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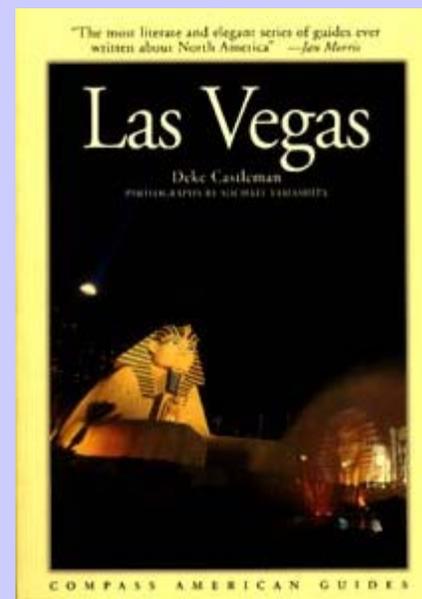
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Las Vegas Compass Guide



"Glitters with wickedly stylish writing, outrageous opinions, and offbeat information."

-- Chicago Sun Times

By Deke Castleman

Our Price: **\$18.95**Our Item Code: **lvguide**Postage Code: **book1**

297 Pages, Compass American Guides

Related listings: [Nevada: Travel, Geography and Politics](#)

Date: 1996

Added to Catalog: 12/15/96 (Revised 12/14/96)

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Our Review

Opinion of the webmaster, subject to debate

Credibility	Research Value	Cultural Interest	Visual Information	Style	Silliness	Wow Factor	Bargain
4	3	4	3	3	2	NR	3
High	Moderate	High	Moderate	Functional	Low	Not Rated	Moderate

[Explanation of Ratings](#)

There are no lack of fluffy, superficial tourist guides for this mass-market city. This guide is different: It is more of a history book than than a Baedeker. Las Vegas resident Deke Castleman, who also wrote the [Nevada Handbook](#), finds plenty of history to talk about. Okay, so it doesn't extend to the Middle Ages, but the mobsters, hookers and gamblers of the past century are interesting enough. This is also a fine picture book, full of glittery color photos of Vegas's always-temporary attractions. (Published in 1996, the guide is only slightly out of date.) There are sections in the back on the usual tourist nonsense - hotels, restaurants, shopping, etc. - but this info is bound to be obsolete in six months. Only history is reliable, and it is probably the most interesting thing about the town. This is a good book to read on the plane to Vegas, then you can breeze through the city in a few hours and head out to the desert. -- *Glenn Campbell*

Comments

My only reservation: The pictures are attractive -- National Geographic-quality photos of neon, showgirls, etc. -- but they increase the price of the book, and I could have done without them in exchange for more text. A concession to the market, I guess.

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About the Author

"Las Vegas" is Deke Castleman's middle name. He's been covering the boomtown since 1987, when he researched the first edition of Moon Publications' [Nevada Handbook](#). He has also contributed to Las Vegas Access, the Unofficial Guide to Las Vegas, and several Fodor's guides, including Las Vegas, Fodor's USA, Great American Vacations, and Great American Vacations for Travelers with Disabilities. He has edited two guides to Las Vegas for Huntington Press, and he is the managing editor of the Las Vegas Advisor, a monthly newsletter for Las Vegas visitors and locals. Currently, Castleman is writing a book on the "future history" of Las Vegas.

About the Photographer

Michael Yamashita was born in San Francisco and has been shooting pictures for National Geographic Society magazines and books since 1979. He is a frequent contributor to Travel & Leisure and Portfolio, and his many corporate clients include the Mexican Tourist Board, Singapore Airlines, and Nikon Cameras. His work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History, the National Gallery in Washington, Kodak's Professional Photographer's Showcase at EPCOT Center in Florida. His work has received citations from the Pacific Area Travel Association, and the Asian-American Journalists Association. Mr. Yamashita's photography is also featured in the San Francisco and Manhattan titles from Compass American Guides.

-- From the Publisher

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Our [Las Vegas Buffet Guide](#) provides supplementary information on this important Vegas institution.

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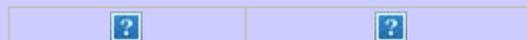
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