SOUTH POINT BUFFET VO 12/4-5/2025

00 INTRO - OUTRO

00a Intro Stuff

Dale VO:

Buffets used to be synonymous with a Vegas vacation, and though there are fewer than there once were, they should still be on your must-do list. Let us introduce you to the best bargain buffet on Las Vegas Boulevard - right here, at the South Point!

Paula Live:

Yep, I'm taking you to lunch at the Garden Buffet today...and stick around afterwards, because we're grabbing some NFR action while we're here!

Dale Live:

So get ready...

00b Outro Stuff

[tbd - if we didn't use NFR facts earlier, could tell them here Paula talk about buffet bargain, things I wish I had tried]

01 TRAVEL-ARRIVAL

01a Driving Footage

For those of you keeping track, at the end of 2025, only 6 buffets remain on the Las Vegas Strip. But, if you travel just 5 miles south of the welcome sign, there is another option that offers all-day dining at a really affordable price. Let's pull into one of our personal favorite properties, Michael Gaughan's South Point. [DJI_0479, 0480]

[The List:

Wynn Buffet
Bacchanal Buffet (Caesars)
Bellagio Buffet
Wicked Spoon (Cosmopolitan)
MGM Grand Buffet
Excalibur Buffet]

01b South Point Exterior

The South Point is celebrating a big birthday during Christmas week: this mega-successful resort turns twenty! It opened on December 22, 2005. [IMG_8063 or 8064]

Paula and I live nearby, and there is never a time that we visit the South Point that it isn't incredibly busy. There are more than 2000 rooms, and I guarantee that it's sold out right about now, thanks to the National Finals Rodeo. [DJI 0481, 0482]

The rodeo itself is over at UNLV, but just about every ancillary event is either happening here, or on the screens. Vegas Cowboy Central is riiiight here. [IMG 8066 or 8067]

02 GETTING INSIDE

02a Enter-NFR Booth

The great thing about going to a buffet is that you're not trying to get there at some specific reservation time. Thus, we can stop here at the NFR booth inside the front doors, and peruse the merchandise. [DJI 0484]

These products are sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, and there is never a year that we don't open our wallets and buy something! This year we grabbed an ornament, commemorating 40 years in Las Vegas. [DJI_0486, plus pics]

02b Casino

South Point's casino is a huge one, topping 137,000 square feet, and even on a Wednesday morning there's plenty of action in here, particularly at the tables. [DJI 0487]

By the way, along with all the cowboy promos, it is beginning to look a lot like Christmas in here as well.

[promos are 8074, 8075; tree clips are IMG_7186, 8079; could also snap a picture, show you and me: 7188, 7190]

03 GARDEN BUFFET-ROUND 1

03a Buffet Arrival

The Garden Buffet is our lunch destination for today. ...Now, if you're in Las Vegas on Christmas and don't want to cook - here's an option.

[IMG_8110, pic of menu 8106]

The buffet opens at 7 AM and stays open all day. The breakfast menu is served first, then lunch begins at 11. The dinner menu, including carved prime rib, happens at 4 PM. It's almost 11, so let's go get it while it's fresh! [DJI_0504; pop up pic 8112 or web pic of pricing; web pic of breakfast plates, prime rib carving]

03b Dining Room

The buffet opened with the resort, back in 2005. At the time, it was the biggest buffet among the Coast resorts. [DJI_0507]

The dining room features a bright and colorful design, with various seating configurations that accommodate up to 625 guests. [DJI_0506]

There's a salad bar out front, and six live cooking stations along the rear of the room, showcasing a number of popular cuisines.

[DJI 0517 and/or 0505]

03cd Video-Photos-Salad Bar

Taking a quick spin around the salad bar - there are 4 sides here with different offerings. This end is the green salads, and fresh fruit.

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[DJI 0508, IMG 8115]
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On the opposite end, 5 soups, including the traditional Mexican menudo. [IMG 8169]

Because it's just after 11 AM, there are still breakfast items to be had...

