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# Expert Guide to Las Vegas Roulette



**Silverthorne Publications, Inc.**

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## How to Use This Book

The green zeros on a roulette wheel are what give the house its advantage. If there were no zeros, players could wager simultaneously on red and black, break even, and enjoy free cocktails all night long. Add the zeros and this strategy is no longer viable, because when a zero comes up, all bets on the layout (except those on zero) lose. European wheels have only one zero, while the majority of American wheels have two. The casino edge for the standard double-zero game that you find throughout Las Vegas is 5.26%. A single-zero wheel lowers that edge to 2.7%.

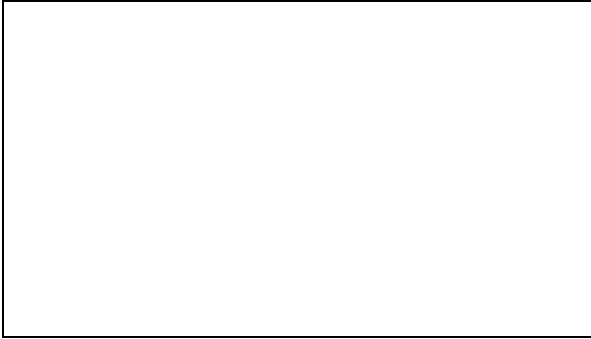
There is no doubt that it is easier to win on single-zero wheels than on double-zero ones. While this guide shows all of the roulette wheels in Las Vegas you should confine your play to single-zero wheels whenever possible.

## Locations of Las Vegas Roulette Games

The purpose of this chapter is to show what kind of roulette is available at each Las Vegas casino. There are only three kinds seen in Las Vegas, as follows.

- **Double Zero:** The wheel has a single-zero and a double-zero. All bets have a 5.26% house edge, except the 0-00-1-2-3 combination at 7.89%.
- **Single Zero:** The wheel has a single-zero, but no double-zero. All bets have a 2.7% house edge.
- **European:** The wheel has a single-zero, but no double-zero. In addition, if the ball lands in zero, all even money bets will only lose half. All even money bets have a 1.3% house edge, all others have a 2.7% house edge.

## Roulette in Las Vegas



**Las Vegas remains the original and most talked about gambling center in the world, although Monte Carlo has offered high-stakes gaming for twice as many years as Sin City.**

Originally, Reno was the Nevada hot spot, with plenty of casinos and a divorce machine that churned-out newly-single people at a rate higher than any other state in the US; but those days have passed.

Today, Las Vegas has more than 70 casinos, and while Macau may have more gross revenue with just a dozen casinos than the Las Vegas Strip does, nothing compares to the overall color, excitement, and yes, total garishness, of Vegas.

For roulette players, Las Vegas has more games to choose from than any other gaming center, including neighboring states like California and Arizona, which have plenty of casinos, don't offer live roulette. Unfortunately, if you are used to playing European rules with a single zero and La Partage, you may be disappointed by the high-stakes required for those offerings, especially if you play a dedicated betting system that is based on outside wagers like the Labouchère or Oscar's Grind. However, there are several single-zero wheels in town.

In addition, American roulette offers more of a self-serve style game, as players place all their own wagers. Dealers will not be able to accept call wagers, nor will they book and place neighbors, orphans, or thirds.

## **Las Vegas Casinos**

Las Vegas gambling was mostly confined to the downtown area of Fremont Street in the 1930's and early '40's. Clubs like the Golden Nugget, Las Vegas Club, and the El Cortez catered to dusty cowboys and Hollywood types in town for a fling at the tables for two decades before a few enterprising souls risked putting casinos along the Los Angeles highway which became the Strip. It was Thomas Hull who put up the money for the first casino, the El Rancho, but it was "Bugsy" Siegel who got all the publicity after stealing Billy Wilkerson's project, building the Flamingo, and getting gunned down by his Mob "friends" for failing to make their casino a money-maker.

### **Downtown Casinos**

Today, downtown Las Vegas still boasts twelve casinos, all within walking distance of one another. You can book your hotel room at the Golden Nugget or the Fremont, and play \$1 roulette all day and all night, or hit the other clubs to try your luck. During conventions and holidays, rooms may be as high as \$195 a night, but mid-week deals abound. Rates as low as \$29 per night can be found at several properties, and meals are quite reasonable.

You won't find any single-zero roulette downtown, as the area has evolved into a low-stake haven, but if you are working on your system or want a bargain, it's the place. There are free rock shows outside under the canopy and lightshows all night. Expect some drunken revelry every evening.

Inside, girls dance in skimpy outfits at the D Las Vegas and the Golden Gate, both of which offer standard roulette games with limits of \$5 outside and 3-chip minimum for color – with those as low as \$1. The D Las Vegas has two tables, the Gate just one. At the Nugget, probably the nicest club downtown, there are five roulette tables.

