

Las Vegas has a particular kind of glamour. You step out of a suite that costs more per night than your first car, walk through a marble lobby that smells like white tea and orchids, and descend into a spa where the music softens and the air suddenly feels cooler and expensive.

By the time you are lying under a cashmere blanket with warm mitts on your hands, \$300 for a facial starts to feel like part of the scenery. The only moment that snaps people back to reality is the bill, followed closely by the real question:

How much are you supposed to tip on a \$300 facial in Las Vegas?

I have watched that moment play out more times than I can count. Guests in plush robes, scanning the receipt at the spa desk, trying to do math discreetly on their phones, whispering to a partner, "Is \$60 too much? Is it enough? Do you tip on a peel? Do they get all of it?"

Let us take the mystery out of it.

The short answer: what to tip on a \$300 facial in Las Vegas

In Las Vegas resort spas, the standard gratuity range for facials is roughly 18 to 22 percent of the pre tax service cost, with 20 percent treated as the normal baseline for good service.

For a \$300 facial, that means:

- 18 percent: \$54
- 20 percent: \$60
- 22 percent: \$66

If your aesthetician delivered an exceptional experience, 25 percent, or \$75, is common in the luxury tier. You are not expected to go above that unless you feel genuinely moved to.

What I very rarely see in a high end Vegas spa is anything below 15 percent on a full price facial. That would be \$45 on a \$300 treatment, and it reads as noticeably low unless the service was poor.

So if you want the quick rule: in Las Vegas, a \$60 tip on a \$300 facial is appropriate, expected, and elegant. Between \$60 and \$75 is where guests usually land when they are pleased and able.

Why Las Vegas spa tipping feels different

You might happily tip 15 to 18 percent at a neighborhood salon back home and never think twice. In Las Vegas, the expectations creep higher for three reasons.

First, service staff costs are higher in a resort environment. Many aestheticians are paid a relatively modest base rate plus a percentage of services and gratuities. Tipping closer to 20 percent is not just etiquette, it is how they make the numbers work in a city where rent is climbing.

Second, that \$300 facial often includes things you do not see: time in the spa facilities, a robe and slipper program, refreshments, and usually a longer service window than a basic express facial. You might be booking 80 to 90 minutes of treatment with access to steam rooms, lounges, and amenities for several hours. The facial price quietly absorbs part of that overhead.

Third, Las Vegas leans into generosity as a social cue. Dealers, valets, cocktail servers, therapists, and stylists all live in a culture where tipping is more visible and a little more generous than the national average. Falling too far below that local norm stands out more than it would in a smaller market.

None of this means you are obligated to spend beyond your comfort zone. It simply explains why a 20 percent tip on spa services is not considered extravagant in Las Vegas, it is the center of gravity.

When your receipt already shows a “service charge”

This is where confusion really begins.

Some Las Vegas resort spas automatically add a service charge, usually around 18 to 20 percent, to every treatment. Others do not. A few only add it for group bookings or packages. And the language is not standardized. You may see:

- “Service charge”
- “Service fee”
- “Gratuity”
- “Resort fee” (separate, usually not for staff)

The first thing you should do, before you even think about math, is ask one clear question at the desk:

“Is the service charge on this bill a tip for my therapist, or is it a general fee?”

Most front desk staff answer this ten times a day and will tell you quickly whether the service charge is distributed as gratuity to the provider or partially retained by the spa. If it is truly a gratuity, and it is in the 18 to 20 percent range, you are not obligated to add more. Many guests still round up in cash, perhaps an additional \$10 to \$20, when they feel the aesthetician went above and beyond.

If the service charge is more of an internal fee and the therapist only receives a small portion, you may choose to tip on top of it as if it were not there, or aim slightly lower, depending on your comfort level. There is no single correct answer, but asking how it works is both acceptable and wise.

I have seen plenty of guests quietly double tip because they were afraid to ask and assumed everything on the receipt went straight into the therapist’s pocket. Clarity is kinder for everyone.

Do you tip on a discounted or comped facial?

Vegas loves a deal: resort credits, casino comps, membership discounts, loyalty points. I have had guests arrive for a \$300 custom facial that cost them exactly zero out of pocket, and they still asked, “Do I tip on the original amount?”

