

Beauty Everywhere

By Karen Kripalani

Cruisin' Vegas-Style

San Diego is just a few hours from Vegas, the land of gaming, entertainment and exhilaration. Everyone loves Vegas and the excitement that Sin City delivers. But by the time you add up the cost and hassle of getting there, finding a hotel, and paying an arm and a leg on the shows and food, you end up spending much more than you initially anticipated....and you're still just in Vegas.

What if you could get that same thrill and excitement without having to take a flight or a long car ride? What if you had all-you-can-eat, gourmet food at any time, day or night, without having to dip into your wallet? What if you got to attend high-energy shows filled with beautiful women in multitudes of costumes every night? What if you got picked up right in your hometown and yet got to explore foreign lands?

Oh, to be serenaded by fantastic musicians at every turn, to play any casino game your heart desires 24/7, or to just lie out by the pool with a cocktail in your hand. That's what Carnival Cruise Lines (www.carnival.com) promises.

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Carnival claims to be the "Fun Ship," and, sure enough, fun, fun, fun is all around you. If you are looking for a calm, relaxing getaway, this cruise may not be for you. But if you're lookin' for a good party, you've come to the right place!

Activities abound, as do on-shore excursions like snorkeling the clear waters of Cabo, swimming with the dolphins and horseback riding on the beach. Fun days at sea may be spent getting pampered at the spa or learning to line dance. Vast decisions must be made while cruising, like whether to participate in the hairy chest contest, get crazy with karaoke, attend a wine tasting and art auction, compete in the Newlywed Game, play a mean round of big money bingo, or work off all the extra food weight gained at the gym. And that's all before noon.

It's a great choice for honeymooning couples, families looking for adventure, or a girls or guys getaway. Carnival has 2-9 day cruises leaving out of San Diego exploring the Baja coast and the Mexican Riviera. And prices start at \$299! You can't get a room in Vegas for less than that, let alone eat, travel and get entertained!

So the next time you are lookin' to scratch that wild itch, let whatever happens in Vegas stay in Vegas and check out a weekend cruise out of San Diego. It's quick, it's easy, it's affordable, it's all-inclusive, and it's fun, fun, fun!

