

# Live your Vegas dream and see a show - at a discounted price

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Vegas.com

Going to Las Vegas and seeing a show is a tradition that dates back to the 1940s. Since then, Elvis, The Rat Pack, Siegfried and Roy, Wayne Newton and countless others have helped establish Las Vegas as the entertainment capital of the world.

If the poor economy has you scrutinizing whether or not to eliminate a show from your Vegas vacation itinerary, rest assured. Economic woes might be bad for business, but it's not bad if you're the consumer. These days there are many ways to live out your Vegas dream of seeing a show - often at a discounted price.

"If you're thinking of seeing a show, this is the best time to do it," said magician Nathan Burton, who has an afternoon comedy and magic show at Flamingo. "There are deals out there that have not been around for 10 or 15 years."

Locating deals is just a matter of doing some research and knowing what to look for when it comes to purchasing show tickets.

Knowing where to begin can be a little tricky. Jordan Fiksenbaum, vice president of marketing and public relations for Cirque du Soleil, RSD, suggests making a list of productions you want to see and then researching show information online.

If any new shows are on your list, check to see if they're having any previews. Many times, shows offer discount tickets to see a preview show before the official opening date.

Along with reading about the shows, Burton suggests looking at VEGAS.com and watching a video preview that can be found on the show pages. The videos enable people to see if they are going to like a show without even taking a step in the theater.

"You can almost do your homework when you are sitting at your desk on your lunch break. You can go to VEGAS.com and look at the videos. I'm a local, and I still use VEGAS.com to look at the show information," said Burton.

While doing your research, remember to take note of the different tickets that are being offered and which ones include more than just admission to the show.

"Anything where they're offering combos is the way to go," said Paul Hughes who both hosts and produces Playboy Comedy Club at the Palms with fellow comedian and friend Curt McCown.

The Playboy Comedy Club offers a combo ticket that includes VIP admission to the show and VIP admission to Moon and Playboy Nightclub, also located at Palms.

"Not only are you buying value, you're buying peace of mind knowing that you'll be able to get into a nightclub and not have to wait in line. Everything is covered. You're saving money and you're ready to rock," said Hughes.

The next thing to consider is if there is any added value to seeing a certain show despite several being offered all in the same genre. For instance, there are many comedy shows in Vegas, but Playboy Comedy is the only one that features nationally-known headlining comedians and the Playboy Playmate of the month who is available after the show for pictures and autographs.

"V-The Ultimate Variety Show" at the V Theater inside the Miracle Miles Shops at Planet Hollywood is another show that offers a combination ticket. Their VIP ticket includes preferred VIP seating and dinner at your choice of three different restaurants located in the Miracle Mile Shops.

"A lot of places will do a dinner show with a pre-fab meal. We give people the option of going to these great restaurants, and they can pick what style they want," said David Saxe, the producer for all the shows at V Theater.

This show is also an example of the added value you can look for when searching for shows. Instead of just one main headliner, it features a selection of highly-talented specialty acts including a master juggler, two crazy gauchos, a rhythmic gymnast and aerialists.

Apart from the dinner and show combination ticket, this show is also offering a ticket upgrade special where you can purchase a ticket at regular price and get a free upgrade to VIP seating. This is another special to look for when you are researching which ticket to purchase.

Many of the Cirque du Soleil shows are also offering ticket upgrade specials including "Mystère," "Zumanity," "Crisis Angel Believe" and "KÀ."

"Cirque du Soleil is known for its creativity and producing shows that are of the highest caliber. Our six shows in Las Vegas are exclusive to their respective theaters, you cannot see any of the productions anywhere else in the world," said Fiksenbaum.

The upgrade specials allow customers to see one of these exclusive shows from a better seat without having to pay for a more expensive ticket. However, make sure to look for any date restrictions when considering one of these tickets. Some of the ticket upgrade specials are only offered for a limited time or on certain show days.

Afternoon shows like "Gregory Popovich's Comedy Pet Theater" at Planet Hollywood and "The Price is Right" at Bally's are another option to consider when trying to get the most bang for your buck.

They feature great entertainment at a less expensive ticket price than evening shows. They are a good option for families who want to see something everyone can enjoy without breaking the bank.

Afternoon shows are also a good option for people who want to see a show without taking away from their time indulging in the city's notorious nightlife scene.

"Nathan Burton Comedy Magic" performs in the afternoon and features grand illusions, stunning showgirls and hilarious comedy.

"With our show it's just not one person. We have a cast of eleven with showgirls and stage hands and a specialty act. It has the caliber of a nighttime show that just happens to be at 4 p.m.," said Burton.

His show is currently offering a special VIP ticket that includes VIP preferred seating for what would normally be the cost of a VIP child's ticket. The ticket special includes a savings of more than \$20 and the chance to be a VIP.

"Who doesn't want to be a VIP when they come to Vegas - and for \$26 they can get the best seat in the house for a great price," said Burton.



Photo courtesy of Flamingo Las Vegas  
Nathan Burton stars in "Nathan Burton Comedy Magic" at the Flamingo.

Photo courtesy of V Theater  
Body balancing acts are just one of the many surprises in "V - The Ultimate Variety Show."



Photo courtesy of V Theater  
Wally Eastwood performs in "V - The Ultimate Variety Show" inside the Miracle Miles Shops at Planet Hollywood.