In spa culture, the etiquette is this: you tip based on the full value of the service, not the discounted amount, whenever you can reasonably afford it.

So if your \$300 facial is comped through the hotel, a \$60 tip is still the gracious standard. If you are on a 50 percent off promotion and paying \$150, tipping on the original \$300 acknowledges the therapist’s time and expertise did not shrink along with the promotion.

Are there exceptions? Certainly. If the only way you can enjoy a higher tier facial is the discount, and tipping on the full price would strain your budget, tipping 20 percent on what you actually pay is understandable. So in that scenario, \$30 on the \$150 discounted rate is better than skipping gratuity out of embarrassment.

What matters most is not perfection, it is that you do not treat a free or discounted service as free labor for the person working on your face.

Add ons, peels, and upgrades: do you tip on those too?

Modern facials, especially at the \$300 level, are rarely just cleanse, mask, and moisturizer. They are often modular, with the option to add:

- A light chemical peel
- LED light therapy
- Lymphatic drainage
- Eye or lip treatments
- Microcurrent sculpting

When your \$225 facial grows into a \$300 experience because you said yes to a peel and a neck upgrade, you still calculate gratuity on the final service total. That includes the peel. So if you are wondering “Do you tip on a peel?” the answer in Vegas is yes, because the peel is not a separate retail product, it is an integrated, hands on service.

The same logic applies to a massage. If your 90 minute massage is \$200 and you add an \$80 CBD enhancement, the \$40 tip that might feel appropriate for a \$200 session looks low on a \$280 service. This is why many guests in town ask, “Is \$40 a good tip for a 90 minute massage?” The answer depends entirely on the price of that specific massage. Forty dollars is 20 percent of a \$200 treatment, but only about 14 percent of a \$280 deluxe massage.

A quick tipping reference for Las Vegas spa and salon services

Here is a simple guide that matches what I see most often in higher end Las Vegas properties:

1. Facials (mid to high tier, \$200 to \$400): 18 to 22 percent, with 20 percent as the norm
2. Massages (60 to 90 minutes): 18 to 22 percent, more if you request deep work or special expertise
3. Haircuts and color in luxury hotel salons: 18 to 20 percent. On a \$70 haircut, that means about \$13 to \$15. On a \$60 haircut, around \$11 to \$12
4. Budget tipping, like “Is \$10 a good tip for a \$100 salon service?” feels low in Vegas for full price hair, because it is only 10 percent. It might be acceptable for a quick add on blow dry, not a full cut and style
5. Nail services: 18 to 20 percent, especially if you book in a resort environment rather than a strip mall salon

Locals sometimes tip a little less at neighborhood spots and a little more in the resorts, not because staff are worth more in one place than the other, but because the expectations and cost structures are different.

What kind of facial are you really paying \$300 for?

A \$300 facial in Las Vegas should not be just a long nap with scented towels. At that price, you are within reach of sophisticated treatment types, often paired with a luxurious rhythm of massage and ritual.

To decide whether you are getting something that matches the price, it helps to know what the most popular facial treatment formats are at this level, and which type is right for your skin.

Some of the most requested facials in Vegas luxury spas include:

Hydradermabrasion or Hydro facials

These are cousins of the branded Hydrafacial concept, which has held the “most popular facial treatment” crown in many resort spas for years. They combine gentle exfoliation, pore vacuuming, and infusion of hydrating serums. Guests love them because they give visible glow without downtime, which is perfect if you have dinner or a show right after.

Anti aging or “lifting” facials

These might incorporate microcurrent to tone facial muscles, radiofrequency to gently heat and tighten deeper layers, or LED light to support collagen. If you are wondering “What procedure takes 10 years off your face?” it is rarely a single miracle, but a series of treatments that target laxity, texture, and volume. A well executed anti aging facial will make you look more rested, smoother around the mouth and jawline, and subtly lifted along the cheekbones. It will not rearrange your face overnight, and that is a good thing.

Advanced exfoliation and peel facials

These use controlled chemical exfoliants like lactic, glycolic, or salicylic acid to refine texture and reduce dullness. They can be customized for sensitive, acne prone, or mature skin. You do tip on a peel when it is delivered as part of a facial, because the skill of timing and application matters as much as the product itself.

