

Entertainment No Longer Belongs to Just the Weekend



PHOTO COURTESY STEPHEN WILKES

experience. Its Seafood Bar is “a celebration of American shores,” with dishes like live sea urchin, lobster rolls and California abalone. Of course, you can find local favorites like Maryland crab cakes, middle neck clams and oysters on the half shell.

Voltaggio Brothers Steak House is an imaginative take on the modern-day steakhouse — an idea cooked up by Top Chef contestants and brothers Bryan and Michael Voltaggio. Take the oysters Rockefeller, for example, which are topped with an aerated bechamel, or the wedge salad with its gorgonzola snow and tomato jam. Of course, the stars of the show are the buttery, melt-in-your-mouth cuts of meat that you’d expect to be served up at a top-rated steakhouse.

If it’s foreign flavors you’re after, then indulge your taste buds on a tour of Asia from appetizer through dessert at Ginger restaurant. Its large menu covers the gamut from Chinese to Korean to Thai cooking and more.

Over at Tap Sports Bar, there’s always a match or game on, regardless of where in the world it is being played. The walls are lined with 95 flat-screen TVs to make every seat in the house a good one. While there is bar food on the menu, like burgers, nachos and wings, there’s also a variety of fork-and-knife fare along with decadent desserts.

If you’d rather not have a sit-down restaurant meal or can’t get everyone in your party to decide on one restaurant, head to the National Market. Nine unique venues await you in this culinary hub, with eateries ranging from Honey’s Fried Chicken & Donuts to Zizi’s Pizza to District Deli.

Retail and Spa Therapy

For the days when the shopaholic in you needs a fix, there are stores galore at MGM National Harbor. In what’s known as The District, you can find exclusive offerings at the only MCM in the region, with beautifully crafted leather bags, and the first stand-alone boutique in the United States for SJP by Sarah Jessica Parker, uniquely filled with runway-worthy shoes. Fink’s Jewelers is where a diamond lover’s dreams come true, with their stunning, personally crafted diamond earrings, bracelets and rings. These luxury retailers put all of your shopping desires in one place, making The District more than just a stopover en route to the casino or dinner, but an exceptional shopping destination in itself.

Over at The Spa, you can pamper yourself with luxurious treatments that will enable you to disconnect from work and all the responsibilities that have been plaguing you. It’s the only Washington, D.C.-area spa that has a partnership with Clarins, the globally revered skincare brand. Enjoy exfoliating body treatments, stress-releasing full-body massages, hydrating facials performed by trained aestheticians and more. The Spa is open late until 9 pm every day of the week, making it easy to stop in after work without having to rush.

Getting There

Parking is undisputedly an expensive pain in downtown D.C., but at MGM National Harbor, it’s the polar opposite. For self-parking, a gateless entry system helps speed up entry and exiting, and with 5,000 spots to choose from, finding an open one is easy. Self-parking is complimentary every day of the week, no matter what time you arrive and leave. The garage is

beneath the resort, so all you have to do is take the elevator up and you’re there. Valet parking is also available 24 hours a day.

Or you can leave the driving to someone else. As one of Lyft and Uber’s top 10 destinations in the DMV, the resort hosts designated taxi and rideshare areas for drop-off and pick up.

You can also take Metro to King Street station (yellow and blue lines) and pick up the NH2 bus or go to the Southern Avenue station (green line) and ride the NH1 bus. On Prince George’s County Transit, you can use bus routes 35 or 35s to go straight to the resort as well. •



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EVENT CALENDAR

MAY 4 8 pm	The Temptations & The Four Tops	JUNE 21 8 pm	Mike Tyson
MAY 6 8 pm	Tom Jones	JUNE 24 8 pm	David Blaine
MAY 13 8 pm	Boyz II Men	JUNE 26 7:30 pm	Steve Miller Band with Peter Frampton
MAY 17 8 pm	Roseanne Barr	JULY 1 6:30 pm	Rebellion
MAY 18 8 pm	George Lopez	JULY 12/13 8 pm	Britney Spears
MAY 20 8 pm	Nick Swardson	JULY 14 8 pm	Jill Scott
JUNE 5 8:30 pm	Luis Miguel	AUGUST 4-12 8 pm	Cher
JUNE 17 6:30 pm	The LSD Tour ft. Lucinda Williams, Steve Earle, and Dwight Yoakam	AUGUST 24	7 pm & 10 pm Bill Burr

EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES

The Theater

MGM National Harbor’s live event stage is simply called The Theater, but there’s nothing simple about this gorgeous venue. It boasts 3,000 plush seats, state-of-the-art sound and lighting, and a center stage flanked by IMAX screens displaying close-up views of the action on stage.

