



Food and everything else is free in Las Vegas and most other casino resorts around the world. Of course, add the if .... and that is a huge if. First, if you gamble enough money in a hotel casino, management will offer you free drinks, free suites, free entertainment and, of course, free meals during your stay.

Casino bosses don't do this out of the kindness of the heart, but only when you're observed gambling for several hours. At the top of the freebee list, they offer deals to the so-called whales, people who plop down ten thousand dollars on a hand of blackjack or the turn of the roulette wheel. Management knows the odds of gamblers winning money are slim, so free meals are merely incentive to keep the whales cruising into the casinos to be harpooned out of their cash. Also, for the ordinary Vegas visitor, there are ways to get free food without making big bets.

Do your homework before arriving. Check with favorite hometown and online travel agencies about package deals. They're vacations with one price that includes air tickets, hotel room, some free meals and incentive bonuses.

Be flexible about scheduling, because prices and deals vary. For example, if your hotel stay is on Monday through Thursday nights, the price may be as low as 50% of what you'd pay if in Vegas on Fridays, Saturdays and holiday season.

Chances are there would be no free meals in the more costly packages. The simple fact is that Vegas hotels always fill up on weekends and holidays, and the incentive deals are offered to bring people in to fill rooms during weekdays.

Before you take your flight to Vegas, scan websites on hotels, casinos and restaurants. Look specifically for coupons that offer free meals. Clip and take them with you. When you check into your hotel, ask the desk clerk for all free meal offers available there and elsewhere.

It's easy to find sources for free meals in Vegas. Just don't lose all your money in the casinos, so you'll be able to afford to buy food for the family when you get home.