Custom or “bespoke” facials

At the \$300 tier, many spas market a “custom” facial where the aesthetician chooses among their full arsenal: enzymes, masks, extractions, massage sequences, maybe a touch of lymphatic drainage. The best kind of facial treatment is the one that actually addresses your skin at that moment, and a true custom session is often the most satisfying if you trust your provider.

If you have ever stared at a spa menu mumbling “What are the types of facial treatments and how do I know what type of facial to get?” you are not alone. Give your aesthetician three pieces of information: your skin’s main concern (pigment, laxity, breakouts, redness), your tolerance for downtime (can you handle two days of flaking or not at all), and your time horizon (important event tonight, tomorrow, or next month). Then let them steer you.

Tipping etiquette when you are using retinol, Botox, or more advanced treatments

Guests often arrive at a \$300 facial with an advanced home routine. Prescription retinoids, over the counter retinol serums, niacinamide, vitamin C, sometimes even trendy claims like “What works 11 times faster than retinol?” (There is a lot of marketing, very little peer reviewed evidence for miracle multiples like that.)

If you are using retinol or a prescription retinoid and wonder “Can I get a facial while using retinol?” the answer is usually yes, but with adjustments. High strength peels and aggressive exfoliation may be dialed down. You should avoid applying retinoids for a few days before a stronger treatment, especially if your aesthetician will be using acids.

There are also questions around injectables and facials. Many people ask “What age should you start getting Botox?” Dermatologists often start seeing cosmetic Botox patients in their late 20s to 30s, but it is individualized. In celebrity culture, speculation swirls: “Has Taylor Swift had a rhinoplasty?” “What has happened to Lady Gaga’s face?” Most of that chatter is not helpful.

What matters for you is timing and expectation. Avoid scheduling a new filler or Botox session immediately before a facial. Let swelling and tenderness settle for about two weeks, then book your treatment. Aesthetic professionals in Vegas are used to working around injectables and will usually know what to avoid.

On the question “What do celebrities use instead of Botox?” there is no single secret. Some lean on microcurrent facials, radiofrequency skin tightening, focused ultrasound, and meticulous skincare: retinoids, antioxidants, sunscreen. If you hear about the “Japanese secret to wrinkles” or miracle drinks that “take 20 years off your face,” take it with a grain of salt. Green tea, water, and limiting alcohol certainly help skin, but they do not replace clinical evidence.

What not to do before a \$300 facial

If you are investing this much in your skin for a night out, you want to arrive in good condition for the aesthetician to work with. There are a few missteps I see again and again.

Here is a concise checklist of what not to do in the 3 to 5 days before a high end facial:

1. Do not schedule aggressive waxing of brows, upper lip, or face on the same day. Give your skin at least 24 to 48 hours to calm down
2. Avoid strong at home peels or scrubs for a few days, especially if you use retinol, to prevent over exfoliation and irritation
3. Skip tanning beds and intense sun exposure. Arriving sunburned or newly tanned limits what your aesthetician can safely do
4. Do not start brand new active products like strong vitamin C or acids right before your treatment. Wait until after, when your provider can guide you
5. Avoid heavy alcohol the night before. Dehydration robs you of that post facial luminosity and can make you feel faint in the warmth of spa facilities

One more question I hear quietly at check in: “Do I take my bra off for a facial?” In most luxury spas, the answer is that it is entirely up to you. Many facials include a neck, shoulder, and décolleté massage, so most guests either remove their bra or undo it under the robe in the treatment room. Your therapist will step out while you change and will drape you carefully. You should never feel exposed.

Age, facials, and what really makes a difference

There is a persistent fantasy baked into some spa menus: a single “no. 1 facial” that takes 10 years off your face. The reality is more nuanced and kinder than that.

For women in their 60s and 70s, I am often asked:

What is the best facial treatment for over 60?

What should a 70 year old woman use on her face? How often should a 60 year old woman get a facial? Should a 60 year old use retinol?

At that stage, skin typically needs moisture, barrier support, and consistent, gentle stimulation for collagen. Retinoids are still one of the most researched tools we have. Many dermatologists do support retinol or prescription vitamin A derivatives for people in their 60s, as long as the skin tolerates it. The same applies at 70, just with a more cautious mindset and plenty of ceramides and hydration around it.