The Fremont and Four Queens casinos offer two roulette tables and the California Club has just one, but early in the morning there is little action – so you should be able to find a seat, and sometimes a limit of as low as 50-cents per chip. Down the street at the El Cortez, variously loathed and loved for low-cost rooms and meals, the casino boasts four roulette wheels, usually with the lowest limits downtown.

## **Strip Casinos**

Over the years, as Las Vegas has re-invented itself over and over, it has grown larger, and several of the clubs on the Strip now have 5,000 rooms and 5,000 slots to go with their large poker rooms and 100's of table games. Of course the larger the property, the larger the bets have to be. You can still find reasonable rooms (and they should be reasonable) at Circus, or Bally's or the Flamingo, and low-limit games. The Flamingo also houses Jimmy Buffet's Margarita casino, and there are nine roulette games on property to choose from. You can expect the dealers to be quick, accurate, and reasonably funny.

Years ago it was "Dummy-up and Deal," in Vegas, but not anymore. The dealers will take good care of you, the cocktails are free, and of course everyone expects an occasional tip. In addition, you can play single-zero roulette at the Riviera, Paris, and the Luxor, with reasonable table stakes. Expect \$10 to \$25 minimums and limits as high as \$5,000 for even-money wagers.

A few other properties like Mandalay Bay, the Venetian, and Caesar's Palace also offer single-zero wheels, but they are located in special high-limit rooms with \$25 minimum bets.

European roulette with that enticing 1.35% house edge is offered at Aria, Cosmo, Bellagio, Mandalay Bay, MGM Grand, Mirage, Rio, and Wynn. Most of these games are also in high-limit rooms, but the MGM and Mirage have European roulette games on the main casino floor. Yes, the limit is a pricier \$25 per wager most of the time. For variety, the Mirage has 10 roulette tables, the MGM sports 17!

## **Outlying Casinos**

There are many other casinos in Las Vegas that have hotels, moderately-priced meals, and double-zero roulette. While all casinos in Las Vegas have a player's-reward system of complimentary rooms and meals for players, these have the advantage of being inexpensive enough that if you play even a few hours you'll probably be able to substantially reduce your room cost or get it paid for altogether.

All of the Station properties (Texas, Palace etc.) have reasonable table limits, and plenty of gaming. Boulder Station, for example, has more than 50 tables and over 2,900 slots. Roulette tables have score sheets, reader boards, and pleasant dealers. The limits are often \$1 with a 4-chip minimum per spin – \$5 outside.

Occasionally some of the larger clubs like the Eastside Cannery or South Point will also have low limit games and several roulette wheels, but some clubs, like the two Arizona Charlie's properties, have just one roulette table each.

If you want lots of variety, Vegas is definitely the place to go, and you can still walk to some of the casinos on the Strip, too. Keep in mind that during the summer the temperature is likely to be over 100 degrees. If you want to walk, stay somewhere close to Flamingo Drive, where you can get to several casinos on foot, or stay downtown.

As for the outlying casinos, you may feel quite removed, even if you stay at the Rio or the Orleans, and you'll need a cab or car to get around. As for roulette, there are 464 roulette tables in Nevada, 380 of which are in Las Vegas, so you'll probably find a game to your liking!



## Locations of Roulette Games

The purpose of the following table is to show what kind of roulette is available at each Las Vegas casino. There are only three kinds seen in Las Vegas, as follows.

- **Double Zero:** The wheel has a single-zero and a double-zero. All bets have a 5.26% house edge, except the 0-00-1-2-3 combination at 7.89%.
- **Single Zero:** The wheel has a single-zero, but no double-zero. All bets have a 2.7% house edge.
- **European:** The wheel has a single-zero, but no double-zero. In addition, if the ball lands in zero, all even money bets will only lose half. All even money bets have a 1.3% house edge, all others have a 2.7% house edge.

Usually the European roulette is found in high limit rooms, with \$100 minimums. However, at the Mirage, Aria, and MGM Grand, European is in the main casinos, at a \$25 minimum.

Casino	# of Tables	Min Bet	Max Bet	00/0/Euro	Video
Aria	11	15	1000	00	No
Aria	2	5	2000	00	Yes
Aria	1	50	1000	Euro	No
Bally's	4	5	200	00	No
Bally's	1	3	6900	00	Yes
Bellagio	2	50	1000	Euro	No
Bellagio	10	10	500	00	No
Bellagio	3	5	5000	00	Yes
Binion's	3	5	25	00	No
Caesars Palace	12	10	5000	00	No
Caesars Palace	1	5	100	00	Yes
California	1	5	100	00	No
Casino Royale	1	4	15	00	No
Circus Circus	5	10	25	00	No
Cosmopolitan	12	10	500	00	No
Cosmopolitan	1	3	500	00	Yes
Cromwell	3	10	200	00	No
Cromwell	1	3	3000	00	Yes
Downtown Grand	2	5	100	00	No
El Cortez	4	1	100	00	No
Encore	8	10	300	00	No
Encore	1	3	3000	00	Yes

