

Neon by Night, a Desert Ablaze by Day — A 3-Day Las Vegas & Red Rock Canyon Road Trip

A 3-day self-drive loop from the Strip through Red Rock Canyon's sandstone cliffs and Valley of Fire's glowing red rock, with a guided tour inside Hoover Dam before departure.

DURATION	BEST TIME TO GO	FROM
3 Days Spring and fall bring mild days in the 75–90°F range, ideal for the Red Rock and Valley of Fire hiking trails. Summer routinely tops 105°F, making midday desert hikes dangerous; winter is mild but cooler in the evenings, with occasional chilly desert nights.	March to May, or September to November	\$520 USD / person for 2 people, incl. 2 nights at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, a 3-day economy rental car, the Red Rock Canyon and Valley of Fire vehicle en T*BT s05°F, m3 . Sum 5291 0 0 ;p

DAY 2

Red Rock Canyon & Valley of Fire

A full day self-driving two of Nevada's most dramatic landscapes, both within range of a day trip from the Strip.

Self-Drive — the Strip to Red Rock Canyon

~25 min · ~17 miles via NV-159

A short drive west out of the city, with the Mojave giving way almost immediately to the red and cream sandstone cliffs of the Spring Mountains' eastern escarpment.

Red Rock Canyon 13-Mile Scenic Drive

~2–3 hrs, self-guided · \$20 USD / vehicle

A one-way loop road through the Conservation Area's sandstone canyons and the 3,000-foot Keystone Thrust fault, with pullouts for short hikes to Calico Tanks and Icebox Canyon.

Red Rock Canyon NCA (BLM) | www.blm.gov/visit/red-rock-canyon-nca

Self-Drive — Red Rock Canyon to Valley of Fire State Park

~1 hr 15 min · ~65 miles via I-15

A cross-valley drive north past downtown Las Vegas and Lake Mead's northern approach to Nevada's oldest and best-known state park.

Valley of Fire State Park — Fire Wave & White Domes

~2 hrs, self-guided hike · \$15 USD / vehicle (non-resident)

Red Aztec sandstone eroded into swirling bands and beehive-shaped domes, most vivid at the Fire Wave and White Domes trailheads in the late-afternoon light.

Valley of Fire State Park | parks.nv.gov/vof

Hotel — The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

From \$250–300 USD / night, for 2 people

Back to the Strip for a second night, with the drive in timed for sunset over the valley.

DAY 3

Hoover Dam & Departure

A guided tour inside one of the largest concrete dams in the world before the drive to the airport.

Self-Drive — the Strip to Hoover Dam

~40 min · ~34 miles via US-93

A straightforward drive southeast past Lake Mead's western shore to the Nevada-Arizona border.

Hoover Dam Express Tour

~4.5 hrs round-trip incl. drive, guided · \$87 USD / person

A guided walk across the dam and down into its power plant, with views of the intake towers and Lake Mead from the Nevada-Arizona state line at the top of the dam.

Hoover Dam Tours | www.hooverdamtours.net

Self-Drive — Hoover Dam to Harry Reid Intl. Airport

~45 min · ~40 miles via US-93 and I-215

The final leg back around Las Vegas's southern loop to the airport for departure, with the rental car dropped at the terminal.