RED ROCK-LOTUS LUNCH VO 6/28-29/2025

00 INTRO - OUTRO

00a Intro Stuff

Dale VO:

Red Rock Resort: the anchor of Downtown Summerlin...the flagship property for Station Casinos...a glowing tower that perfectly complements the canyon it's named after...and the one-stop shop for everything you want in a first-class getaway!

Paula Live:

The food scene here is endless...but we found a fixed-price lunch at Lotus of Siam that turned out to be a fantastic experience!

Dale Live:

So get ready...

00b Outro Stuff

[tbd - could thank friends for the contribution to the cost of lunch?]

[for **backdrops**, IMG_2612, 2624, 2807 all hold on water features for 1 min plus] [for the **speed-up outro**, DJI 0774 exits the casino and walks across the front to the fountain]

01 TRAVEL-ARRIVAL

01a Driving Footage

It has been 4 years since we spotlighted this property, the Red Rock Resort, and it deserves more attention than that! Back in the early 2000s, Station Casinos purchased a 68-acre parcel, at the corner of the Las Vegas Beltway and Charleston Boulevard, from the Howard Hughes Corporation. [DJI 0730]

Friday June 27, 2025 9:11 AM Sunny, Hi 103, Lo 74

And in April 2006, the resort named after Red Rock Canyon just a few miles to the west, opened its doors. This is the flagship property for Stations, and is also home to their corporate headquarters. It cost \$925 million, their most expensive property up til that time. [DJI_0731]

01bc Video-Photos-Exterior

The marquee is a landmark along the 215 Beltway northbound...and if you peek over the fence at the far west of the property, you can just glimpse the national conservation area. [IMG 2574, 2575]

Heck of a driveway, wouldn't you say? Heck of a setting...heck of a fountain. [IMG 2616]

Of Red Rock's many entrances, this one facing West Charleston is the most dramatic. Combining the red sandstone with cooling water is the perfect marriage of elements to represent the place, and its environment.

[either IMG_2617 or 2622]

In fact, all along the frontage, there are beautiful architectural water features, cascading downward from upper levels to lower. Take a moment to just appreciate all this, before you head indoors. This kind of design, in the desert, deserves to be enjoyed! [IMG_2583, 2588, 2612, 2598]

02 RED ROCK CASINO

02a Casino Walk I

OK, as I mentioned, the last time we featured Red Rock Resort was back in 2021...and as rapidly as Las Vegas reinvents itself, that's a lifetime! Let's head into the casino, and do some exploring. [DJI_0732]

Stations is arguably the most recognizable of the locals casino chains, with over 20 properties strategically placed all over the Las Vegas valley. When Red Rock was under construction, the word "Resort" was substituted for the typical "Station" in its name, because this was always intended to target that upscale demographic, both local and tourist. The casino is more than 118,000 square feet, with plenty of room between the slots and along its edges. [DJI_0733]

02a Casino Walk II

At opening, Red Rock already faced competition in Summerlin. The Rampart was the first casino in the area, opening in 1999, and the Suncoast followed in 2000. This place though, was an instant hit, generating huge revenues in its first 6 months, and ever since. As you can see, slot options abound, and there are plenty of table games situated around a central bar. [DJI_0749, 0750; 2 pics of Rampart, Suncoast]

Plus, there's a non-smoking slot area...and a popular loyalty program to tie it all together. [DJI_0740, pics IMG 2663, 2664]

02b Sports Book Area

Turning to sports, STN Sports is a juggernaut among the locals. Sports fans can enjoy bartop gaming...a betting app...and a sports book featuring individual screens as well as a 96 foot viewing wall. [DJI_0735, 0736; IMG_2628]

Plus, a lounge between the screens and the bar, furnished with sink-into chairs. [IMG 2629]

To the right of sports is the poker room - home to 20 tables, and limits and hold-ems at all levels. [DJI_0737]

And to the left, a traditional keno lounge, with 16 seats, 4 stations, and hours from 8 AM to midnight or later. You don't see a lot of these any more. [DJI 0738]

02c Movies-Bingo

As we've told you many times before, our locals casinos are multi-purpose entertainment destinations for Las Vegas locals. Red Rock houses the Regal Cinemas 16, a theater for first-run movies that is presently undergoing some renovations. [end of DJI 0741]

Now, for the retiree crowd that lives in Summerlin, Bingo is a popular pastime. The bingo room hosts 8 one-hour sessions daily, and has seating for 610 players. [DJI_0742; IMG_2642]

02de Video-Photos-Bowling

Next up: what's rumored to be the most expensive bowling alley in the world! Red Rock Lanes was part of an expansion in 2006, just after the resort opened. The price tag: \$31 million. [DJI 0744, 0745]

The bowling center is equipped with 72 lanes, and has a schedule of fun activities and specials for bowlers of all ages. It opens at 9 AM, 7 days a week, and stays open til midnight or later. [IMG 2647, 2648, 2656; pics IMG 2659-2661 in **02e Photos**]

There's also a bar, open at noon...a snack bar open at 4PM on weekdays and 11AM on weekends...an arcade...and a pro shop.

