

Wallpaper*
City Guide

LAS VEGAS

PHAIDON

SPORTS AND SPAS

WORK OUT, CHILL OUT OR JUST WATCH

The point of sports in Las Vegas is generally not to take part in them but to bet on them. The city is flooded with visitors during key US sporting events because gambling is illegal in some states, while Nevada welcomes it. Sportsbooks (betting shops; see p092) in every casino provide walls of TV screens and private booths so you can watch sport taking place all around the globe. For expert gamblers, the World Series of Poker is held every summer at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino (3700 West Flamingo Road, T 252 7777); winners can pocket £6m (see p036 for gambling lessons).

Live sport includes boxing (see p090) and rodeo, both of which take place at the Thomas & Mack Center (4505 South Maryland Parkway, T 895 3761). It also hosts everything from basketball to the Monster Jam championships – extreme truck racing.

Visitors who want more exercise than dice-throwing will find good pools at all the best resorts, as well as gyms and first-class spas – try THEhotel's Bathhouse Spa (opposite) at Mandalay Bay, which also has a beach offering sunrise yoga. Our top outdoor pool is the one for Tower Suite guests at the Wynn (see p030); its cabanas have cooling misters, a fridge, TV and waiter service. The Wynn also boasts its own golf course. Outdoors and out of town, try rock-climbing and driving through the desert in a Humvee at Red Rock Canyon (see p098) or boating on Lake Mead (see p100). *For full addresses, see Resources.*



Bathhouse Spa

There is no shortage of good spas in Las Vegas; every resort has its own. But spa design remains conventional – except at THEhotel's Bathhouse, where a minimal setting lifts the whole experience. The work of New York designer Richardson Sadeki (who was behind NYC's Bliss Spas), the Bathhouse's slate walls and floors, use of glass and 'rainfall corridors' create a soothing Zen ambience where the only

thing that's fluffy is the towels. Start off with a signature soak (women only; choose from calming tea, Ayurvedic or black moor mud) in a huge, softly lit tub beneath a 7m ceiling, or a spell in the eucalyptus steam room. There's also a hangover recovery detox and, for retoxers, there's a four-hour champagne body-wrap/facial/mani-pedi. *THEhotel at Mandalay Bay, 3950 Las Vegas Boulevard South, T 632 9240*