







BREAKFAST ON THE STRIP

New options abound for a flashy morning meal BY BROCK RADKE

→ Breakfast hasn't always been the most important meal of the day on the Strip, where generic coffee shops or long-lined buffets are the standards. But things have been changing, and three new stylish and sensational breakfasts have arrived along Las Vegas Boulevard. Feast your sleepy eyes on these:

Della's Kitchen is the dining highlight at the brand new Delano, a comfy nook just off the peaceful hotel lobby where the concept is "historic farmhouse meets urban kitchen." Does that mean chicken and waffles? Yep. It's always hard not to order this sweet and savory classic (\$18), but Della's also does unique dishes like pecan-raisin French toast (\$16) with caramelized bananas and coconut butter, Portuguese sausage and pastrami hash (\$17), and blue crab- or smoked pork-topped eggs Benedict. 702-632-9444, Daily, 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Mirage's new big, bright, bistro-like space Pantry is as warm and welcoming as casino restaurants come, bolstered by a purely comfort-food menu. There's lots of stuff to try at lunch and dinner, but breakfast is served all day and that's fine by us—"Grand Cru" milk chocolate pancakes (\$16) and short rib hash with poached eggs (\$19) are great at any hour. Need more fancy? Opt for white chocolate brioche French toast (\$15) with lots of fresh berries and whipped mascarpone cheese, or the Black Forest breakfast sandwich (\$15), eggs, truffled mushrooms and smoked Gouda on toasty ciabatta bread. 702-696-7050, 24/7 (closed Tuesday 10 p.m. until Wednesday 6 a.m.)

Guy Fieri's Vegas Kitchen & Bar just started morning tours through Flavortown, but before you get to the insanity of chicken fried bacon with buttermilk sage biscuits and sausage gravy (\$17) or "Dragon's Breath" chili and cornbread Benedict (\$17), you must do battle with the excessively awesome Bloody Mary program. Pick your vodka, your spicy level (1-5), your protein (pepperoni, shrimp, chicken sausage or candied bacon) and your veggie garnishes—you get five with options ranging from jalapeños and pickles to olives and pineapple. Do note the fine print: "For the super hungover, all Bloody Marys are available in our 52-ounce punch bowl." Why not? Quad, 702-731-3311, breakfast daily, 8-11 a.m.

EAT 'EM UP

October is food festival month in Las Vegas

Taste of the Nation is back, a fundraiser for Share Our Strength, featuring 35 local chefs and restaurants from the Country Club and B&B Ristorante to Border Grill and Stripsteak. *October 2*, 6 p.m., \$100-\$125. Rain Nightclub at the Palms, ce.strength.org.

LuckyRice Night Market returns to Cosmopolitan for an evening of Asian cuisine from guest chefs including Pichet Ong, Cédric Vongerichten and Miguel Trinidad, with local eats from China Poblano, Chada Thai, Sweets Raku and more. October 4, 8 p.m., \$88-\$150. Boulevard Pool, cosmopolitan lasvegas.com.

Nathan Adelson Hospice's 15th annual Wine & Food Tasting Extravaganza offers samples of popular wines and cuisine plus music and silent and live auctions. October 9, 5:30 p.m., \$75. Gaudin Motor Company, nahwine.auction-bid.org.

Communities in Schools of Nevada's fourth annual **Harvest for Hope** features food from Cosmopolitan restaurants Blue Ribbon, STK, Comme Ça, Scarpetta, Wicked Spoon and more, plus a new fall cocktail from Cosmo chief mixologist Mariena Mercer. October 10, 5 p.m., \$100-\$350. Cashman Center, cisnevada.org/harvest-2014.

Red Dragon's popular **Foodie Fest** has a new home this year: the Linq. Fifty food trucks will converge on the Strip, including newbies Me So Hungry, Dos Chinos, Cambalaches and Frach's Fried Ice Cream. *October 15-19, times vary,* \$10-\$60. Linq, lasvegasfoodiefest.com.

The Epicurean Charitable Foundation's 13th annual **M.E.N.U.S.** gala features a poolside dine-around preceding a concert by Zac Brown at the Grand Garden Arena, with snackage provided by Aureole, Crush, Gordon Ramsay Steak, Hakkasan, Public House, Sensi, Heritage Steak, Zenshin and more. *October 17, 6 p.m., \$600. MGM Grand*, ecflv.org. *-Brock Radke*

