

invigorating, and more than enough to turn the tireddest treads into the fanciest footsies. Manicure from \$35; pedicure \$65.

**CINDY NGUYEN**  
FASHION DAY SPA

Conducting this survey, thankfully, brought this nail blazer to our attention. Customer comments rolled in about this “stunningly beautiful master pedicurist and manicurist.” Cindy starts a pedicure by really studying your feet, then she thoroughly soaks, scrapes, buffs, pokes, pushes and paints every morsel of abused, callused, well-worn feet until they look flawless. One fan reports, “My feet feel as soft as they did prior to my discovery of heels.” The caveat: Cindy’s gypsy style. An entrepreneur extraordinaire, she shuffles between all six of her spas, but that doesn’t discourage regulars. Take it from one client’s husband: “Cindy was working across town and though my wife and I passed a ton of other places, she wouldn’t let me stop at any of those nail shops.” It’s understandable: Her manicures and pedicures “go weeks without chipping.” Spa manicure & pedicure \$40.

**VIRGINIA EMBERSON**  
EUPHORIA SALON - BOCA PARK

Do your hands, feet and soul a favor: Meet Virginia. “Once you go to Virginia, you’ll never go to anybody else.” To say she’s very accommodating is an understatement. “I often come in on my days off for clients,” she says. Virginia regularly begins her shift at 8 a.m. and works until 8 p.m. For six years she’s been grooming one of the top women in Steve Wynn’s organization, and in all those years, Virginia admits she’s only not been able to meet up with her “maybe twice.” But availability isn’t her only claim to fame. She’s “very meticulous” and her “gentle touch and light hand” provide the “ultimate, pampering experience.” Virginia says simply, “This is their time to relax and have a good time.” Manicure \$25; pedicure \$50.

**SHAWNA TRAYNOR**  
SALON BELLAGIO

There are oodles of nail technicians in Las Vegas, but there are only a few worth being loyal to week in and week out. Shawna is one. Her hip look will make you want her wardrobe, but it’s her nail technique that you’ll come to love. Clients say Shawna is quick, efficient and seldom off the mark. “She always has the latest colors,” says a fan. “She’s patient and very, very thorough. Seeing her is the best part of my week.” Shawna is even worth the trek up

to the salon’s months-long temporary digs on the Bellagio’s fourth floor. Although loyalists dread the hike, they admit that it’s worth it to see the most fashionable nail diva on the Strip. Manicure from \$30; pedicure from \$65.

**TRACI NIEZGODA**  
CIRCA SALON

Some women have been coming to Traci for their nail and toe needs for 15 years. Her pedicures are not run-of-the-mill. She uses a soothing touch, silky lotions and top-of-the-line exfoliators to make her clients’ feet feel great. As for the hands: “She’s as good with a natural French manicure as she is with a trendier design,” swears one of her weekly devotees. “I wouldn’t trust anyone else when it comes to great nails. There are so many places *not* to go in Las Vegas, that having someone like Traci is really important.” Manicure \$20; pedicure \$40.

## WAXING AND HAIR REMOVAL

**DEEANNA WRIGHT**  
DERMATREND

Hair removal is uncomfortable—the pain, the private areas, the price. Deeanna knows these things weigh on customers’ minds, so “she adjusts her techniques for each client to minimize pain” and uses a lot of charm to ease conversation while dealing with the most intimate of areas. The best part: She does it all for a price that makes laser hair removal accessible for every income bracket. Deeanna’s also a pro at waxing and “pulls off the most impossibly smooth, Brazilian bikini wax.” Dermatrend’s professional atmosphere has all the formality of a doctor’s office, but the friendly staff make it “a place where everybody knows your name.” Bikini & underarms \$675 (four laser treatments); bikini waxing from \$33; brow waxing \$12.

**JACQUELINE CHAMBERS**  
ALLURE SALON

“There’s no need to pay resort spa prices if you know where to find Jackie,” reports one top PR professional. This “undiscovered gem” can be found in a little pink room at the back of an itty-bitty older salon on the east side. Rave reviews for Jackie’s work came pouring in for her “nearly painless (waxing) technique.” That endorsement alone is enough to make her stand out from the pack, but there’s more. She’s a pro at shaping eyebrows and performs “unmatched speciality facials.” One on-air male personality visits Jackie for everything from facials (she gave him his first, and he’s

been hooked ever since) to controlling his “caterpillar eyebrows.” Says one client, “This girl knows what she’s doing!” Bikini from \$35; lip, brows or chin \$10.

**BREE GOLDWATER**  
BOX

A Bree’s wax is as natural as it sounds. “Quick, painless and thorough,” says one local boutique owner. The hard wax she uses contributes to the high number of return clients. “It’s gentle but very effective.” Want something different? Bree does shapes, hearts, numbers, letters, and in a wide variety of colors. To accommodate her ever-expanding clientele, Box is moving to a bigger location at Sahara and Decatur later this summer. Bree also racked up big points for her facials. “I had really bad acne growing up,” says Bree, “I know what it takes to get good skin.” The three keys to her facials? Extractions, extractions, extractions. Although “somewhat painful,” her aggressive technique and prescribed skin care regimens have many clients buzzing about the “amazing results.” Brows from \$15; regular bikini from \$30, shapes or colors from \$65.

**TESSA MARTINEZ**  
LIMELIGHT

Hit the Limelight for Tessa’s warm and cheery personality and her “pleasantly painless” bikini waxes. Word of mouth has her pegged as the preeminent aesthetician for the Brazilian bikini wax, but Tessa is also lauded for soothing facials and sleek brow shaping. Regular bikini from \$20; Brazilian from \$50; brows \$18.

**MARY SALTIS**  
NUVO INTERNATIONAL LASER SKIN CENTERS

Mary uses state-of-the-art lasers, capable of permanently removing all kinds of hair, even blond and gray. She only sees clients twice a week and confesses, “I’m super booked.” So, make your appointment *early*. Survey comments gave her high marks for customer service. “She treats me like I’m a very special client,” claims one fan. “It’s amazing,” says another. “I was very happy with the results, even after my first treatment.” Regular bikini \$90; underarms \$90.

**MARIE WARD**  
ALLURE COSMETIC LASER

Lasers have become a force on the beauty scene, especially in the realm of hair removal. But in the wrong hands these powerful tools