Facials that pair light exfoliation, massage, and non ablative technologies like [Brazilian Waxing Las Vegas](#) [soswaxlv.com](#) LED or gentle RF tend to be kinder than harsh peels. Once a month is ideal for maintenance if budget allows, but every six to eight weeks is still meaningful.



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If you look at celebrities in their 60s, from Goldie Hawn to Dolly Parton, the conversation often turns to “What happened to Goldie Hawn’s face?” or “When did Dolly Parton have her breasts enlarged?” and “Why does Dolly keep her arms covered?” These questions live in the gossip realm. Many public figures are open about cosmetic surgery, implants, or even specific disabilities or illnesses, such as Lady Gaga discussing chronic pain and fibromyalgia, or Kim Kardashian sharing a psoriasis diagnosis. Celine Dion has recently spoken about a rare neurological condition that affects her mobility. But speculating about who has done what, or what illness someone “must” have, does you no favors in front of the spa mirror.

Your face is not a tabloid headline, and your tipping choices are not a referendum on anyone else’s aging process. Focus on what lets you walk back through the casino feeling like the best version of yourself, not like a before photo.

Products that are actually worth your money

When you are already spending \$300 on a facial, it is easy to walk out with a shopping bag that doubles the damage. People ask me constantly: “What are the only 4 skin products proven to work?” or “What does Jennifer Aniston use for anti aging?” Celebrity routines shift, and a lot of brand partnerships live behind the scenes, but dermatology keeps returning to the same core pillars.

You do not need thirty products. You need a solid few.

A reasonable consensus among dermatologists is that the most evidence backed topical categories are sunscreen, retinoids, certain antioxidants (like vitamin C), and moisturizers that support the skin barrier. If you want to “take 10 years off your face” or “make your face look 20 years younger,” those phrases are exaggerated, but consistent use of these pillars can absolutely change texture, pigment, and fine lines over time.

If you prefer a gentler approach or cannot use retinol, look for peptides, niacinamide, or some of the newer bio retinol style botanicals rather than chasing anything marketed as working “11 times faster than retinol.” Long term skin health is not a speed race.

Also remember that what you drink matters more than any collagen gummy’s marketing copy. Asking “Which drink is best for anti aging?” makes more sense if you reframe it as “Which drinks are least damaging?” Water, unsweetened tea, and moderate coffee are kind to your skin. Excessive alcohol is the quietly powerful “#1 mistake that will make you age faster,” at least from a skin perspective: it dehydrates, worsens redness, and interferes with sleep quality.

Salon etiquette beyond the facial

Since much of your Vegas glamour may extend beyond the spa to the salon, a few notes on hair etiquette, because those conversations bleed together behind the desk.

Stylists in resort salons work under similar commission structures to spa therapists. Tipping 18 to 20 percent is the standard. If your haircut is \$70, “What is an appropriate tip?” Around \$13 to \$15. If your haircut is \$60, tipping about \$11 to \$12 still reads as thoughtful.

What annoys hair stylists most is rarely the exact percentage. It is a mix of chronic lateness, moving your head constantly while they are cutting, saying “do whatever you want” then complaining about length, or ignoring their aftercare advice. A smaller but sincere tip accompanied by clear appreciation lands better than a larger tip from someone who treated them like an accessory.

If you are balancing spa, salon, and show tickets in a single weekend, plan your budget so you can tip everyone decently rather than tipping lavishly once and skimping elsewhere.

The quiet luxury of getting it right

There is a particular feeling when you glide back through a casino after a good facial. Your skin is luminous, your shoulders are loose, and you feel fractionally taller. Good tipping in that moment is not just about math, it is about closing the loop of the experience with grace.

In Las Vegas, on a \$300 facial, that usually means leaving around \$60, more if the aesthetician made you feel genuinely cared for, heard, and restored.

If you are ever unsure, ask about service charges on the receipt, tip on the total value of the service rather than the discounted price when you can, and remember that the person who just spent 80 or 90 minutes caring for your skin is building a life here in the desert, not just passing through for a weekend.

Handle that with the same attention to detail that you bring to your choice of suite, show, and champagne, and you will move through the city with the kind of quiet, confident luxury that never goes out of style.

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