

# VALORANT

TM

## THE LOTUS EDITION

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- Experience the new and improved Riot Arena
- Explore Valorant's newest map Lotus
- Countdown to Valorant Mobile
- Tips from the pros

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# PLAY WITH THE PROS AT VALORANT'S LIVE VCT TOURNAMENT

Riot's annual VCT Americas series is now played in front of a live audience at the newly revamped, interactive Riot Arena

The blistering Los Angeles heat was no match for the tens of fans lined up outside the newly redesigned Riot Games Arena, located right across the street from the company's headquarters. Bystanders sported jerseys of the teams that were just hours away from facing off head-to-head live on stage. The crowd erupted in excited chatter as the security guards motioned that the doors were about to open and fans were sent on their way to experience the revamped arena for the first time for VCT Americas.

Stakes are high; out of the ten teams from the Americas, spanning North America, Brazil, and Latin America, six teams will progress to the playoffs; their fates are determined by a round-robin tournament format where each team plays a series against every other team. Then, only the top three teams will advance to represent the Americas in the Masters and Champions tournaments. Each point matters; it's no wonder the tensions outside the arena were high.

“#LiveEvil”  
“100 THIEVES W”  
“I LOVE YOU ASUNA!”

Fans were met with a sign-making station before the game where they could design posters to cheer on their favorite teams. Additionally, there were tables selling exclusive Valorant merchandise and a free temporary tattoo table. While the Riot Games Arena, formerly known as the LCS Arena, has been utilized in the past for



Evil Geniuses and 100 Thieves prepare to face off for the first time at the revamped Riot Arena

League of Legends events, the rise of Valorant along with the potential for esports growth in the next few years led to the complete redesign of the studio.

The new design allows the space to transform its shape, size, and production equipment efficiency to host events of all kinds. The brand-new equipment delivers an impressive production to fans both in the studio and watching online. In-person attendees also experience new, interactive activities throughout the explorable arena.

The arena lights flashed and the matchup between 100 Thieves and Evil Geniuses, the two teams competing that day, was about to begin. Yet, there were still numerous activities fans could be seen participating in as they explored the arena. One group of fans posed for a photo underneath a life-sized mural of Reyna and Sage while another fan walked by holding a green matcha brownie, an exclusive arena menu item based on the in-game agent Viper's poison abilities.

Arguably most popular, is the arena's arcade room, featuring working models of items from Valorant such as Raze's boom bot. The room is also fully equipped with state-of-the-art gaming setups for fans to enjoy their favorite Riot games

alongside the pros. Fans eagerly shouted callouts throughout the room and queued into their favorite game modes before the main event

**“**

“The arcade was for sure my favorite part of VCT. It was so cool playing the games I play every night at the actual Riot Arena surrounded by so many pro players and fans,” said Ava, who flew in from Oregon for the event.

**”**

As the clock struck eleven, fans made their way into the main arena room. Players took the stage, illuminated in flashing red lights and accompanied by the intense *Valorant* soundtrack, as they were ready to face off in a best-of-three-game series.

Although the match was finally beginning, the experience was far from over for fans; they were free to explore



Life size model of Raze's Boom Bot



Entrance to the Riot Arena Arcade, accessible to all VCT attendees

the interactive arena all afternoon and even meet the players after the series. The new Riot Games arena not only improved the space in a technical sense but also revitalized the idea of the esports event into an engaging, new, and interactive experience for fans.

## SNAKE BITE BROWNIES, SKY SMOKED SAUSAGE, AND MORE

While Viper’s Snake Bite Brownie, the exclusive menu item available at Riot Games Arena, is not made with Viper’s green suffocating poison ability, matcha will have to suffice. *Valorant* Champions Tour attendees were able to order concessions from an exclusive menu with themed snacks based on different *Valorant* agents

**L** “Viper is my favorite agent so of course I had to try her Snake Bite Matcha Brownie. I’m a big fan of strong matcha flavor so it was really good, I’d get it again for sure,” VCT attendee Danny said.

Also available were Brimstone’s Smoked Andouille Sausage and Reyna’s Vegan Empress Nacho, both priced at \$8. Attendees could also purchase a Riot Meal Box, where they could choose an entree, brownie, drink, and snack for \$15. The new themed treats were clearly a hit; the concession lines were packed at VCT during intermission between matches with excited fans, ready to try the exclusive concessions.



Riot Meal Box with Reyna's Nachos  
Credit: @aprilmayjuniee on Twitter



Viper’s Matcha Brownie

# VALORANT TRANSPORTS PLAYERS TO THE WESTERN GHATS OF INDIA

When players logged onto Valorant on January 10th they were greeted by glistening blue waters, sprawling greenery, and bright pink blooming lotus flowers, perfectly suited to the new map's name: Lotus.

Lotus, the ninth playable Valorant map, was highly anticipated by fans, inviting players to experiment with new strategies and team compositions. The map is situated in a lush, lost city in India, including twisting corridors and mysterious statues. According to Lead Concept Artist [Brian Yam](#), inspiration was taken from the rock-cut architecture of the Petra ruins in Jordan and ancient structures in India.



