

Excalibur's 'Tournament of Kings' Dinner Show Takes Audience to King Arthur's Court

LAS VEGAS – In the era of castles and gallant knights, kings would gather the nobility for fanciful feasts and tournaments of valor in celebration of important events. Those days still exist inside Excalibur Hotel & Casino during the award-winning, Tournament of Kings dinner show.

One of Las Vegas' last dinner shows, Tournament of Kings transports the audience to King Arthur's court to celebrate the return of his son, Christopher. The traditional showroom is transformed into Tournament of Kings Arena, a 900-seat circular theater with an earthen floor.

As the story unfolds, the joyous Arthur gathers the rulers of Europe for a fantastic banquet and competition. The kings challenge their knightly skills while riding their faithful steeds. King Arthur's hospitality is met with hostility when the evil fire-wizard Mordred invades the festivities. The kings of Europe must unite if the fire-wizard is to be defeated.

The production show has a sizable cast of 30 actors and musicians, 30 horses and an audience of 900. "Audience participation is an integral part of the show," said Director Phil Shelburne. "They will be singing, cheering and up on their feet."

The late Peter Jackson along with his son Patrick Jackson created the original concept of the show. The show is now produced by Patrick Jackson. Designer Frederick Pinaud, best known for his work with French operas, designed the dazzling gowns, vibrant tournament attire and Merlin's majestic robe.

The original score, composed by Scot Rammer, pulls the audience further into the show. Stunning visual effects, such as the pyrotechnics of the fire-wizard, heighten the audience experience.

The "Tournament of Kings" dinner show runs Monday and Friday 6 p.m.; Wednesday – Thursday and Saturday – Sunday 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; dark Tuesdays. Tickets are \$59 plus tax and fees. Tickets can be purchased by calling (702) 597-7600 or booking online at excalibur.com.

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