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13 Fun Things to Do in Las Vegas With Kids

1. Ride the Big Apple Roller Coaster

One of the best things to do in Las Vegas with kids is to ride the Big Apple Roller Coaster at the New York New York Casino & Hotel.

The Big Apple Coaster is the world's first roller coaster to feature a 180-degree twist and dive.

The coaster is open weekdays from 11 am-11 pm, and weekends from 10:30 am-midnight.

Tickets are a little pricey, but the best option is to purchase a [City Pass](#) that gives you access to this attraction and many others for one low price.

Be sure to stop and check out the Big Apple Arcade while you're there too!

It's fun to experience the roller coaster both during the day and at night.

My kids actually prefer riding it at night when you can see the glow of the neon lights from up above.

2. Watch the Bellagio Water Fountain Show

Be sure to catch the iconic water fountain show at the Bellagio Hotel, it's one of the best free shows in Vegas.

This mesmerizing show choreographs dancing water with music and lights.

Each show is unique with a variety of music from classical to show tunes, and even pop favorites.

The show runs weekdays every half hour from 3-8 pm and every 15 minutes from 8 pm-midnight.

On weekends, the show runs every half hour from 12 pm-8 pm and every 15 minutes after that until midnight.

3. See the Sharks at Mandalay Bay

The Shark Reef Aquarium at Mandalay Bay is great for kids and is a perfect way to escape the heat and cool off.

The aquarium is home to over 2,000 animals, including endangered green sea turtles and over 100 sharks!

The main tank is 1.3 million gallons and is one of the largest in the US.

A variety of animal encounters are available for an additional charge, including diving with sharks and feeding stingrays.

4. See the Free Show at Caesar's Palace

The Forum Shops at Caesar's Palace are high-end luxury stores, and not necessarily kid-friendly.

However, we love just walking along the shops and imagining that we're strolling along the cobblestone streets of ancient Rome.

While you're at Caesar's Palace, be sure to catch the show, Fall of Atlantis. The show is free and the story is set in the kingdom of Atlantis.

Although the storyline is a little hard to follow, the show involves talking statues and special effects with water and fire that will keep your kids captivated.

The show runs every hour on the hour starting at 11 am.

There is also a large aquarium with over 300 saltwater fish. Your kids will love spotting Nemo and having a contest to see who can find the most unique fish!

5. Check Out the Fremont Street Experience

The Fremont Street Experience is an entertainment district in the historic part of downtown Las Vegas. It is a pedestrian-only street with plenty of entertainment.

The main attraction is Viva Vision, the world's largest canopy video screen.

The digital screen is 1,375 feet long and 90 feet wide.

Every hour on the hour from 6 pm to 2 am they do a light show that is synced to music. It is one of the best free shows in Las Vegas!

You can even fly high above Fremont Street on the SlotZilla Zip Line!

There is always so much going on at Fremont Street with street performers, live music, restaurants, and shops.

It can be a bit of sensory overload for younger kids, so this might be something better geared for older kids.

6. Visit the Neon Museum

The Neon Museum is such a unique family-friendly place to visit in Las Vegas.

It is a boneyard for retired neon signs from casinos and businesses in Las Vegas.

Visitors will take a guided tour to learn the history and interesting stories about where each sign came from.

A few notable signs include The Stardust. The Stardust Hotel & Casino was built during the era of nuclear atomic testing tourism.

They used to do testing above ground in the desert and it was popular to hold atomic testing watch parties.

When The Stardust was built, this sign was put on massive pylons and it was the tallest neon sign in the world. The glow could be seen for 3 miles!

Betty Willis is the neon sign artist who created the famous "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign. She also designed this Moulin Rouge sign and modeled it after her own handwriting.

The Chief Hotel Court opened in 1939 and its sign is the oldest working sign in the boneyard.

This sign was from the Steiner Dry Cleaners where Liberaci (the highest paid entertainer in the world at one time) was a regular customer.

He performed with a cape that had 4,000 rhinestones and each one had to be removed before being dry cleaned and then sewn back on. At least he tipped well and sent lots of customers their way!

This genie lamp is from the old Aladdin Hotel & Casino where Elvis Presley and Priscilla were married. The hotel has now become Planet Hollywood, but the iconic lamp can still be seen here.

It really is a fascinating tour and it's so cool to see the signs up close. Just be sure to make reservations in advance as tickets often sell out.

They have tours during the day, but the lights are only turned on for the evening and night tours. I would recommend going right before sunset.

The guided tour is about 45 minutes long and DSLR cameras are not allowed, only cell phones.

The museum is located off the strip. If you're looking for more things to do off the strip, be sure to check out our guide, [Best Things to Do Off the Las Vegas Strip](#).

7. Play Carnival Games at Circus Circus

The Adventure Dome is a 5-acre indoor amusement park that has 25 rides and attractions. You can purchase an all-day pass, or pay for each ride individually.

While you're there, don't miss the free circus acts that are held every hour from 1:30-8:30 pm Monday-Thursday. On the weekends, the shows run every hour from 11:30 am-11:30 pm.

Be sure to also try your luck at the game booths at the Carnival Midway.

So many of the midway games are designed so that it's impossible to win.

As an inside scoop, the best way to win a stuffed animal is for your whole family to compete in the racing games where someone is guaranteed to win.

