

Since it first emerged from the Nevada desert a century ago, Las Vegas has long been known as an adult playground. The theme, "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas", is a not-so-subtle hint.

It invites grown-ups to indulge in the naughty charms of aptly-nicknamed Sin City. Today, there's more emphasis on inviting the entire family to enjoy the city's many features beyond gambling and glamor. These five are very entertaining, and offer loads of free fun kids of all ages can experience: The Atlantis Show (3570 S. Las Vegas Blvd.) Great experience conveniently located in the Roman Great Hall of The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace. A fascinating sight and sound version of the legendary story of the imaginary city of Atlantis, its glory years and tragic disappearance into the sea.

Bellagio Fountains (3600 S. Las Vegas Blvd.) This free extravaganza of sky-high dancing waters, multi-colored lights and surrounding concert-like music should not be missed. Along Las Vegas Boulevard during the shows, you'll hear clear music in sync with the dancing waters, with tunes from opera to classics to Broadway.

Fremont Street Experience (Downtown Las Vegas)

The city's original main street was first paved in 1905. The show features a huge curved screen canopy 90 feet above seven city blocks, displaying brilliantly-colored still and video images. In addition to music and sounds of the enormous display, there are often live concerts and parades at street level.

Circus Circus (2880 S. Las Vegas Blvd.) The vintage Las Vegas hotel offers the world's largest permanent circus. For a family that loves old-fashioned trapeze acts, trained animals, clowns and acrobats, this free show is a great place to hang out together. Also at the hotel, there's the Carnival Midway, an old-fashioned row of games that test skills and offer prizes to winners.