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[IMG_8167]...along with peel-and-eat shrimp... [IMG_8166]...and even some dessert items. [IMG_8119]
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03e Tasting Round 1

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[No VO]
[DJI 0521; pic of soup]
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04 GARDEN BUFFET-ROUND 2

04a Carved Meats

The carving station is front and center, and offers all the typical meats, from brisket to ham, chicken and turkey.

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[IMG 8125, pics 8121, 8124]
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The chef did a little performance with the ribs for Paula when he saw her filming. [IMG_8126]

Around the corner are a number of sides, and Paula said afterwards she regretted not grabbing a stuffed pepper! [DJI_0510, pic 8140]

04bc Italian Station/Mexican Station

To the right is the Italian station, which at this hour also includes the remaining breakfast items and egg dishes....plus some tasty-looking sausage and tuscan chicken. [DJI 0512, plus pics]

The Mexican station has a nice spread of taco fillings and toppings on this end...and on the other, a savory enchilada. We'll try that for sure.

[DJI 0513; IMG 8151 also does the taco area; plus pics]

04d Tasting Round 2

[No VO]
[DJI_0523; pic of plate, and things I am tasting]

05 GARDEN BUFFET-ROUND 3

05a Asian Station

The Asian station is next, with classic one-dish mains... [DJI 0515]

...and the ever-popular Mongolian Grill, where you invent your own combination of meats and veggies and have it stir-fried for you.

...Don't forget the egg roll.

[DJI 0514; IMG 8153 also shows Mongolian Grill ingredients]

05b Seafood Station

To the far right is the Seafood Station. Only a few offerings this early, but come back on a Friday night for their extravagant Seafood Buffet!

[DJI 0516; web pic of seafood night]

05c Tasting Round 3

[No VO]
[DJI 0524; pic of plate, and things I am tasting]

06 GARDEN BUFFET-ROUND 4

06ab Video-Photos-Desserts

At the far left of the live stations is where you'll find the desserts, including soft serve...kid-friendly treats...and warm favorites. [DJI_0509 or IMG_8138]

There is also real ice cream...a selection of cakes...more cakes, and all the traditional pies, in individual serving sizes.

[IMG 8131, 8129, 8127]

06c Tasting Round 4

[No VO]
[DJI 0525; pic of plate, and things I am tasting; receipt]

07 CINCH GIFT SHOW

07a Hang With Me

[begin with DJI 0526 with audio]

If you aren't familiar, the South Point is a key location for National Finals Rodeo events — not only nightly viewing parties and buckle ceremonies, but also giveaways and live entertainment. ...On her way to the convention area, Paula had to stop and say hello to Benny Binion, a Vegas icon who was instrumental in bringing the NFR to Las Vegas. And now, it's celebrating 40 years here!

[all DJI_0488; promo pics 8076, 8085; Benny video IMG_8081; Paula with Benny 8082 or 8084; 40-year logo from web]

07bc Cinch Walk-n-Talk

[No VO]

[In order:

DJI 0490

DJI 0491

DJI_0492 ends at Cinch booth - could also show IMG_8090 if it works better; 2 pics 8092-8093 of shirts

DJI 0494; insert IMG 8099 steaming clip]

07de Arena Walk-n-Talk

[No VO]

[In order:

DJI_0502; DJI_0496 is an alternate viewpoint (optional - for video only, not audio); clip IMG_8103 is Ariat WSTR;

in **07e Extras** folder are 2 pics of WSTR, IMG_8101/8102; plus 2 clips of the 2024 WSTR action; In **07e Extras** are 2024 clip and pic of the saloon window; DJI 0498 goes over to the vendor area; or 4 pics of vendors in **07e**]

[then DJI_0500 - begin where I say "Ariat is Dale's second favorite..." Work with me on this segment - I need to skip something]

07f RMEF Room-Boots

[begin with DJI 0503, with audio]

[When I talk about NFR being big business, maybe show these? Or, could be in the outro:

NFR FACTS & FIGURES

379 consecutive sell-outs going into 2025
Attendance surpasses 170,000 over ten days

Direct economic impact of rodeo events: \$200 million

Add in Cowboy Christmas & trade shows: \$100-150 million more]

And...we will leave you with this: I guarantee that the boot shine business is never better, anytime of year, than right here at The South Point during the Las Vegas NFR! [DJI 0489]