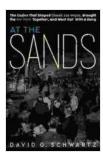
# The Flamingo: The Casino That Shaped Classic Las Vegas, Brought The Rat Pack Together, And Went Bankrupt

The Flamingo Hotel and Casino is one of the most iconic landmarks in Las Vegas. It was founded by mobster Bugsy Siegel in 1946 and quickly became a popular destination for celebrities and high rollers. The Flamingo was also the site of the first Rat Pack performance, which helped to launch the careers of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., and Peter Lawford.



At the Sands: The Casino That Shaped Classic Las Vegas, Brought the Rat Pack Together, and Went Out with a Bang by David G. Schwartz

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5 out of 5 Language : English File size : 10081 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Ray : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 284 pages Lending : Enabled



Siegel's dream was to create a luxurious resort that would rival the best hotels in Europe. He spared no expense in designing the Flamingo, which featured a lavish casino, a beautiful pool, and a world-class restaurant. The

hotel also had a unique tropical theme, with live flamingos roaming the grounds.

The Flamingo was an instant success, and it quickly became one of the most popular casinos in Las Vegas. However, Siegel's luck would not last. In 1947, he was murdered by unknown assailants, and the Flamingo was left in the hands of his associates.

The Flamingo continued to operate successfully for several years, but it eventually fell on hard times. In 1990, the hotel was sold to a new owner, who renovated it and reopened it as a more family-friendly destination. The Flamingo is still a popular tourist destination today, and it is one of the few remaining casinos in Las Vegas that has retained its original charm.

#### The Rat Pack

The Rat Pack was a group of entertainers who performed together in the 1950s and 1960s. The group consisted of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., and Peter Lawford. The Rat Pack was known for their sharp wit, their impeccable style, and their ability to entertain audiences of all ages.

The Rat Pack first performed together at the Flamingo Hotel and Casino in 1959. The show was a huge success, and it helped to launch the careers of all four members of the group. The Rat Pack went on to perform together for several years, and they became one of the most popular entertainment acts in the world.

The Rat Pack was more than just a group of entertainers. They were also a symbol of the glamour and excitement of Las Vegas in the 1950s and

1960s. The Rat Pack helped to define the era, and their legacy continues to this day.

#### **Bugsy Siegel**

Bugsy Siegel was a mobster who played a major role in the development of Las Vegas. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1906. Siegel began his criminal career as a bootlegger during the Prohibition era. He later moved to Los Angeles, where he became involved in gambling and other illegal activities.

In the early 1940s, Siegel traveled to Las Vegas and became involved in the development of the Flamingo Hotel and Casino. Siegel's vision was to create a luxurious resort that would rival the best hotels in Europe. He spared no expense in designing the Flamingo, which featured a lavish casino, a beautiful pool, and a world-class restaurant.

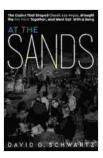
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Bugsy Siegel was a complex and controversial figure. He was a ruthless gangster, but he was also a visionary who played a major role in the development of Las Vegas. His legacy continues to this day.

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