The Theater has already welcomed iconic artists like Bruno Mars, Cher and Sting. This summer, you can catch some of the biggest names in entertainment — like Boyz II Men, Britney Spears, Jill Scott and Bill Burr — performing live at The Theater.

If you want to make the night extra special, upgrade your entertainment experience with a VIP package. The VIP Suites offer unparalleled luxury and service, including a VIP lounge, complimentary valet, in-suite food and beverage services and more.

Nightlife

Remember how we said you could end your Tuesday night outing as a Wednesday morning outing? Well, MGM National Harbor offers nightlife options that stay open as late as 2:00 am, 3:00 am and even 4:00 am on weekdays! You literally can’t find anything like that elsewhere in the D.C. area.

We may be getting ahead of ourselves by talking about closing times, so let’s begin with happy hour, which starts as early as 3 pm at Ginger restaurant. Don’t stop there, though. Go on a happy hour crawl, starting at the hotel Lobby Bar with the Louis Roderer Cristal Happy Hour and ending at Tap Sports Bar. With more than 45 beers on tap, it always feels like happy hour at Tap.

Now you can move on to one of MGM National Harbor’s late-night options. The vibe at Blossom Cocktail Lounge is casual, making it easy to lose track of time while you’re enjoying a night out with your friends. But no matter. Blossom

is the perfect spot to spend a long night since it’s open until 4 am on weekdays.

FELT, an upscale mixology lounge right on the casino floor, offers a weekly nightlife calendar. Every Monday and Tuesday, you can enjoy live music starting at 9 pm, but the sounds are the co-star to FELT’S amazing spirits program. Where else can you get a Dom-a-rita, their unconventional take on the margarita, topped with a bottle of Dom Perignon?! Yes, literally! And Thursdays are Girls’ Night Out at FELT, with drink specials from 9-10 pm for the ladies.

Inside the Casino

The casino at MGM National Harbor isn’t limited to just slot machines and poker tables, though it does have those too, and plenty of them.

Try your hand at your favorite table games, like blackjack, mini baccarat and Spanish 21. Poker players can choose from three- and four-card poker, No Limit Hold ‘em, Fortune Pai Gow Poker and more. Plus, there are daily tournaments available for anyone ready to bring their luck to the next level.

Those who love slots can choose from more than 2,800 machines, including Wheel of Fortune, Jackpot Inferno and The Walking Dead 2. The High Limit room has 48 exclusive games on offer.

If cards or slots aren’t your speed, you can still have fun playing craps or roulette.

RESORT ESSENTIALS

Culinary Exploration

With 17 dining options at MGM National Harbor, it’s easy to find the exact cuisine and atmosphere you seek, whether it’s fine dining at an upscale steak house or catching the latest National’s game in a fully stocked sports bar.

Fish by José Andrés delivers the ultimate seafood dining

Part of the thrill of Las Vegas is its 24-hour cycle of entertainment. With no shortage of live shows, bars, restaurants, table games and slots, it always feels like Saturday night, no matter which day of the week it actually is.

Compare that to D.C., where many lively, bar-filled communities are all but deserted by 10pm on a Tuesday. The District isn’t meant to compete with Vegas, but some days it’s nice to let loose after grinding through another day of work.

While that 5-hour flight to Vegas is a tempting one, in almost the same amount of time it would take to drive from downtown D.C. to Reagan National Airport, you could be on the other side of the Potomac at MGM National Harbor with plenty of entertainment options at your fingertips — any day of the week.

For those who haven’t visited MGM National Harbor yet, it may be difficult to wrap your mind around all that there is to do. Besides boasting the nearest casino to D.C., MGM National Harbor offers luxury shopping, nightlife, musical performances and world-class dining options all under one roof, open every day of the week. The resort completely redefines entertainment for the National Capital Region. It’s a bit like having the best of Vegas in your own backyard, minus In-N-Out Burger (but there is a Shake Shack!).

Add a little variety to your next happy hour, guys’ or ladies’ night out, birthday celebration or first date by taking advantage of the entertainment options at MGM National Harbor. And if your Tuesday night outing happens to turn into breakfast Wednesday morning, just grab a room at the onsite hotel and take the rest of the morning off. You deserve to play hard, too.