[IMG_2651, 2655, 2652, 2658]

03 RESTAURANTS OUT FRONT

03a Yard House

One distinguishing feature of Red Rock Resort is the gorgeous "restaurant row" along the building's West Charleston entrance. Let's explore these, inside and out, to coin a phrase. [small clip from middle of DJI_0774]

First up, Yard House, with a handy exterior entrance. [pic PIMG 2579]

The chain was founded in California, back in 1996, and boasts more than 80 locations. Craft beer on tap is their claim to fame, and this spot has over 130 of them...plus, exceptional bar food.

[IMG 2680, 2681, web pics of drinks and food]

03b Lucilles BBQ

Moving left, Lucille's Smokehouse Barbecue opened here in 2013. This one also originated in SoCal. [IMG_2582]

Lucille's specializes in southern, cajun comfort food - slow-smoked, baby-back, and southern fried. We've dined here many times, and are big fans of the decor as well as the menu.

[IMG 2684, 2685; 2 web pics of food]

03c Leoncito

Another thing we are big fans of: patio dining, in transportive settings like this! [IMG_2585 or 2586]

The restaurant is called Leoncito, and every aspect was carefully designed to celebrate the rich history of Mexico. [IMG 2589]

Indoors, the entry area is bathed in green and terracotta hues and ambient lighting - and that's even before we step foot into the restaurant itself! Through food, drink, and music, Leoncito is about celebrating a love for life.

[IMG 2691; mural 2696; 3 peeks inside 2693-2695; 2 web pics of food/drink]

03d Blue Ribbon Sushi

And the patios continue...next door, topped by strings of party lights, are the clean white lines of Blue Ribbon Sushi. [IMG_2590 and/or 2593]

The staff is preparing to open for the day as we stop by. They'll be serving the highest quality sushi and sashimi - and they do lunch on the weekends. [IMG 2698, 2 web pics]

03e Osteria Fiorella

Left of the main entrance is an Italian eatery from award-winning chef Marc Vetri, called Osteria Fiorella. Its elegant patio features marble-topped tables and ocean-blue chairs, plus an outdoor bar. [first part of IMG_2595, then 2597]

This is an import from Philly, a casual restaurant serving delicious handmade dishes from their wood-burning and charcoal ovens.

[IMG 2700; pics of interior 2701-2702; 2 web pics of food]

03f Rocks Lounge

This lovely waterfall fronts the 24/7 Rocks Lounge...although no patio here. [IMG 2601]

Inside, this lounge has already earned a name for itself, for exceptional cocktails, a beautiful aesthetic, and live music nightly.

[IMG 2705, DJI 0751]

03g Lotus of Siam

And last, as we travel west to east, is the enchanting garden for Lotus of Siam. This beloved local icon for Thai cuisine opened at Red Rock Resort in 2022. [IMG 2606]

It's just next to the east casino doors, and is going to be our lunch spot today. Paula thought this garden was exquisite. [IMG_2608]

04 HOTEL AREA

04a Lobby Bar

But, we've got a lot more to explore before we think about lunch! At the far back of the casino, we eventually find the hotel...and its stunning lobby bar. [DJI 0752]

The chandeliers you'll find at Red Rock cost over \$6 million, and are an ode to the opulence of vintage Vegas casinos like Desert Inn and the Sands. [IMG 2733; pic 2739]

Let's go down for a closer look. [DJI 0753]

At this point, it's 10:45 AM, and the lobby bar is a quiet, intimate space for a call, a conversation, a cup of coffee. We love the jewel red carpets and pillows, paired with creamy upholstery. It's beautiful. [IMG_2736, 2737]

04b Hotel Lobby

Just behind the lobby bar is the lobby for the Red Rock hotel itself, offering 796 rooms and suites at any price point you can afford!

[first part of DJI_0754 and/or IMG_2735; there are 7 web pics of room types you can pop up over top]

And true to its name, if you are checking in, just pull up and enter through the red doors. [end of DJI_0754]

04c Hotel Tower

Now, if you're a Las Vegas local, you may remember the controversy when this resort was first proposed. Stations original plan had the hotel tower being 300 feet tall. Summerlin residents fought that, saying it would impede their views of Red Rock Canyon. The company compromised on a height of 198 feet...which still makes it the second tallest building in Summerlin. [IMG_2743, 2765, 2747 if needed]

04d Pool-Rouge

We've come out the back doors, to see if we can get a peek at the pool deck. The pool area is 3 acres, with multiple pools, and lots of chairs and cabanas. [DJI 0755; 2 web pics of main & sandbar pools]

Plus, at the far end, we see a stage and lights set up for live music. [DJI 0756]

Also worth a mention here is the Rouge Room, an ultra lounge with a stunning entrance indoors...and a secluded 21-and-over pool deck outdoors.

