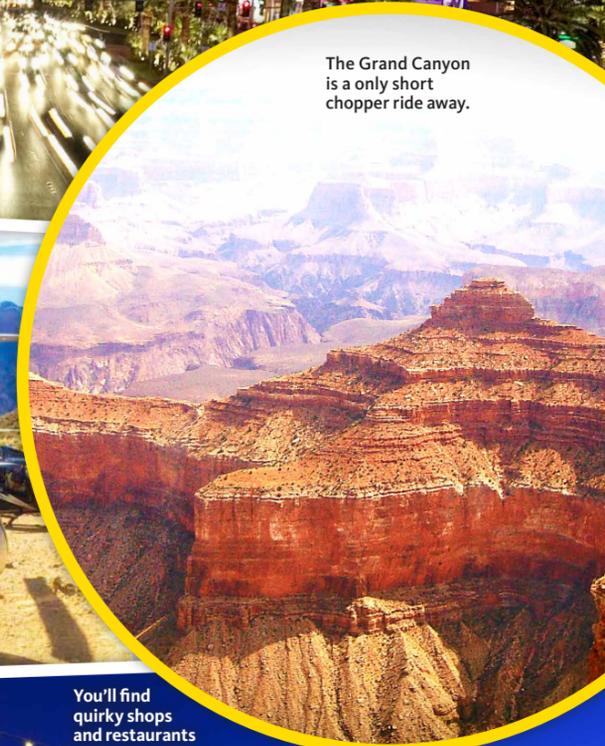
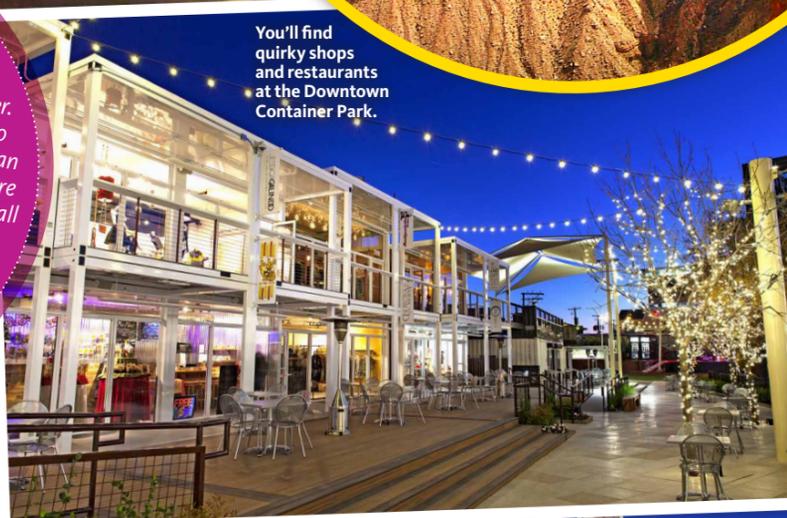


What happens in VEGAS

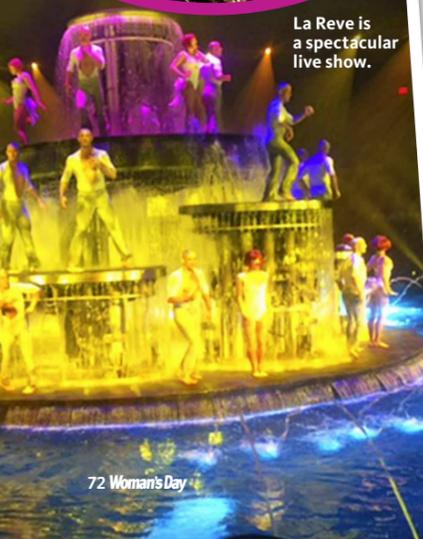
Skip the slot machines for a fun-filled escape in Sin City *writes KARLEIGH SMITH*



FLY IN STYLE
 United Airlines has been ferrying Aussies to the United States for years – and now their service is better than ever. With flights from Sydney or Melbourne to Vegas, via a connection in Los Angeles or San Francisco, United has just announced they're upgrading to Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners on all routes from March next year. What's more, they offer Wi-Fi on board. **Tip:** Upgrade to Economy Plus for extra leg room – worth it on a 14-hour flight!
 For more info on Vegas, go to lasvegas.com

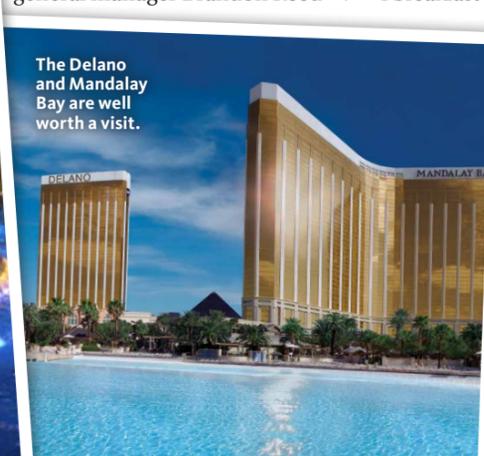


You'll find quirky shops and restaurants at the Downtown Container Park.



La Reve is a spectacular live show.

Less than one hour into my first morning in Las Vegas, I was a bridesmaid at a stranger's wedding in front of an Elvis impersonator who was crooning *Can't Help Falling in Love!* As I stood in the Graceland Wedding Chapel, dumbstruck, general manager Brandon Reed



The Delano and Mandalay Bay are well worth a visit.

– a man who has definitely seen it all – grinned knowingly. "Welcome to Las Vegas – this is just the start," he told me. And he wasn't wrong! I could've easily spent the entire holiday getting lost in my hotel, the Mandalay Bay. It's one of the most famous casinos on the Strip, towering over a myriad of pools, nightclubs and restaurants. I breakfast across the road in

the Delano hotel's Della's Kitchen, where I tuck in to fried chicken and waffles doused in maple syrup. Hey, when in Vegas... Suitably fuelled, I take in the Strip and make for the

So much to do!
 After a busy day of sightseeing, I meet a friend for dinner at the Giada restaurant at The Cromwell casino, where we opt for the tasting menu before topping it off with treats from a dessert trolley. Despite being in the middle of Sin City, my bed is calling my name. The next day I hit the Aladdin-themed Miracle Mile Shops. I invest in some new threads to wear to the Aria casino, where I have dinner at French restaurant Bardot (try the oysters – unreal!) before catching the spectacular Zarkana by Cirque du Soleil.

The following day, I head downtown to Fremont Street, an area that harks back to the early days of Vegas. The Downtown Container Park is home to a bunch of quirky boutiques and restaurants fashioned out of old shipping containers. Glutton restaurant is a must-visit. Here, I eat what is officially "The Greatest Burger I've Ever Had" followed by caramel popcorn profiteroles. There are no words!

Champagne moment
 Dragging myself back to the Strip, I stop in at the Wynn casino for some much-needed primping at the Claude Baruk Salon. Dinner is sushi at Andrea's restaurant before I catch another show, the award-winning water-based spectacular La Reve.

Pictures: Getty Images.

