

#20 Palacio Del Sol

Released: 3/28/2025

Today, we are publishing **the 20th in a series of stories** (Woo hoo!!) focusing on Commercial Center as written by noted long-time Las Vegas journalist, Diane Taylor.

In this article, Diane learns all about Palacio del Sol - Palace of the Sun - a Commercial Center institution:

- *How long has the business been in operation at Commercial Center?*
- *What playful images are featured on a big wall within the space?*
- *What other local restaurant does owner Francisco Lara have in Las Vegas?*

[Read on and find out...just by scrolling down in this email.](#)



Palacio del Sol Exterior



Palacio del Sol's Large Banquet Hall



The Lavishly Decorated Interior Space



Gold Charger Plates Set for a Wedding



Owner Francisco Lara and Manager Edwin Reyes

Palacio del Sol: A *Palace in the Sun* at Commercial Center

The sign above the entrance says “Banquet Hall” and - to the South - is another that reads “Palacio del Sol”. Behind both is a surprisingly huge, lavishly decorated venue that has been in business in Commercial Center under the ownership of Francisco Lara since 2010.

The large Palacio del Sol Banquet Hall has been the place for weddings, graduation parties, baptisms, quinceaneras, birthdays, and much more.

The room has a stage, space for lots of tables, and features a large bar. We’re told most customers choose their own caterer for food. A DJ or a mariachi band may also be part of the celebrations. Originally, says Francisco, most of the customers were Latin, but now, the customers are a wide range of people.

Francisco was born in Mexico, spent time in San Diego, went back to his home country for two years of college while studying accounting, then returned to San Diego where he lived for 10 years, holding a series of restaurant jobs as a busboy, bartender and waiter.

Because he liked the city, Francisco came to Las Vegas in 2006 to open his own restaurant, Las Palmas, in Commercial Center. That restaurant ultimately closed, but Francisco then opened Palacio del Sol in 2010. These days, Francisco also owns a restaurant, Mucho Loco Mexican Cantina, on South Fort Apache Road.

The Banquet Hall has had a number of good years and some not-so-great times during the pandemic, but is today being “exceptionally well run” under the direction of Manager Edwin Reyes.

Because the Banquet Hall is so lavish (including a big butterfly wall, lots of chandeliers and plenty of seating), a great many guest photos are taken there. “We used to advertise on television, radio and in magazines, but these days we rely mostly on word-of-mouth. People take photos and send them to their friends. Or, they post photos on Facebook, Instagram or Tik Tok. Those photos bring in business.”

With regard to his Commercial Center location, Francisco is very happy with the new security in the area and, of course, his customers are happy with the free parking.

“I love this business,” says Francisco. “I like talking to people and making sure everything is going well. Edwin and I are happy if people have a good event and a good experience.”