[IMG 2708 plus pics; pic 2711 promo for cabanas; web pic of pool]

05 DOWNTOWN SUMMERLIN

05a Cross the Street

We've now walked a short distance beyond the pool area. Fun fact: Red Rock Resort was the first structure to be built in the 400-acre mixed use development called Downtown Summerlin. [IMG 2748, pic 2761]

05b DT Summerlin Overview

Along here you've got dining...you've got shopping...and as you head further into the complex, there are office space and apartments as well. Downtown Summerlin was developed by the Howard Hughes Corporation, and first opened in October 2014. [DJI 0758]

What we know of as the shopping center occupies 106 sprawling acres. The designers left plenty of open space for strolling, landscaping, art, and water features. [DJI 0759]

05c Views from Bridge

It's also a valuable resource for the community. This lawn hosts themed events all throughout the year, and is a gathering space for families. On cooler days, this play structure is a popular spot for kids to test their skills.

[IMG 2751 or 2752; IMG 2756]

Looking south, there's some of that office space I mentioned. Downtown Summerlin extends all the way down to Sahara Avenue in that direction. [IMG_2754]

And looking north, there's our flagship property, the Red Rock Resort. Let's head back, it's nearly lunchtime for our camera gal. [IMG_2759]

05d Back to Casino

FYI, the walk between Downtown Summerlin and the resort is very doable - just takes a few minutes. You get to stroll this lovely palm-lined pathway alongside the pool deck...and enter the casino just near the food court.

[DJI 0760 (cut out the part where I pivot to pool); then end of DJI 0761 where I step inside]

06 YES MORE FOOD

06a Food Court

That reminds me...those restaurants out front are not your only options in here. Ohhh no, there is so much more to eat, starting here with the food court. There are 7 counters here for a quick bite, names you recognize, and lots of seating.

[DJI_0746, 0748; 7 pics of the logos if you want to pop them up]

You've got Auntie Anne's across the aisle...and one of two Starbucks on the property. [IMG 2643, 2672]

06b Federal Donuts-Chicken

We found this place intriguing - established in Philadelphia in 2011, this is the first west coast location for Federal Donuts and Chicken. They serve donuts, coffee, and fried chicken...what the owners call "the three comforts". [IMG 2676 plus pics]

06c Noodle-Penny-Bones

Still not done! There's a charming noodle bar on the casino floor... [8NB 2713, 2714]

...the Red Rock version of a 24-hour coffee shop, the Lucky Penny. We've eaten here more than once, and can vouch for the great breakfast, and bakery items! [LP 2719, 2720]

...and of course, the classic steakhouse. This one is called T-Bones Chophouse, and from what we can see, the setting is spectacular.

[TB 2729, 3 web pics of interior]

06d Naxos-Oyster

And over in this bright corner, a new addition called Naxos Taverna. It's inspired by Greece...the menu reflects the Mediterranean...and the dining room is gorgeous. They do dinner every night, and lunch on weekends.

[first part of DJI_0763 walk; then IMG_2770]

All the Station Casinos offer an Oyster Bar, and this one at Red Rock has just opened for lunch. They consistently earn best of Las Vegas awards, for their freshest oysters and seafood - all prepared as you watch.

[IMG 2774, pics 2775 or 2776]

07 LOTUS OF SIAM

07a Lotus Arrival

And...leaving behind the Greek isles and the seashore, this is our lunch spot, a culinary journey to Old Siam. [IMG 2781]

Lotus of Siam is fairly new to Red Rock Resort, but not new to Las Vegas. Since 1999, Chef Saipin has grown the original, over on East Flamingo Road, into a multi-award winning dining experience. [IMG 2777; web pic of chef and E Flamingo]

Paula has been looking forward to this, her reservations awaits! [DJI 0764]

[DJI 0767 welcome - FLIP]

07bc Video-Photos-Lotus Interior

The restaurant in total occupies 8000 square feet, and cost more than \$5 million to construct. Between the lanterns, the greenery, and the lighting, you totally forget there's a casino out there. [IMG_2793]

Lotus of Siam's claim to fame is their emphasis on traditional Northern Thai culture and cuisine - a unique experience of hearty herbs and spices, and over 100 years of family recipes. All delivered and enjoyed in a space that looks worth every bit of that five mil - it's just fabulous in here. [IMG 2785 and/or 2787; IMG 2789 and/or 2791]

07d Lunch-Tasting

[No VO] [DJI_0768 - FLIP; pics 2798, 2800]

THAI SALAD W/ PEANUT SAUCE Mixed Greens Boiled Egg Peanut Dressing Crispy Egg Noodles

[DJI_0770 - FLIP; pics 2801, 2802]
GARLIC PEPPER SAUCE W/ CHICKEN
Garlic Pepper Sauce
Market Green
Fried Garlic
Cilantro
Chicken

[DJI 0772 - FLIP; pics 2803, 2805; 2808 is the bill]

PINEAPPLE UPSIDE DOWN CAKE Condensed Milk Caramel & Coconut Ice Cream