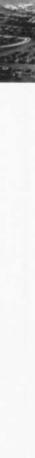
# hit the

Minnesota casinos offer a winning combination of exceptional facilities, food, and fun. • by Suzy Feine

jackpot!



(3)

(5)







# What are the odds of a flawless meeting? They're stacked

in your favor if you hold it at a casino. Minnesota casinos offer top-notch meeting and event facilities with leading-edge technology, live entertainment, sumptuous restaurants, and quality hotel accommodations — a one-stop shop for event planners.

MYSTIC LAKE CASINO HOTEL

Prior Lake • 800-813-7349 www.mysticlake.com

The only casino in the Twin Cities metro area and the largest in the Midwest, Mystic Lake is conveniently located within minutes of most major Twin Cities attractions.

Six main floor meeting rooms, totaling more than 19,000 square feet, can be subdivided into 15 different room configu-

rations. Meeting rooms are wired for high-speed Internet access, and Mystic Lake's on-site audiovisual professionals are available 24/7. An award-winning culinary department caters to your guests.

During non-meeting hours, guests can visit Dakotah! Sports and Fitness, golf at the Lone Pine golf course, relax in the indoor atrium pool complex, dine at one of four restaurants, try their luck at the casino or catch a concert at the Celebrity Palace.

GRAND CASINO HINCKLEY

Hinckley • 800-447-6877 www.grandcasinosmn.com Seventy-five miles north of the Twin Cities is Grand Casino Hinckley, voted "best casino" in City Pages' Best of the Twin Cities 2002. This casino offers all the amenities with a relaxed

(1) Mystic Lake Casino Hotel (2) Grand Casino National Golf Club at Grand Casino Hinckley (3) Mystic Lake Casino Hotel



"Up North" atmosphere.

The Events & Convention Center accommodates up to 1,000 guests theater-style, or divides to cater to smaller functions. The center's team and the casino's own audiovisual equipment provide the technology you need. Catering offers a complete line of meals, snacks, and beverages.

Guests can venture outdoors to enjoy golf, hiking, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing. Indoors, this casino offers gaming, live nightly entertainment, five restaurants, a pool and exercise facility, retail shops, and a full-service beauty salon.

## GRAND CASINO MILLE LACS

Onamia • 800-447-6877 www.grandcasinosmn.com Sister site to Grand Casino Mille Lacs is located on Lake Mille Lacs and also offers a rustic atmosphere amid a thriving gaming destination resort.

For event planners, 27,000 square feet of meeting space are at your disposal, accommodating up to 1,600 guests. A full line of multimedia equipment is available, or management can coordinate specific needs with local vendors. On-site caterers customize menus from simple snacks to elaborate buffets.

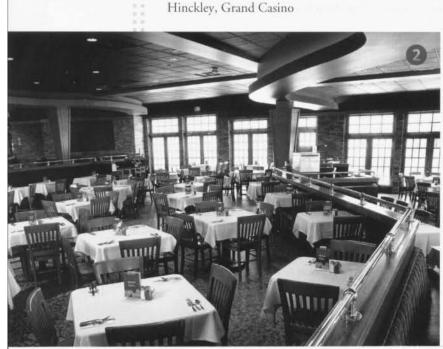
After the meeting, guests can fish on Lake Mille Lacs, golf, hike or enjoy other outdoor activities. Gaming, a pool complex, four restaurants, retail shops, and regular concerts by top performers are some of the indoor activity choices.

#### TREASURE ISLAND **RESORT & CASINO**

Red Wing • 800-222-7077 www.treasureislandcasino.com On the bluffs of the Mississippi River Valley in southeastern Minnesota, Treasure Island is known to many as the Midwest's own tropical destination.

Meetings can be held in one of nine conference rooms, accommodating groups of eight to 900. Spirit of the Water, a 120passenger cruise yacht, also is available for private meetings. A full line of audiovisual equipment and an experienced audiovisual team will meet your technology needs. Full-service catering is available for all meeting areas, serving up to 1,350 guests at one time.

As a resort destination, Treasure Island offers an indoor pool featuring a 12-foot waterfall and whirlpools set in a rain forest









environment. Guests can also enjoy the fitness room, five restaurants, nationally and regionally known entertainers, and gaming. Outdoors, Treasure Island offers a 137-slip marina and is close to downhill skiing and golf.

# JACKPOT JUNCTION CASINO HOTEL

Morton • 800-WIN-CASH www.jackpotjunction.com

What began as a bingo hall in 1984 has grown to become one of the largest entertainment facilities in southwestern Minnesota.

Meeting space of 38,000 square feet allows you the flexibility to configure rooms to your exact specifications and host up to 1,500 guests. On-site audiovisual equipment, Internet access, full catering service, and a knowledgeable banquet department bring together events large and small.