8. Visit the Wildlife Habitat at the Flamingo Hotel

Visit the free flamingo wildlife habitat at the Flamingo Hotel.

The habitat consists of 15 acres of exotic birds, fish, turtles, and the iconic Flamingo Island.

As you enter the habitat you'll feel as if you've been transported off the strip.

You'll find a scenic oasis with waterfalls, streams, towering palm trees, and thick vegetation.

****Related Post:** for a breath of fresh air, escape the crowds on the strip and head to [Red Rock Canyon!](#)*

9. Take a Free Tour of the Ethel M. Chocolate Factory

Ethel M. Chocolates was born here in the desert over 40 years ago by Forrest Mars, the creator of M&M's and Milk Way bars.

His world-famous chocolates were named after his mother, Ethel Mars.

Today, visitors can take a free tour of the factory where you can watch the chocolate makers hard at work behind the windows.

Your kids will find it fascinating to watch the process of how the chocolates are made and you'll even get a free chocolate sample.

You'll also find a cactus botanic garden in front of the factory.

During the holidays, the cactus are wrapped with over a million lights as the garden is transformed into a holiday wonderland.

10. Walk Through the Cosmopolitan Hotel

The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas is a fun hotel and casino to walk through.

The Chandelier Bar is a cool three-story bar in the middle of the hotel. It is surrounded by curtains of beads and lights so it looks like the bar is at the center of a giant chandelier.

Obviously, kids can't go inside the bar but it is still pretty cool to see.

If you are planning a trip back to Vegas sans kids, The Cosmopolitan has some cool hidden speakeasies that you'll have to check out.

The Barbershop Cuts & Cocktails is a swanky speakeasy that is hidden inside an actual barbershop.

Ghost Donkey is a secret bar that is hidden behind an unassuming door in the back of the Block 16 Food Court.

Just look for the door with a picture of a donkey on it and you can peek inside.

There is also an apres ski themed speakeasy on the 2nd floor of the Chelsea Tower called The Ski Lodge.

But when it comes to the kids, they'll love getting cookies from the famed Milk Bar or an over-the-top milkshake from Holsteins.

You can also grab a delicious donut from District: Donuts, Sliders, & Brews (one of our [favorite places to eat in New Orleans](#)).

Or try a signature Nashville Hot Chicken Sandwich from Hattie B's (one of our [favorite places to eat in Nashville!](#))

If you are looking for more restaurant recommendations, see our guide for the [Best Places to Eat in Las Vegas](#).

In the winter, the Boulevard Pool at the Cosmopolitan is transformed into an [ice skating rink](#). You can ice skate and roast smores in this winter wonderland high above the Las Vegas strip.

This ice rink was even voted one of the "10 Best Ice Skating Rinks in North America" by *USA Today*.

11. Browse the Gift shops at Hershey's Chocolate Factory, M&M World, and Coca-Cola World

Granted, these are total tourist traps, but my kids still love visiting these stores every time we're in Vegas.

They love browsing the gift shops, ordering a flight of different flavors of Coke, and spending their allowance on overpriced trinkets.

The photo booth at M&M World makes for a fun and cheap souvenir, though!

And if you're a chocolate lover, you will enjoy taking a [Taste, Explore, and Chocolate](#)

Tour!

12. Get a Photo at the “Welcome to Las Vegas” Sign

Be sure to snap a picture of the famous Welcome to Las Vegas sign at the south end of the strip.

There is always a long line to get a picture standing under it. However, If you don't want to wait in line, just aim your camera up and grab a quick shot of the sign itself without anyone in it.

***Related post:** If you're looking for a fun day trip, [Death Valley National Park](#) is located only 2 hours from Las Vegas!

13. Watch a Live Family-Friendly Show

There are a wide variety of family-friendly shows available and catching a show is one of the best things to do in Las Vegas with kids.

We recently went to Vinny Grosso's “Totally Mental” show with John Rotellini and loved it!

It was at a smaller venue off the strip, but the tickets were cheap on Groupon and his mental tricks blew my kids' minds!

He was hilarious and there were a lot of opportunities for audience participation. My boys loved it and it was a great family-friendly show!

The Las Vegas shows are constantly changing and rotating, click the link for tickets to the latest [Vegas shows](#).

Other Family-Friendly Things to Do on the Strip:

- **Tournament of the Kings:** Enjoy a medieval dinner and a show at [Tournament of the Kings](#) inside The Excalibur Hotel & Casino.
- **Sightseeing:** Take the Las Vegas [Hop-on and Hop-off bus tour](#) or a [Night Open Top Bus Tour](#) to see the sights of Vegas.
- **Marvel Avengers Station:** Your little super heroes will love training to become an Avenger at the [Marvel Avengers Station](#) inside Treasure Island Hotel & Casino.
- **Go City Pass:** Purchase a [City Pass](#) for discounted tickets to many of Vegas' top attractions.

- **Gondola ride at the Venetian:** You'll feel like you've been transported to the canals of Venice you take a gondola ride through the property of The Venetian. You can also purchase a **combo ticket** and get admission to Madame Tussauds as well.
- **Stratosphere:** For thrill-seekers, head to the **Stratosphere** and try the Sky Jump, Insanity, or the Big Shot! You can also enjoy dinner with a view at the Top of the World restaurant.
- **High Roller Observation Wheel:** The Linq is home to the **High Roller Observation Wheel** which offers great views of the strip and is fun for all ages!