

# Viva LAS VEGAS

Julia Teen scopes out the celeb hotspots and breaks the cardinal rule of Sin City – what happens in Vegas...ends up in Grazia!

IT'S NOT my usual Wednesday-night MO to be pulling up to a valet stand on a subdued residential street in the Mojave Desert. I'm 15 minutes from the main Vegas Strip, waiting outside a McMansion and about to rub elbows with the city's elite, who are laying down cash at a charity Jimmy Choo sale.

The guest list reads like the Real Housewives Of Las Vegas: an ex Miss Nevada USA, an assortment of casino owners' wives, the hostess – a lottery winner – and a posse of her well-heeled girlfriends. Only in Vegas, right?

But back on the Strip is where the

A-list comes to play. I'm staying at the celeb hotel of choice, the Bellagio, where you've got to stay on-guard for a George Clooney sighting. It is the only Vegas hotel he'll stay in, after all.

**24-hour party people**  
Forget losing money at the blackjack table – I'm in Vegas to hit the clubs! Fortunately, so are the celebs, so you can be sure to spot at least one or two on any given weekend.

I head straight to one of the newest and hottest party spots on the Strip – 1 OAK in The Mirage hotel. Katy Perry and Adam Levine love

to hang out there, and if you're lucky, you'll catch Jamie Foxx or Kanye West jumping on the mic for an impromptu gig. I'm told Kim Kardashian's man only likes to hear his own music and will take over the DJ booth to spin his tracks – up to 10 times on repeat. The club's a spectacle with podium dancers, amazing lighting, smoke machines and flying confetti.

If there's one Vegas scene you have to check out, it's a daytime pool party. Jack Colton, founder of online Vegas nightlife guide [www.jackcolton.com](http://www.jackcolton.com) and travel site Expedia's clubbing

Checked out the Bellagio's fountain show? Time to hit the clubs



The buzzing Vegas Strip

"IF YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU MIGHT CATCH KANYE WEST JUMPING ON THE MIC – HE TAKES OVER THE DJ BOOTH TO SPIN TRACKS ...ER, HIS OWN, THAT IS"

insider, points to the almost year-round stunning weather for the popularity of this experience. Pools are open from March to September and he rates the Encore Beach Club at the Wynn hotel, Marquee Dayclub at The Cosmopolitan

and Wet Republic at MGM Grand as the hottest spots to rock your bikini. Later, I make my way over to XS in the Encore hotel, an indoor/outdoor venue that can house an impressive 8000 revellers. As we enter, I eyeball Kirsten Dunst in the DJ booth (looking ever-so-slightly worse for wear!) and names like Pink and Beyonce have also partied there and sipped the signature \$10,000 champagne and cognac cocktail. DJs Tiesto and Calvin Harris will play until the sun comes up, so this is definitely the club for dance-music lovers. ▶



Keep your eyes peeled for Katy Perry at 1 OAK



Grab a poolside position and enjoy the tunes at the Encore Beach Club

A-list alert: the Crystals at CityCenter Louis Vuitton store has a VIP-only floor!



Get your label fix at the Caesars Palace boutiques



Julia snaps up a Roberto Cavalli dress at Refinery



New York superstore that's brought its signature cool factor to Vegas. All my best friends are there – Alexander Wang, Christian Louboutin and Marc Jacobs, as well as the greats; YSL, Givenchy, Prada and Burberry.

For a more budget-friendly experience, I head to Caesars Palace and check out Intermix, which carries labels like Rag & Bone, Dsquared2 and Elizabeth and James. Jenna gives me the lowdown on the hot footwear brand that all the celebs are wearing for easy airport chic (Tkees thongs) so I dutifully snap them up.

I also check out Scoop NYC in Caesars, home of Alice and Olivia, Diane von Furstenberg and Zac Posen – the staff are amazing and whisper to me that J-Lo drops by whenever she is in town.

Next, Jenna steers me off the Strip and straight to the holy land – the celebrity consignment store Refinery ([www.refineryresale.com](http://www.refineryresale.com)). I'm in heaven – it's been a Vegas institution since the 70s and is packed full of current and vintage finds from every top-end label. I walk away with a Roberto Cavalli dress for a steal. Forget the pokies – it's here Grazia girls will hit the jackpot. ■

### It's label love

You can almost skip New York – only in Vegas would you find five breathtakingly beautiful Louis Vuitton stores within walking distance of each other (check out the store in Crystals at CityCenter for celeb spotting – they have a VIP-only floor!).

I'm fashion hunting with Expedia styling gun Jenna Doughton ([www.jennadoughton.com](http://www.jennadoughton.com)), who offers me some priceless advice; savvy shoppers do their Vegas research – all the great boutiques are off the Strip, tucked away inside the hotels.

I start my day off at The Palazzo and head straight to Barneys – the

## GRAZIA PASSPORT

### MUST-WEAR

A bright va-va-Vegas party-lip! Guerlain Shine Automatique Brilliance in Pour Troubler, \$55 (02 9695 4800)

### DON'T MISS

AVIP-style degustation at Michelin-starred Michael Mina in the Bellagio. The lobster pot pie is to-die-for!

### HOLIDAY SHOE-VENIRS

It doesn't all have to stay in Vegas – treat your feet! Diane von Furstenberg heels, approx \$322 ([www.net-a-porter.com](http://www.net-a-porter.com))

### BOOK NOW

Book your hotel and flights with Expedia ([www.expedia.com.au](http://www.expedia.com.au)) and save cash to spend in Vegas! Check out the Expedia Insider program at [www.expedia.com.au/insider](http://www.expedia.com.au/insider)



Try Michael Mina's exquisite seafood