Pay attention to sound queues!  
Players can destroy the breakable  
wall between A and B site



Mysterious murals line the walls,  
depicting flora and fauna  
of the Western Ghats



Lotus is the second Valorant map to include 3 sites; players must defend the large, extensive area and adapt their strategies to prepare for lurkers. Aside from the aesthetics, Lotus brings about new gameplay mechanics.



The new  
rotating door  
mechanic  
takes 8 seconds  
to open, letting  
attackers  
access A site

Fans have also begun to theorize on ways the map's relics are interconnected to the game's lore, the new Indian agent Harbor, and the powerful Radianite substance which is the backbone of the storyline behind Valorant.

**WHAT WILL YOU  
DISCOVER AS YOU  
TAKE ON LOTUS?**

# VEGOD X VALORANT SKIN COLLECTION

If you're a fan of Valorant and active on Twitter, chances are you know Vegod. The 24-year-old editor, artist, and designer is known for posting concept art of Valorant skins, amassing thousands of likes and retweets on each post. Many of his skin concepts are based on pop culture, from Sanrio, to Spiderman, to Sentinels Esports. His tweet replies are often full of followers expressing how much they wish his skin art was in the game; Twitter user @itsjeaniebeanie tweeted "i really need riot to hire you already" under his Star Wars Vandal concept, in agreement with many other commenters.

This Summer, Vegods concept art is finally becoming a reality. Valorant has partnered with Vegod to create a pink skin bundle where a portion of the proceeds will go to breast cancer research. Vegod is given all creative control throughout the project; in fact, the idea of a breast cancer fundraising skin line was his own, evident from his 2020 tweet stating, "wait can we actually work together [@PlayVALORANT](#) and I design the best pink skin bundle and all proceeds go to breast cancer research :)"



Hello Kitty Phantom Concept



Pokemon Vandal Concept



Star Wars Lightsaber Vandal Concept

Valorant's past collaboration with musician Zedd and current project with designer Vegod open doors to more possible skin line collaborations in the future.

# TIPS FROM THE PROS

Were you inspired by pro plays from this season's VCT games and want to level up your rank from Iron to Radiant? Here are 3 tips to use in your own gameplay.

2. TenZ, content creator and pro player for Sentinels, initially gained popularity for his crisp aim. "When you're trying to control spray pattern for a gun, just shoot at a wall first and see where they land," he says in an [interview](#). After, he explains, to compensate the mouse down, to the right, and then to the left until you hit your target.



TenZ at VCT 2021 Masters

1. Derke, World Champion player from Fnatic, shares his advice on playing the duelist role and creating space for the team. "Be everywhere", he says. He explains that each round, you should think of where the enemies are and where there are gaps for you to enter the site. Almost every round, it is important to play in a new spot and change the way you entry; you have to make the enemy adapt to you.



Derke at VCT 2023

3. Cryo, pro player from 100 Thieves, emphasizes that counter-strafing is crucial to hitting your shots. He explains that you should strafe and move sideways by pressing the A and then D keys. Then, when you're about to shoot, hit the key opposite of the direction you're going in. This stops all movement, making aim more accurate.



Cryo promo for org 100 Thieves

# ACE ON THE GO!

With the release of Valorant Mobile, players now have the chance to catch up on missed connections and clip-worthy plays that were previously exclusive to Windows PCs during the initial rollout of Valorant. One of those players is Rida Faridy, an Australian Valorant fan who has not been able to easily access the game because of her incompatible device.

Rida has connected with video games since she was little; some of her earliest memories include playing Spyro on the original PlayStation and playing on her DS Lite with friends and family. Rida mentions that throughout her life, video games have always helped her form connections and maintain friendships.

"Most of my online friends have been made through online games like Minecraft. Even though my interest in certain games comes and goes, the friendships stay," she says.

While Rida is a fan of Valorant, she found it difficult to play because of her Apple laptop.

**“**It was difficult because Apple doesn't support a lot of games and you need to have a certain chip in your computer to play Valorant, you need to have Windows basically,” she says.  
**”**

In order to play Valorant with friends, Rida downloaded the Windows operating system on her Mac, which led to a very unpleasant play experience. According to Rida, this took a lot of storage and she only got around 20-30 frames; the laggy gameplay in a precise FPS game led to lots of frustration and she eventually stopped playing Valorant altogether.



This led to her losing contact with some of her online friends.

"Although I've played Valorant I haven't been able to enjoy it. I haven't been able to play with my friends and enjoy what my friends are enjoying because of the device I have," Rida says.

Expansion to mobile will allow Valorant to reach approximately 6.84 billion smartphones and 1.3 billion tablets worldwide, broadening the game's player base exponentially and increasing the game's accessibility.

"I'm super excited for Valorant to come to mobile and possibly other operating systems eventually so I can play with friends and enjoy the game as it was meant to be played," Rida says. "I feel like playing on mobile will also be really fun because it's compact, easy, and you can play it from the comfort of your own bed or anywhere!"

**MEET  
RIDA**



Valorant Mobile is available for pre-order on the App Store and Google Play Store



**BE BRAVE  
BE BOLD  
BE VALORANT**

### **UP NEXT**

June 6: Patch 6.11 goes live, featuring weapon adjustments and changes to Chamber and Viper

June 11: VCT Masters 2023 Tokyo

June 20: Valorant Mobile Release

June 25: Valorant Ep. 6 Act 3

August 6: Valorant Champions 2023 Los Angeles