

Forget the Gambling, Bring on the Jousting! The Age of Chivalry Renaissance Festival in Las Vegas

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By Jan Ross

When we were in Vegas last year, we may very well have been the only visitors in the whole town who were completely uninterested in gambling. We were actually taken aback to come downstairs in our hotel on East Sunday, early in the morning, and find slightly frantic individuals drinking and gambling as if it was the middle of the night and there would be no tomorrow. Ever.

We spent our time walking around looking at the quite incredible hotels, probably with our mouths slightly agape, and searching for adventures that had nothing to do with gambling.

If only we had known that Las Vegas has an annual Renaissance Festival.

Yep. In the middle of the glitz and (admittedly slightly tawdry) glamour of Las Vegas, for the 19th year, a medieval kingdom complete with lavish costumes, entertainment and food will take over Silverbowl Park. Knights and their fair ladies of the Clark County Parks and Recreation will present the annual Age of Chivalry Renaissance Festival from October 5 - 7.

The park will be decked out with several stages which will feature entertainment of more than 50 shows per day – who knew there was that much entertainment in the Middle Ages? Not only will there be historical re-enactments but – prepare yourself – there will actually be jousting tournaments. If you decide you must have your own jousting stick or, assuming you have unhorsed your opponent, a sword with which to impale him, you are in luck because there will also be more than 100 artisans. I was kidding about the impaling – no impaling in the park – but they actually will be selling swords, daggers and armor.

You know. Because we all need some armor.

But they will also have stained glass, jewelry, toys, perfumes, and plenty of other interesting items. Authentic food including fish and chips and an English feast will be available and you know you want to walk around in your armor, gnawing on a turkey leg. There will be plenty of music available with concerts all weekend, as well as a parade, gladiator battles, minstrels, magicians, storytellers, magicians, jugglers, flame eaters and belly dancers.

Basically, you should not be hungry or bored at this event. However, if you should feel a mite peckish and a turkey leg just does not do the trick, stroll over to Holsteins and order the Lobster Mac and Cheese and one of the Bamboozled Shakes, which come with not only the requisite ice cream but a dollop of liquor as well. I recommend the Frozen Grasshopper. Don't even bother to order the Lobster Mac and Cheese anywhere else because you are just setting yourself up for some major disappointment. If you are in the mood for a big meal, I suggest the Capital Grille where you can experience the best steak you have ever eaten. Be sure to order the mashed potatoes to alongside that steak and you will swoon with pleasure.

If you really want to get out of town, book an excursion with Pink Jeep Tours – I recommend the trip to Hoover Dam, especially if you have a geeky engineer-type in your party as they will be mesmerized by the workings of the dam. Straddle the state line in the middle of the dam and you can tell all your friends you stood in two states at the same time. You know they will be jealous.

The Grand Canyon may be calling your name – and it will echo, believe me – so book a helicopter trip with Papillon Helicopters and fly over one of the most incredible natural wonders of the world. Book the package where you actually fly down and land in the canyon because you honestly can't appreciate the scope and grandeur until you are standing on the ground looking up.

So raise your glasses...tumblers...goblets...whatever...and drink to the Middle Ages.

Because seriously. Who doesn't like a little jousting?

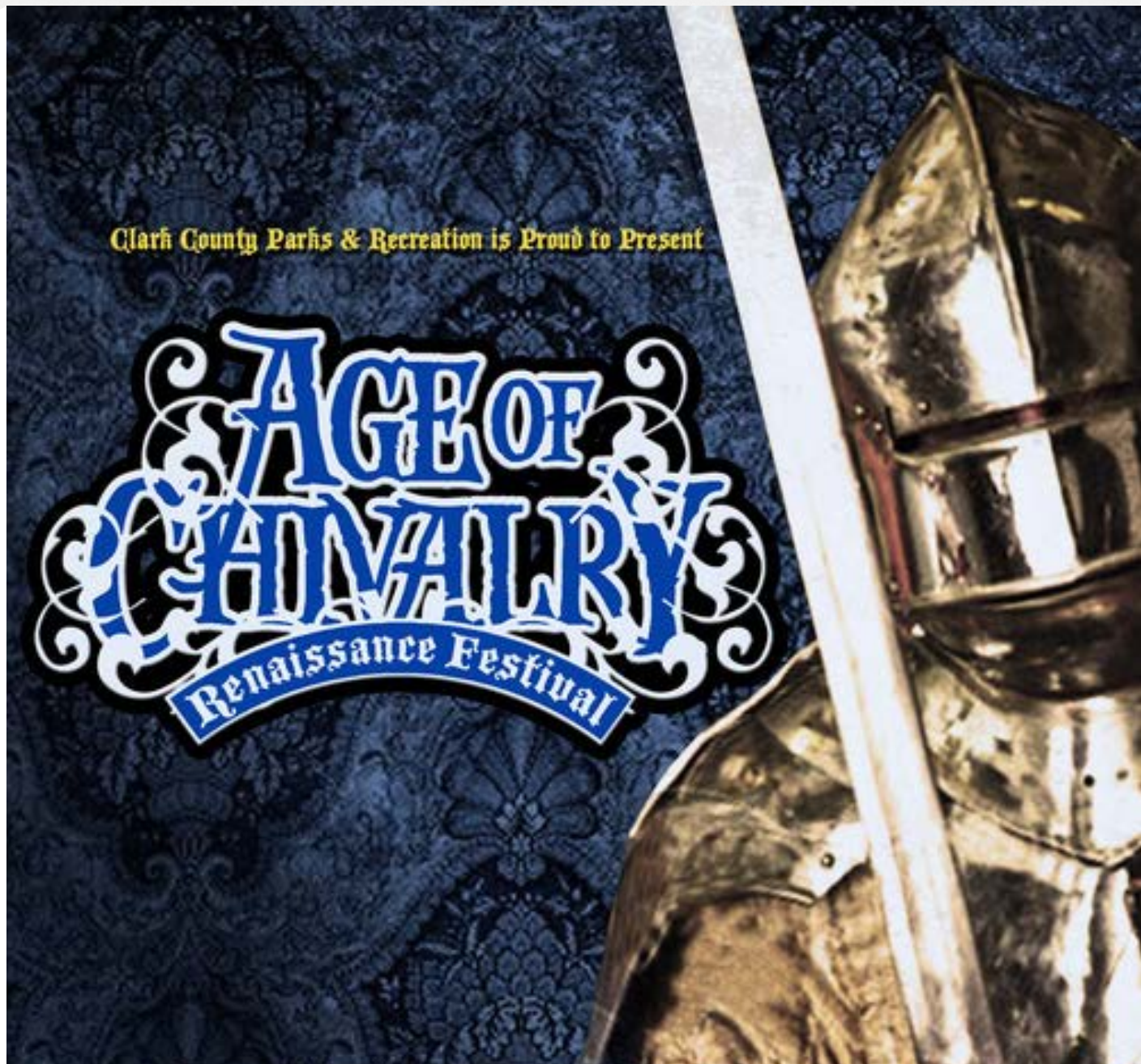
Age of Chivalry Renaissance Festival

October 5 – 7, 2012

<http://www.lvrenfair.com/>

Silver Bowl Park, Las Vegas

Ready to get your joust on? Suit up your armor and check the [DealAngel hotel results for Las Vegas](#) now.



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Gettin' chivalrous in Las Vegas

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