<b>Casino</b>	<b># of Tables</b>	<b>Min Bet</b>	<b>Max Bet</b>	<b>00/0/Euro</b>	<b>Video</b>
<b>Encore</b>	1	100	5000	Euro	No
<b>Excalibur</b>	8	5	50	00	No
<b>Excalibur</b>	1	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>Flamingo</b>	10	10	200	00	No
<b>Four Queens</b>	2	5	25	00	No
<b>Fremont</b>	2	5	100	00	No
<b>Golden Gate</b>	2	5	200	00	No
<b>Golden Nugget</b>	8	10	200	00	No
<b>Harrah's</b>	9	10	200	00	No
<b>Harrah's</b>	1	3	8900	00	Yes
<b>Linq Las Vegas</b>	6	10	200	00	No
<b>Luxor</b>	9	10	100	00	No
<b>Luxor</b>	1	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>Main Street Station</b>	1	5	100	00	No
<b>Mandalay Bay</b>	9	10	300	00	No
<b>Mandalay Bay</b>	2	50	500	Euro	No
<b>Mandalay Bay</b>	1	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>Margaritaville</b>	1	10	300	00	No
<b>MGM Grand</b>	11	10	500	00	No
<b>MGM Grand</b>	3	3	500	00	Yes
<b>MGM Grand</b>	2	25	1000	Euro	No
<b>Mirage</b>	6	10	200	00	No
<b>Mirage</b>	2	100	1000	Euro	No
<b>Mirage</b>	1	3	3000	00	Yes
<b>Monte Carlo</b>	4	10	3000	00	No
<b>Monte Carlo</b>	1	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>New York, New York</b>	2	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>New York, New York</b>	6	10	100	00	No
<b>O'Sheas</b>	1	10	200	00	No
<b>Orleans</b>	4	5	200	00	No
<b>Orleans</b>	1	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>Palazzo</b>	1	100	500	0	No
<b>Palazzo</b>	1	3	3000	00	Yes
<b>Palazzo</b>	8	10	500	00	No
<b>Palms</b>	4	10	300	00	No
<b>Palms</b>	1	3	2000	00	Yes

<b>Casino</b>	<b># of Tables</b>	<b>Min Bet</b>	<b>Max Bet</b>	<b>00/0/Euro</b>	<b>Video</b>
<b>Paris</b>	1	3	200	00	Yes
<b>Paris</b>	7	10	2000	00	No
<b>Planet Hollywood</b>	9	10	200	00	No
<b>Plaza</b>	2	5	100	00	No
<b>Red Rock</b>	4	10	200	00	No
<b>Red Rock</b>	1	3	500	00	Yes
<b>SLS Las Vegas</b>	9	5	200	00	No
<b>SLS Las Vegas</b>	1	3	100	00	Yes
<b>South Point</b>	6	1	50	00	No
<b>South Point</b>	1	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>Stratosphere</b>	5	5	100	00	No
<b>The D</b>	2	10	200	00	No
<b>Treasure Island</b>	5	10	200	00	No
<b>Tropicana</b>	2	10	300	00	No
<b>Tropicana</b>	1	3	3000	00	Yes
<b>Venetian</b>	8	10	500	00	No
<b>Venetian</b>	2	3	1000	00	Yes
<b>Venetian</b>	1	100	500	0	No
<b>Wynn</b>	10	10	500	00	No
<b>Wynn</b>	1	100	5000	Euro	No

## Locations of Single-Zero Wheels in Las Vegas

Location	Description	Minimum Bets	Hours
Aria	Two \$25-min. tables always open; up to two other tables (\$100 min.) in the hi-limit area, depending on demand	\$25/\$100	24 hrs and/or according to demand
Bellagio	Two in Baccarat room and one on the main casino floor	Baccarat room, \$100; Main casino floor, \$50	24 hrs
Caesars Palace	High-limit area	\$100	24 hrs
Cosmopolitan	High-limit area	\$100	24 hrs
Encore	High-limit area	\$100 (\$25 occasionally)	24 hrs
M Resort	Main casino floor	Weekday, \$10; Weekend \$25)	Swing shift and/or by request
Mandalay Bay	High-limit area	\$100	24 hrs
MGM Grand	High-limit area; The Mansion	\$25/\$100	24 hrs; if demand, a second table is opened. Single-zero game in the Mansion usually has \$100 min.
Mirage	One on the main casino floor and one in high limit area	\$25	24 hrs
Monte Carlo	High-limit area	\$25	By request only

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Minimum Bets</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Palazzo	Main pit and Baccarat Room	\$25/\$100	Main casino floor, 24 hrs; Hi-Limit pit according to demand
Paris	High-limit area	\$100	By request only
Planet Hollywood	High-limit area	\$100	By request only
Riviera	Main pit	\$5 or \$10	Mainly 24 hrs, unless no demand
Venetian	Main pit and Baccarat Room	\$25/\$100	Main casino floor, 24 hrs; Hi-Limit pit according to demand
Wynn Las Vegas	High-limit area	\$100 (\$25 occasionally)	24 hrs