Leisure time can be spent at the indoor pool, whirlpool, sauna, fitness center, three restaurants, and four full-service bars. Gaming at the 325,000-square-foot casino or live performances at the nightclub offer daily entertainment to meeting attendees.

## **BLACK BEAR CASINO & HOTEL**

Carlton • 800-553-0022 www.blackbearcasinohotel.com Just 20 miles from Duluth, Black Bear brings fine accommodations, meeting facilities and gaming to upper Minnesota.

Meeting space of more than 7,000 square feet divided among eight rooms—three hospitality suites and five banquet rooms—provides meeting arrangements for up to 325 guests. Each room can be custom-configured and furnished with the latest in audiovisual equipment. Catering provides everything from simple treats to plated entrées.

For entertainment, the hotel offers gaming; a 10,000-square-foot indoor pool complex with two hot tubs, sauna and exercise room; golf; gift shop; arcade; two restaurants, and live weekend entertainment in the Lady Slipper Lounge.

# FORTUNE BAY RESORT CASINO

Tower • 800-555-1714 www.fortunebay.com

In the heart of Minnesota's Superior National Forest near Lake Vermilion is Tower, Minn., home to Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

Meeting space includes the 5,400-square-foot ballroom and a beautifully appointed Executive

Board Room. An on-site banquet and conference services manager orchestrates meetings held at Fortune Bay. All-inclusive meeting packages are available that include room, meals, and audiovisual equipment for one price.

After the meeting, guests can dine at the Tamarack restaurant, try their luck at the casino or venture outdoors to try hiking, biking, snowmobiling or cross-country skiing. The resort also features a 54-slip marina and guided fishing trips.

#### SHOOTING STAR CASINO, HOTEL AND EVENT CENTER

Mahnomen • 800-453-STAR www.starcasino.com Situated on 75 wooded acres 40 minutes north of Detroit Lakes, Shooting Star's convention center, hotel, and casino encompass more than 400,000 square feet.

The 28,500-square-foot Convention Center features 14 meeting rooms capable of hosting up to 1,900 guests. Shooting Star provides the latest in audiovisual and communications equipment. Conference associates assist with all aspects of your meeting, including recreation and catering.

Guests can relax at the indoor pool and hot tub, work out at the fitness center, dine at one of four

(1) Prairie's Edge Casino Resort (2) Grand Grill Americana at Grand Casino Hinckley (3) Treasure Island Resort & Casino (4) Black Bear Casino & Hotel (5) Classic Casino, a remodeled room at Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel.





restaurants, enjoy gaming at the casino or see live entertainment in the showroom.

# PALACE CASINO & HOTEL

Cass Lake + 800-228-6676 www.palacecasinohotel.com

Minutes east of Bemidji near the Chippewa National Forest, Palace Casino is one of three casinos operated by the Leech Lake Ojibwe.

Two meeting spaces, the Pine and Palm rooms, offer intimate accommodations for 15 to 20 guests, respectively. Each room features built-in projectors and white boards. Larger events can be held in the Paradise Room or the Bingo Hall for up to 350 people. Catering is available, or guests can dine in the Palace Garden's Restaurant.

A swimming pool, two spas, gaming, and a variety of promotional events round out the entertainment options.

#### NORTHERN LIGHTS CASINO, HOTEL AND EVENTS CENTER

Walker • 866-NLC-Hotel www.northernlightcasino.com Another casino owned by the Leech Lake Ojibwe is Northern Lights, in the heart of Leech Lake country.

The Events Center offers one large ballroom that accommodates up to 900 guests. For smaller groups, the ballroom can be subdivided, or a separate meeting room is available. From projectors to portable stages, this casino covers all your audiovisual and prop needs. Catering services can host up to 450 dinner guests.

Hotel guests can enjoy the swimming pool, whirlpool, and sauna. In addition to the casino, a gift shop, fine dining, and scheduled concerts are entertainment options. A shuttle service to local restaurants and shops is also available.

### PRAIRIE'S EDGE CASINO RESORT

Granite Falls • 866-293-2121 www.prairiesedgecasino.com

The newly revamped casino formerly known as Firefly Creek Casino, Prairie's Edge is located in southwest Minnesota.

More than 15,000 square feet of meeting space are available in three event rooms and a pre-event lobby area. Each room offers full multimedia capabilities with drop-down screens and a convention staff to manage all the particulars, including catering.

Guests can enjoy the casino's gaming facility, headliner and regional acts, two restaurants, pool, sauna, and fitness center. Prairie's Edge also offers services for golf, hunting, and fishing. \$\square\$

Suzy Feine is a Twin Cities freelance writer and editor.

(1) Shooting Star Casino, Hotel and Event Center (2) Northern Lights Casino, Hotel and Events Center (3) Fortune Bay Resort Casino (4) Fortune Bay Resort Casino



