG_5505, 5513]

I guess you'd call this a sport too, right? My perennial favorite, Fortune Cup Derby Deluxe. [IMG_5514, 5515]

05d O'Sheas

Who remembers this gem that used to cozy up next to the Imperial Palace? Yep, O'Shea's lasted on that corner from 1989 to 2012.

[2 Wiki pics]

Well, O'Shea's still lives, although in a smaller space. Enter directly from the Linq casino, and here's O'Shea's - complete with all the things you always loved about it. [DJI 0181]

Along the left side of the space is the bar, still offering cheap beers. [DJI 0182]

And in the center of the room, O'Shea's even has table games...a more intimate experience than over in the main casino. [DJI_0183]

06 OTHER STUFF

06a Jersey Eats (skipped)

We've mentioned the Linq Promenade, and here's one way to get there. ...But first, a quick peek at Buddy V's Jersey Eats, a fun food truck concept straight from the Atlantic City Boardwalk. Looks good, but we're still full from dinner. [DJI_0177, IMG_5526]

06b District 2-3 Hallway (skipped)

[This whole section could be optional - I'm thinking the video might run long!]

A quick mention of the venues along that long hallway at the back of the casino, that leads to guest elevators in Districts 2 and 3. ...First up is Nook Express, the Ling's grab-and-go counter...and I will admit, we sampled a few things from inside these cases while we were here! [DJI_0185]

Another fixture at Caesars properties is the ever-popular Purple Zebra, home to all kinds of flavored daiquiris, and a favorite with the tourist crowd. [First part of DJI_0186; IMG_5542]

And then beyond that, guest elevators and some shopping. [last part of DJI 0186]

06c Sunset

We stopped up in our room for a minute, just in time to catch the sun setting over there in the west, behind Caesars Palace. Even amidst the manmade madness of the Las Vegas Strip, there's always time to enjoy a moment of natural beauty. [IMG 5547]

07 LINQ PROMENADE

07a Walk East

Now that it's dusk, what a perfect time to head back down to street level, and one of our favorite destinations, the Linq Promenade. We both just love the sights and sounds, the ambiance, the energy, of this outdoor entertainment district. [DJI_0189]

At the halfway point, stop and look up...to the High Roller framing your view to the east... [IMG 5551 or 5552]

Watch the lights play on the fountain out front of In-N-Out... [IMG 5555]

Turn around and there's the pool deck for the hotel. We'll check that out in the morning. [photo PIMG 5549]

And if you time it right, you'll catch the zipliners from FlyLinq go by over your head! [IMG_5554; pic 5573 is signage for it]

07b Lights-Shopping

The Promenade is one spot on the Strip that still celebrates neon...bright vivid colors...honors our beloved icons...while bringing us new and exciting experiences.

[IMG 5556, 5562, 6834, 5560; pic 5557 or 5559 if you want!]

I'm feeling touristy...wonder if I can get some Vegas-themed socks in here. [DJI_0190; DJI_0191 & 0192 with audio]

07c Walk Back West

We've taken you to this spot on our channel several times. The Linq Promenade is a 1200-footlong pathway that runs between the Flamingo and the Linq. It's been here for nearly a dozen years now, and cost \$550 million to build. Judging by the foot traffic this evening...or any evening...it was a fresh idea that Las Vegas was ready for, and it took off instantly. [DJI 0193, 0194]

[IMG 5567 with audio; pic 5565 is signage for I Love Sugar]

08 MORNING WALK

08a Casino Art

[Paula VO]

Well good morning! It's your old pal the camera gal, and I was just across the street capturing the exteriors you saw at the beginning of the video. It's time for me to go find some breakfast. [DJI_0196]

But first...I have to give a little screen time to these alluring three-dimensional LED sculptures. The Linq put them around the casino entrances in 2019, and they react and move as people walk by. In a place where casinos are a dime a dozen, this feature makes the Linq stand out just that little bit.

[DJI_0197, IMG_5595, 5517, 5574]

08b Boss Cafe

[Paula VO]

I could've gone for Hash House, but already been there, done that - and besides... I want something a little less, let's say, filling! ... Way down here at the end of this hallway, past the elevators and stores and near the garage, is my breakfast destination... The Boss Cafe. [DJI 0199; pop up either pic 5538 or 5596 Hash House]

This eatery comes to us from another famous chef, New Jersey's own Buddy Valastro, aka the Cake Boss. It's Italian-American fare...and don't those pastries look delish this morning? [DJI_0200; pic PIMG_5597 is Buddy; pic 5600 is menu; pics 5601-5602 are bakery]

08c Breakfast Tasting

[No VO]

[DJI_0201 is tasting; could insert IMG_5605 as I talk about Caesars Forum - or cut that part. Ask me about it]

09 POOL TOUR

09a Main Pool

OK, I can't tell you how long we've been curious about this pool deck - but never had a room key before today to check it out! It's called Influence. [IMG_5606]

Looking at it from the front, you can see that it's surrounded on 3 sides by colorfully painted hotel towers - colors that just serve to add to the party atmosphere. [IMG_5623]

There are two pools up here, both of which were opened in summer 2015, just ten years ago. [IMG 5637]

The main pool is framed by the High Roller - how's that for a setting? [IMG 5646 or 5647]

A total of 36 daybeds and shady umbrellas surround the pool... [IMG 5639]

...and there are even toys available to play in the water. [IMG_5678]

09b Plexiglass Pool

On the east side of the pool deck is this one - smaller but wow, it's plexiglass! [IMG 5614]

You don't step down into it, you step up into it - that's really unique. [IMG 5615]

09c Video-Photos-Cabanas

Influence, the Pool at the Linq, is promoted as being one of the best adults-only party pools in town - and a party pool has to include some great cabanas. Big, splashy, roomy cabanas. [IMG 5629; 5631 or 5632]

There are a dozen of these cozy little guys, wrapped in cool white brick and facing the main pool. You can rent them for the morning, the afternoon, or all day. [IMG_5640, 5620 if needed]

09d Rooms w Patios

Plus, get this: The hotel offers 18 cabana rooms. They're 300 square feet, and include a private patio and direct pool access, from your room. [IMG_5612, 5613]

09e Pool Bar

The other must-have for any party pool is a bar close at hand - and this one sits right between the two pools. [IMG_5638]

It looks to be well-stocked with daiquiris, beers, and spirits. [IMG_5627, 5626]

And I have to say, with the backdrop of the hotel tower, it sure makes a picture. [IMG 5674]

09fh Video-Photos-Prom Side I

Now...we saved the best for last. This is what butts right up against the Linq Promenade. [IMG_5654]

It's a huge raised deck...carpeted with astroturf...and the ultimate space for fun and games under the sun. [IMG 5655]

Inside this little glass-sided building is a space that you can rent - when you've got a big crowd and big plans. Check this out! ...And that wall of windows looks right out to the Promenade. [IMG_5665, 5666, 5670, plus pics in **09h Photos**]

09gh Video-Photos-Prom Side II

But it's this outdoor area that's the lure. Bar over there, game and lounge space, and the view to our left. [IMG_5672]

Plus, one more shaded cabana, with wraparound couches. [second half of IMG 5656]

And we'll wrap up our visit with this view...the Linq Promenade as seen from the Linq pool deck. It's just before 10 AM on Tuesday morning, and we've gotta get ourselves checked out. See you back at the house.

[first part of IMG_5658 walk; then IMG_5662 slow pan]