

Delano is an oasis of serenity in Wild Vegas

Relax with big rooms, spa treatments, delectable food and lovely views



ROCHELLE LASH

The contemporary, elegant Delano Las Vegas is a bling-free oasis in a city known for glitz and kitsch.

One of the newest major hotels on The Strip, the Delano is a luxurious retreat from the flash and frenzy that define Sin City and a marked contrast from the super-sized casino hotels with their slot-machine jangle, lineups and food courts.

The Delano is a cool and serene all-suite beauty with select prestige offerings, each one an exceptional experience: the stunning, Zen-style Bathhouse Spa, the sun-baked pool scene at Delano Beach Club, and by the end of the year, gourmet dining by Michelin-starred Alain Ducasse.

If you need a Vegas fix, the Mandalay Bay Casino & Resort is a mere 30 metres away, via a passageway. So, gambling, shopping, entertainment and dancing are at hand, especially the dazzling new Light Nightclub turned on by Cirque du Soleil Quebecer Sean O'Donnell, president of Cirque du Soleil Hospitality.

Delano is a slim, striking column of shimmering gold glass, an archetype of contemporary less-is-more architecture that stands out in the crazy cacophony of the Vegas skyline.

Indoors, Delano is a vision of stylish understatement. The decor of the public spaces is inspired by nature — textured walls are the colour of bark, and sand and decorative rock sculptures reflect the Colorado River and the Nevada desert.

The 1,117 suites are swathed in a soothing, minimalist palette of whites and neutrals, each with floor-to-ceiling windows opening to views of the Spring Mountains or the glittering Vegas skyline. Each spacious suite features a king-sized bedroom, a spa-style bathroom with a glass shower and soaking tub, and a living room with its own powder room, wet bar and work desk. There are pillow menus,

luxury toiletries by Malin and Goetz, and tech-savvy concierge service via text-message and checkouts via your cellphone or the television.

The Delano is a serious hotel, but it's playful, too. Hosts cruise the property offering impromptu back massages or cool mistings at poolside. And a philosophical quote-of-the-day is scrawled on an entrance wall, by the likes of Albert Einstein, Abraham Lincoln and even Justin Bieber.

The lobby lounge Franklin is a beautiful space with low-slung leather sofas, fine wines, punch bowls and curated drinks like the Delano Daiquiri, made with heritage rum.

Della's Kitchen is an open café with upscale comfort food and appealing country decor of wood and vintage glass. Mornings feature steak and eggs, lobster frittatas, white chocolate French toast and lemon-blueberry pancakes. For lunch, Della does kale Caesars, mac 'n' cheese, beef or Ahi tuna burgers and truffle pasta.

Late this year, Michelin-starred chef Alain Ducasse will open Rivea, which will be inspired by the food markets of Tuscany and Provence. The setting, on the 64th floor of Delano, will be as spectacular as the cuisine.

A top spot at Mandalay is Fleur by Hubert Keller, which is set up like an indoor sidewalk bistro. French-born celebrity chef Keller studied under such luminaries as Gaston Lenôtre, Paul Bocuse and Roger Vergé and now has added American flair to excellent dishes like seared scallops, luscious steaks, kale-stuffed quail, chestnut soup and truffled beef carpaccio. Keller's mouth-watering Wagyu burger is also available at his Burger Bar in the Mandalay Shops.

The Delano's Bathhouse Spa is a stunning space, with walls of dark slate and floors of white onyx creating a calm, subdued escape. The network of baths — small and private — includes hot whirlpools, a cold plunge pool, a zingy wall-size rain shower, a redwood sauna and a eucalyptus steam room. You can spend a spa day in the state-of-the-art gym, the nail parlour and relaxation lounges, plus indulge in treatments like desert stone or Thai massage, aromatherapy



The gold-glass tower of Delano Las Vegas is a sleek departure from the flamboyant skyline of The Strip.

PHOTOS: MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

IF YOU GO

Delano Las Vegas: 877-632-5400, 702-632-9444, delanolasvegas.com, 3940 Las Vegas Blvd S. (The Strip), Las Vegas. M Life (MGM Resorts) loyalty programs apply. **Price:** rooms and suites from \$199 U.S. Web specials are lower and Delano has a best-rate guarantee for its website; \$29 a day resort fee covers Wi-Fi, local and 800 calls, Delano Beach Club (pool), Bathhouse Gym, parking and Mandalay Bay Beach Club. Pet-friendly.

Bathhouse Spa: 877-632-7300, 12 treatment rooms: \$25 for access to baths. Signature massage, 50-80-100 minutes, \$150-\$285; milk and honey bodywork, from \$175. **Las Vegas:** 877-VISITLV (877-847-4858), lasvegas.com. **Light Nightclub at Mandalay Bay Resort, Las Vegas:** Wed. from 10:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. from 10:30 p.m.; thelightlasvegas.com.

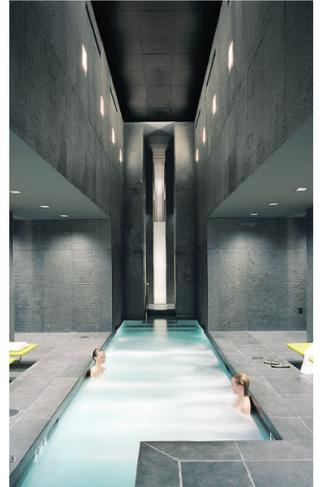
and specific treatments for the scalp, sore muscles and moms-to-be. The Delano Beach Club — a pool with loungers, cabanas, and food and bar service, is actually at the Mandalay, so it's a five-minute walk from the Delano lobby. But, the advantage is that Delano guests are welcome at the adjacent Mandalay Beach Club, which has a huge, unique wave pool, a deck of real sand, 100 cabanas and a top-optical section.

The unbridled action of the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino

is 50 metres from the cool composition of the Delano.

Entertainment includes Light Vegas' hottest nightclub, with Cirque du Soleil performers; the music revue Michael Jackson One; the amazing Shark Reef Aquarium; more than 20 restaurants including the Bayside Buffet and the gourmet eateries of star chefs Keller, Wolfgang Puck and Charlie Palmer.

The staggering lineup of Mandalay shows includes Nickelback (July 3); Ziggy Marley (July 31);



The exceptional Bathhouse Spa at Delano Las Vegas is a serene, Zen-style retreat.

Boys of Summer tour with Fall Out Boy and Wiz Khalifa (Aug. 7); Kelly Clarkson (Aug. 15); and Ariana Grande (Aug. 29).

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