The view from a terrace fountain suite at the Cosmopolitan Hotel. — SHANNON MELNYK



Summertime fun for girls in Vegas

Customized, martini-tight plan for ladies' getaway

Shannon Melnyk

For a glam, high-energy vibe, the Cosmopolitan has enough stay and play offerings that you needn't leave the hotel, but its location on the strip is oh-so central, should you want to wander. Opt for a suite with a terrace fountain balcony for the quintessential strip view complete with the spectacular adjacent Bellagio fountains. Suites are posh-moderne with luxe lounge living rooms, marble bathrooms and "curious" treats in the mini-bar. This summer, take in a Dive-In Movie at the Marquee under the stars, where the Boulevard pool turns into a colossal movie screen; watch your faves as you take a dip or lounge poolside with a handcrafted cocktail and truf-

High in the air with the greatest of ease are two unforgettable ways to see the strip. Enjoy happy hour, or rather, a happy halfhour in the Linq outdoor entertainment district by boarding the High Roller, which is the world's largest observation wheel. Make a toast with your martinis or Moet about 50 storeys high in one of 28 football-shaped glass cabins that each holds 40 people. Or, for a bit racier experience, nothing beats soaring over the strip after sundown via helicopter. See the lights from the air and hover next to some Las Vegas icons - or swap morning pool time for a heli-tour of the Grand Canyon.

There's no shortage of dining adventures in Vegas, but memorable meals with the girls should start at the legendary Mr. Chow, touting a new location in Las Vegas. A private elevator at Caesars Palace will take you on a Beijing-inspired culinary journey complete with moving modern art and a noodle master. Green Prawns and hand-pulled noodles are a must. It's also worth a taxi to

the SLS, where one of the top 50 restaurants in all of the U.S. marries Master Sushi Chef Katsuya Uechi's fresh take on Japanese classics with design icon Philippe Starck's sleek interiors. At Katsuya, the Wagyu Rib-Eye is nothing short of spectacular, as is the Hotate Scallop Sashimi.

Silence is golden in Sin City when you hit the Spa at Aria. Ditch the predictable massage and indulge in a rejuvenating Gold Facial - a classic facial with added Gold Face, neck and decollete Nanogold mask to intensely nourish, hydrate, soothe skin and plump fine lines. Fusing the active ingredients of Nanogold, Marine Collagen, Elastin, Hyaluronic Acid and Aloe Vera, the repair mask firms, brightens and hydrates the skin. Rose Essential Oil alleviates stress and the mask is activated by your own body heat to deliver its restorative effects. Special promotion is available now until October; 50 minutes \$200 and 80-minute facial for \$300.

If you're after an exclusive experience, The Shops at Crystals is where shopping truly becomes an art. Not only does it have more high-end flagship stores than any other shopping centre in the U.S., but showcases the work of internationally acclaimed artists with light, water and nature installations.

JLO's high energy All I Have show features hits from past and present with a 16-person dance troupe at Planet Hollywood. Also at Planet Hollywood is "Las Vegas Headliner of the Year" Frankie Moreno and his new headlining show, Under the Influence. Caesars Palace is currently host to icon Elton John's The Million Dollar Piano concert.

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