

(Tip) Hiring a Taxi in Vegas

Here's some tips related to Taxi cab hiring in Las Vegas:

- Taxis are NOT allowed to stop in the middle of the street, unlike many other cities. So if you try to hail a cab and they ignore you, don't take it personally, they're simply not allowed to pick you up if you're not in a place they can stop. They will often drop you off on side streets near where you want to go if you're comfortable having them do that and the destination does not have parking or a pull-through they can use.
- Taxi meters in Vegas display surcharges on a separate price display on the meter, the surcharges are NOT added to the running total. So if you take a cab from the airport to a hotel, you're going to see a \$1.80 fee show up on the right side while the running meter on the left will start at \$3.30 and click up from there. When you reach your destination, you have to add the two values together to get the real total owed.
- Not all taxis in Vegas accept credit cards, so if you do not have cash, inquire about credit cards BEFORE getting in the cab or you could find that you owe \$3.30 before the driver even tells you they don't take cards.
- Taxi's making airport pickups LOVE to screw you by taking very long routes to your resort. For example, going from the airport to Mandalay Bay, which is nearly across the street, can be done in three different ways:
 - **\$17.50** - 4 miles via Tropicana Avenue on the north side of the airport, to the strip (aka Las Vegas Boulevard), to the resort.
 - **\$22.70** - 6 miles via the Interstate 215 exit, to Interstate 5 and then coming in the south side of the resort from Russell Road.
 - **\$25.30** - 7 miles via the exact same route but going up to the Tropicana Ave exit and coming back down the strip; basically the same as the first option but 3 miles longer.

You pay \$3.30 for the pickup, \$1.80 for airport pickup, \$0.50 per minute any time the cab is going slower than 10 mph such as at lights and then \$2.60 per mile. The above numbers all assume about four minutes of time at lights or going slow. Most strip resorts on the south end can be reached for less expense via the airport's north exit and then either Tropicana or Paradise. If you're staying anywhere on the strip south of Flamingo Road, I recommend telling your airport taxi driver "Please take the north exit, not the interstate." If you're west of I-15 or north of Flamingo Road, such as Rio, Palms, Orleans, or the north end of the strip, then the interstate will probably be faster due to the cost of waiting at lights, so it's okay to go that route in those cases.

- Taxi's making strip resort pickups at busy times of the day love to screw you by just taking the strip to wherever you want to go because on many hours of the day from Thursday to Sunday, the strip gets very slow during the day and often at night as well, especially if there's a large convention in town. If they take the strip, they're going to be charging you 25 cents for every 30 seconds of time the cab is traveling less than 10 miles per hour. Sitting in gridlock traffic is a great way to rack up charges. There are many side streets and service roads cabs can take to get around strip gridlock, so it's worth asking them to do that.

Here's a chart of estimated cab fares from the airport to most of the strip resorts with tip included. I took the mileage numbers from the Las Vegas Taxi Cab Authority and rounded them up to the nearest tenth since most of their estimates seemed low. I then added the mileage fee, the \$3.30 pickup fee, \$1.80 airport fee, \$2.50 for an estimate of five minutes waiting time and a 20% tip. They won't be 100% accurate but should give you a rough idea, at least for the purposes of how much cash to bring or when deciding if it's worth it to rent a car.

Resort

Taxi Authority

**Total price
estimate**

Name

	Mileage Estimate		with 20% tip
Alexis Park	2.4	\$	16.61
Aria	3.4	\$	19.73
Bally's	3.8	\$	20.98
Bellagio	3.7	\$	20.66
Bill's Gamblin' Hall	3.6	\$	20.35
Boulder Station	7.2	\$	31.58
Caesars Palace	4.6	\$	23.47
California	6.8	\$	30.34
Cannery Hotel West	16.6	\$	60.91
Circus Circus	4.8	\$	24.10
El Cortez	6.7	\$	30.02
Encore	4.1	\$	21.91
Excalibur	3.3	\$	19.42
Fiesta Henderson	11.8	\$	45.94
Fiesta Rancho	9.9	\$	40.01
Fitzgerald's	6.7	\$	30.02
Flamingo	4.2	\$	22.22
Four Queens	6.7	\$	30.02
Four Seasons	3.7	\$	20.66
Fremont	6.7	\$	30.02
Gold Coast	4.8	\$	24.10
Golden Gate	6.7	\$	30.02
Golden Nugget	6.7	\$	30.02
Green Valley Ranch	8.3	\$	35.02
Hard Rock Hotel	2.1	\$	15.67
Harrah's	3.8	\$	20.98
Hooters Hotel	3.7	\$	20.66
Horseshoe	6.7	\$	30.02
Imperial Palace	3.8	\$	20.98
Lake Las Vegas	18.5	\$	66.84
Las Vegas Hilton	4	\$	21.60
Luxor	3.4	\$	19.73
Main Street Station	7.6	\$	32.83
Mandalay Bay	3.7	\$	20.66
Mandarin	3.6	\$	20.35
MGM	2.7	\$	17.54
Mirage	4	\$	21.60

Monte Carlo	3.1	\$	18.79
New York New York	3.2	\$	19.10
Orleans Hotel	4.6	\$	23.47
Palace Station	5.8	\$	27.22
Palazzo	4.2	\$	22.22
Palms Hotel	5.4	\$	25.97
Paris Hotel	3.5	\$	20.04
Planet Hollywood	3.3	\$	19.42
Platinum	3.2	\$	19.10
Red Rock Station	15.1	\$	56.23
Rio Hotel	4.4	\$	22.85
Riviera	4.6	\$	23.47
Sahara	4.7	\$	23.78
Sam's Town	7.3	\$	31.90
Sands Expo	4.1	\$	21.91
Santa Fe Station (Rancho)	14.4	\$	54.05
Signature	2.9	\$	18.17
Silverton	5.8	\$	27.22
South Point	6.5	\$	29.40
Stratosphere	5	\$	24.72
Sun Coast Hotel	14.4	\$	54.05
Sunset Station	8.5	\$	35.64
Terrible's Casino	2.5	\$	16.92
Texas Station	9.7	\$	39.38
Treasure Island	4.2	\$	22.22
Tropicana	2.8	\$	17.86
Trump Tower	4.1	\$	21.91
Union Plaza	6.7	\$	30.02
Vdara	3.7	\$	20.66
Vegas Club	6.7	\$	30.02
Venetian	4.1	\$	21.91
Westin	3.2	\$	19.10
Wynn Resort	4.1	\$	21.91