Written by Nadine Toren

Television personality and AZfoothills.com columnist Nadine Toren is scouring the area, finding savvy Valley features, bringing readers "on the scene." Every day she'll introduce you to <u>celebrities</u>, athletes, and give you an inside look into local events and hot

. She'll touch on topical issues, and keep AZ fans posted on all the big talkers around town. spots



Sin City--your ticket to getting away with just about anything, especially when you're a celeb. I got the chance to experience Vegas as a VIP...here's a taste of my time on the Strip.

It's Saturday, April 2nd, and I'm writing this from room 23-340, a Celebrity Suite at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. (Yes, I am well aware by the time you read this; I'll be back in the Valley leaving Sin City behind—for now.)

Out my window, I can see the skyline of New York; the hotel, that is; as well as the Monte Carlo. My bathroom is about the size of my Old Town condo, with a hot tub Jacuzzi build for two.

The BF and I arrived yesterday afternoon. Thanks to the kind folks at MGM Grand, we have been granted the opportunity to experience what the hotel has to offer; thus, giving me a once-of-a-life chance to live like a worry-free high roller.

Yep, I'm the kind of person that will throw down a 5-dollar bill on a black jack table and come close to tears if I lose it. So this weekend, I'm pretending money grows on trees--it's all about what Benjamin's can buy if money is no object.



We arrived around 4:30 Friday, and I was instructed to promptly get ready for our 6:30 dinner reservation. While I primped myself Vegas-style, the BF pampered himself in a bubble bath—I'm sure he'll just love me for including that minor detail. Once we got dolled up, we made our way downstairs to fine dine at Vegas' sole three-star Michelin-rated restaurant, Joël Robuchon. (You'll get a taste of *that* experience in tomorrow's article.)

After what seemed like a 10-course meal full of French cuisine, champagne, and vino, we danced the night away at Studio 54, one of MGM's many hot spots. After a tequila shot or two, we parked ourselves on the dance floor and stayed there 'til the wee hours of the morning. (Later this week, I'll be high-lighting how to party like a VIP, Vegas style.)

Come 3am, a harsh reality set in; I am no longer 21...all I wanted to do was go to sleep.

High rollers are on no schedule, right? That's why I decided to *finally* sleep in this morning! (This is quite a change from my Monday-Friday alarm clock going off at 2:30am.)

The BF and I decided to kick things off right, so we rang room service. A mimosa, bagel, fruit, turkey sausage links, and a couple pieces of bacon somehow cured our hang-over just in time for our 2pm spa treatments.



I ditched the make-up, threw on some clothes, and made my way to the Grand Spa, BF in hand. It was the first time *he* was to experience such accommodations. After the two of us checked in, he went right, I went left, and so began our hour and a half of personal pampering.

The resort's 30,000-square-foot Grand Spa is equipped with saunas, steam rooms, whirlpools, and 26 treatment rooms—that's where you can enjoy quite pricey massages, facials, eastern-inspired therapies, exfoliating showers, and rejuvenation galore. The spa's signature treatment is the 2-hour exclusive \$300+ Dreaming Ritual incorporating Australian Aboriginal massage techniques, a hair mask, as well as hand and foot treatments.

However, we got hot stone Zen massages.

High-Rolling in Sin City

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Both the BF and I left glowing with relaxation. We also had access to the resort's fitness center and four pools, but instead, headed back to the room and prepared for the remainder of our day on the Strip.

That brings me to now.

Before getting ready to take on more of Vegas, I decided I'd take a break to update you on our high rolling adventure.

We are surely enjoying the accommodations; however, consider us D-Listers. Our "Celebrity Suite" is only the beginning of MGM Grand's luxurious possibilities.

Yes, the MGM Grand is home to 5,044 diverse guest rooms, suites and lofts, but money can buy you more than just your typical guest bed and bath. The hotel's West Wing offers a boutique-style area with 700 rooms equipped with a king-size bed, flat screen TV, DVD player, and oversized shower.

However, if that doesn't do the trick, you can also opt for the The Signature at MGM Grand, a glorious non-gaming, non-smoking hotel. The three distinct towers include more than 500 suites, giving you a gated, private experience based on comfort and intimacy.



But if you happen to strike gold on the slot machines, indulge in the AAA Five Diamond awarded SKYLOFTS at MGM. This accommodation is a uniquely elegant choice for *true* VIPs, featuring 24-foot, floor-to-ceiling windows providing dramatic views of the Vegas Strip.

When it comes to these lofts, size is no object—you can breathe easily in these rooms ranging from 1,400 to 6,000 square feet, in one, two, or three-bedroom floor plans. Amenities include private bi-level balconies featuring intimate whirlpool spas and lounge seating.

You'll fork out thousands, but you'll sleep in the lap of luxury.

Maybe next time we'll indulge in a loft, but for now, we are surely living the "suite" life in Sin City. Stay tuned for more on our high-rolling experience.

*Some details left out. What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.



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